


CEDAR VALLEY
CEMENT
ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY



The logo is a circular emblem with a double-line border. Inside the inner circle, a person wearing a checkered hat and a dark jacket is shown in profile, holding a magnifying glass over a large, rough rock. The text "CEDAR VALLEY" is arched across the top of the inner circle, and "ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY" is arched across the bottom. The word "CEMENT" is written vertically on the right side of the outer circle.

NOV 1978

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA



CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS AND MINERALS SOCIETY, INC.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

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

OFFICERS

President	Larry DeSotel	247 Sussex Drive N.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	377-1641
Vice-Pres.	Alice Brown	360 Tonga Dr.	Hiawatha, Ia.	393-7193
Secretary	Alberta Cray	1125 J. Ave. N.W.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	362-5530
Treasurer	Marian Peters	1475 24th St.	Marion, Ia.	377-2839
Liaison	Frances Bates	2739 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	366-6012
Editor	Leslie Blin	505 5th Ave.	Marion, Ia.	377-3339
Co-Editor	Helen Troxel	1138 Prairie Dr. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	365-3451

BOARD MEMBERS

Term ends:				
Dec. 1978	Bill Myers	335 27th Ave. S.W.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	362-7080
Dec. 1979	Don Bates	2739 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	366-6012
Dec. 1980	Skinny Lutz	Wiley Blvd & Rogers Rd. NW	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	396-6194
Past Pres.	Jim Dickens	531 30 th St. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	363-7693

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Membership	Helen Shedenhelm	2111 Chandler St. S.W.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	365-3089
Hospitality	Rosie Richardson	Rt. 1,	Ely, Ia.	848-4040
	Frances Bates	2739 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	366-6012
Telephone & Sun shine	Ora Mae Cozart	2117 High Dr. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	362-3471
Display	Don Bates	2739 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	366-6012
Supply	Pat Blin	505 5th Ave.	Marion, Ia.	377-3339
Librarian	Jeff Nekola	800 25th St. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	363-9792
Historian	LaVonne Grove	700 35th St. #309	Marion, Ia.	377-3614
Field Trips	Rick Austin	2233½ 3rd Ave.	Marion, Ia.	377-4741
Resource Materials	Helen Troxel and Leslie Blin			
Pebble Pups	John and Helen Troxel, and Don and Frances Bates			

CLUB MEETINGS: Third Wednesday of each month except June, July, August, and December 7:30 P.M., R.E.C. Building in Marion -- 999 35th St.

BOARD MEETINGS: Fourth Wednesday of each month except June, July, and August -- 7:30P.M.

CLUB DUES: Due and payable January 1st of each year. Deadline is March 1st.
Regular membership -- \$6.00 per adult couple; \$4.00 per single adult; \$6.00 per family membership.
Junior or Pebble Pup Membership -- \$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.

Members are requested to contribute articles to be published in the bulletin. Articles should be given to the 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.

CEDAR VALLEY GEMS
CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS AND MINERALS SOCIETY
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

NOVEMBER 1978
VOL. 6 - ISSUE 3
PAGE 1

NOVEMBER MEETING

Wednesday Nov. 15th, 7:30 P.M.

REC Building in Marion

PROGRAM-Promptly at 7:30 P.M. we will have the program presented by our Scholarship student, Richard Hager, a talk & slides.

DOOR PRIZES- We will have a drawing for about 10 items.

BUSINESS- Election of officers and one board member and vote on the revised by-laws.

Display Table- Please bring some specimens for the display table. We all enjoy seeing what other members are collecting.

GOODIES-Fran Bates reminds me that she has LaVonne Grove, Mel Abernathy, Marian Peters and Helen Shedenhelm down for goodies in Nov. Don't forget!!!

PROGRAM--Submitted by V.P., Alice Brown

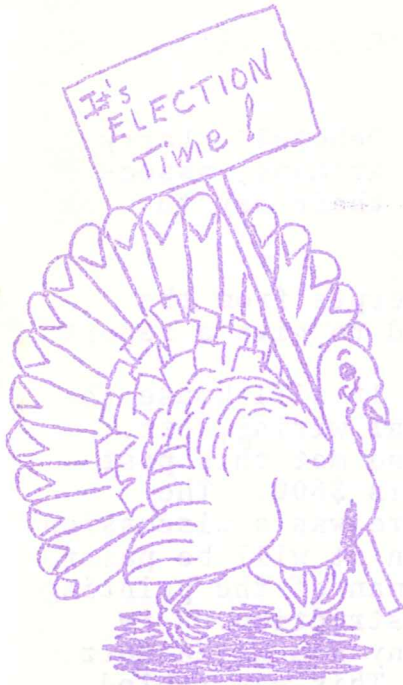
At our November meeting Richard Hager(our scholarship recipient) will speak to us in regards to his field camp this past summer. He will be showing slides to elaborate his presentation. He visited the Grand Tetons, Great Sand Dune, Mesa Verda, Black Canyon of the Gunnison and Dinosaur National Park. These points of interest are within the states of Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. Sounds like it will be a realllllly great program.

Richard was born and raised at Marshalltown, Iowa. Following high school he spent four years in the U.S. Air Force. He expects to receive his B.S. in December 1978 and hopes to finish his M.S. by December 1979. He plans to specialize in exploration geology, hoping to discover energy resources to diminish our dependency on foreign resources.

This certainly sounds like a worthwhile cause and we should be justly proud to have had even a small part in this young man's future. Lets give him a big welcome. Please note that this program will start promptly at 7:30 PM.

BOARD MEETING--We will have the Board meeting on MONDAY, NOV. 20th, 7:30 Pm Please note the change of date because of Thanksgiving. It will be held at the home of Norman & Alice Brown. Please contact Pres. DeSotel if you cannot attend. ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.

SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 9th, 6:00 P.M.--Christmas Potluck Dinner and Party, don't miss it, mark your calendars now. Marion Community Center. More details on page 6



SECRETARY'S REPORT - OCTOBER MEETING

Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society met at the R.E.C. B1'dg, Marion, Iowa, October 18, at 7:30 Pm.

The meeting was called to order by President Larry DeSotel. Larry extended a welcome to the members and guests. The Artmans, associate members, were on hand - reported they were on their way to Arizona from New Hampshire.

Larry called the member's attention to several excerpts from the Board minutes from September. Bill Myers was asked to give a report on the storage shed.

Bill reported the shed was nearly completed. It will house the club properties, such as extra showcases, electrical wiring, etc. Skinny Lutz, Jim Dickens, Larry DeSotel and Bill had met this past weekend and built the shed. The approximate cost is \$600. The building is 13 ft. long by 10 ft. 3 in. deep. There was a discussion as to what paint or sealer to use, and who and when it will be painted. Someone suggested Norman Brown would be chairman of the painting committee since he was unable to help with the construction. Jim Dickens suggested we set up an agreement with Skinny and Helen Lutz, in regard to the building, as it is on their lot. This was tabled till the board meeting. There was a discussion as to an inventory of the items to be stored in the shed. Skinny has placed a padalock on the shed and there will be a key at the house. Probably the club president will hold a key also. Don Bates noted the club owns a good padalock which may be used.

Larry reported the show dates have been rescheduled for April 7 and 8 rather than the later date.

The minutes were approved as published.

Larry announced Wally and Marian Peters are celebrating an anniversary this evening, so the treasurer's report is not available.

Larry read a letter from John Culver regarding Rare II. Larry called for a show of hands of the members who wrote to the Forest Service concerning Rare II, which revealed only four of those present had written.

Larry read a letter telling of a dinner to be held honoring Fred Dorheim's retirement. Mr. Dorheim is a professor at the Univ. of Ia. Larry suggested that those members planning to go should make their own reservations.

We were reminded of the auction to be held at the home of Ruth Taylor, 2 P.M., November 5.

A letter from Richard Hoppin, chairman of the Geology Dept., University of Iowa, thanked us for the two \$200. scholarships.

Jeff Nekola, librarian, noted our subscription to Earth Science has expired. He stated he felt this magazine might be okay to continue giving to the schools, however, he felt we should consider some other magazine for the club. It was noted that we used to get one free subscription with x number of subscriptions, and this was

why the club was getting it. Free subscriptions are no longer given.

As for other magazine subscriptions, most of the members are either subscribing to what they want or are borrowing it from the public library. A motion was made and seconded that Earth Science be sent to the schools and that we drop any subscriptions for the club.

Don Bates, 1979 show chairman, read a list of several of the various show committee chairmen which he has appointed. A number of others were appointed, or volunteered at this time, as follows:

Dealer Chairman -	Larry De Sotel
Pebble Pit	Bob Blin
Guards	Elwin Woof
Swap	Bill Myers
Letter & News Release	
Letters to schools and youth	Gladys Zobac
Special Exhibits	Alice Brown and Betty DeSotel
Blacklight	Jeff Nekola
P. A. Setup	Jim Dickens
Hostess Chairman	Ida Brunk
Tickets and treasury	probably club treasurer
Floor Chairman	
Electrical	Bud Cray
Ribbons	Alice Brown
Signs	Patty Blin
Camping	Norman Brown
Radio and TV	
Midwest Clubs	Fran Bates

(I think I may have missed a few of these. Sorry.)

Don suggested we raise the dealers fee to \$12%. This was discussed.

No decision was made.

Don reported Truman had gotten a contract for \$350. per day, however,

Secretary's Report continued from previous page

no arrangements have been made for a "set-up" day, or for camping. We can get our insurance through the fair board for \$30. per day.

Norann Brown made a motion that the treasurer be authorized to issue Don a check for \$200. to confirm our contract with Hawk-eye Downs when all points of the contract are clarified. Seconded and carried.

Betty DeSotel gave a financial report of the 1978 MWF Show.

LaVonne Grove, chairman of the By-Laws Committee read the following message regarding actions taken to this date:

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE REPORT - October 18, 1978

To the members of the Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society:

Every member of this society, eligible to vote, will receive by mail a copy of the Constitution (Articles of Incorporation) and a proposed revision of the By-Laws of the Society.

Some time ago it was noted that new members are supposed to receive copies of the By-Laws, and also noted that these were out of print. A few members felt that these By-Laws should be revised and updated before reprinting. A committee was appointed at that time but because of previous commitments was unable to function. LaVonne Grove, former secretary and present historian, and Leslie Blin, former secretary and present editor, volunteered to research the records and files of the Society and present a proposed revision to the Executive Committee, on the basis of their knowledge of the Society's past and present functions. President Larry DeSotel gave permission.

This proposed revision was presented to the Executive Committee meeting on Sept. 27, 1978. The Executive Committee reviewed part of this report at that time but returned it to the Committee for further revision. Because of the length and importance of this report, President Larry DeSotel asked members of the Executive Committee to meet as a Constitutional Committee with Leslie Blin and LaVonne Grove at two long grueling sessions.

Each Article was reviewed and discussed in every detail and further revisions were made. At the direction of the Executive Committee, LaVonne and Merrill Grove met with an attorney and then presented the attorney's report to the Constitutional Committee. A final revision was agreed upon and you will each receive a copy of this proposed By-Laws.

We hope that you will each give this your careful consideration and be prepared to vote on the adoption of this revised version at the November 15, 1978 meeting. If you have any questions concerning these By-Laws, please contact Executive Committee members or LaVonne Grove or Leslie Blin. We hope we can explain any details before that meeting so it will not get too lengthy or boring. A copy of the final proposed revisions will be placed on file.

Respectfully submitted
LaVonne Grove
October 18, 1978

SECRETARY'S REPORT...continued from the previous page.

A motion was made that the additional minutes not be read. (These were taken at the two or three By-Laws Committee meetings. The By-Laws will show the action taken) It was second and carried.

Larry reminded Norman Brown, LaVonne Grove & Pat Blin, the nominating committee, that it was time for election in Nov. Officers to be nominated are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, one Board member (and Editor if the By-Laws pass.)

The Christmas basket Committee is Lumir Dlask, Ida Brunk and LaVonne Grove.

We were reminded of the Show at Sumner for this weekend-Oct. 21 & 22. Several members indicated they were planning to go.

It was reported that Louie Morales (South Dakota) has had surgery.

Also, Don Shaw has just returned home from the hospital.

Leslie Blin & Jeff Nekola reported on an educational Display they are preparing for the Nature Center.

The group enjoyed some of the slides which were taken by Bob Jensen at the Midwest Federation Show. We will have another series of these later, Alice Brown, program chairman, said. She added we need to get these identified while the people and the various activities are still fresh in our minds.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alberta Cray, Secretary

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating committee wishes to nominate the following:

For President: Alice Brown, Jack Bevauns (vote for one)

For Vice-President: Alberta Cray, Roger Dabler (vote for One)

For Secretary: Helen Troxel

For Treasurer: Marian Peters

For Board Director: Helen Shedenhelm, Rosie Richardson (vote for one)
(3 year term)

For Editor: Leslie Blin

For Liaison Officer: Fran Bates

We wish to remind you that nominations may be made from the floor with the permission of the nominee.

Respectfully submitted,
Norman Brown
Pat Blin
LaVonne Grove

BOARD MEETING

The Board meeting was held Wednesday, Oct. 25, in the home of Marian Peters. All Board members were present except Alberta Cray, Helen Troxel and Fran Bates.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President DeSotel. He presented bills for the storage shed and Show slide to the amount of \$55. The bills were approved.

Don Bates, 1979 Show Coordinator, asked for a \$200.00 check from the Treasurer for a retainer for Hawkeye Downs for the Show in April. The Board approved the check.

Larry announced that Ruth Taylor will be having a rock auction on Nov. 4, Sunday afternoon to dispose of her late husbands rocks.

Skinny Lutz reported that Bill Myers has added the shelves to the storage shed and Helen has painted the shed. It will be ready to be used as soon as a padlock is added and the insurance is settled. There was a discussion about appointing a property Chairman and having a sign-out sheet for the storage shed. Marian Peters made a motion we pay Skinny \$5.00 a month rent on the ground for the storage shed. Don Bates Second the motion and it carried. This proposal will be voted on at the Nov. meeting by the members.

Jim Dickens suggested we need sign-out sheets for the clubs cases so we will know where they are when they are borrowed. He also suggested members must be authorized by the President to remove property from the shed.

Pres. DeSotel directed Treasurer Marian Peters to send in renewal for the subscriptions to Earth Science Magazine for the Schools and Libraries

The Board adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Leslie Blin, Secretary, Pro tem

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK AND PARTY.....SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 6:00 P.M.

We do not have a regular meeting in Dec. On the second Saturday we have a potluck and party. Bring the whole family, friends and guests. I will try and send the Dec. newsletter out in time to reach you before then but in case I don't here are a few details. For more information come to the November meeting or call an officer.

Bring FOOD for the potluck, a gift for the exchange if you wish (the gift exchange is optional). If you bring a gift it should be something a rock-hound would enjoy (mark it man, woman or child). Bring some donations for our Christmas Basket for the needy. The Christmas Basket Committee is: Lumir Dlsk, Ida Brunk and LaVonne Grove. More about this at the Nov. meeting so try and be there.

DON'T FORGET.....SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 6:00 P.M. See you there.



TRUMAN JOHN RAMSELL

May 30, 1917 - October 29, 1978

Truman died at his home Sunday morning, October 29th, following an extended illness. a resident of Cedar Rapids since 1959 he lived at 715 Greenfield St. N.E.

Born May 30, 1917, in Cedar Rapids, he was married to Wilma Reisinger on Nov. 23, 1936, in Marengo. He was employed by H.K. Staub Construction Company for 14 years. Truman was a veteran of World War II, a life member of Roll Harless VFW Post of Eldora and state commander of the VFW for the years of 1954 and 1955. He was a member of the Congregational Church in Eldora; the Marion Collectors Club; The Cedar Rapids Coin Club; the Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society; Honorary member of the Old Capitol Geological Club of Iowa City and the Mineral Study Club of Muscatine. At the time of his death he was the Iowa state Director of the Midwest Federation of the Mineralogical and Geological Society.

Surviving in addition to his wife are two sons, Dr. John Ramsell of Omaha, Neb., and Rodney of Oakdale, Minn.; his mother, Mrs. Tom Ramsell of Marengo; a brother, Lawrence of Minneapolis, Minn.; a sister, Phyllis Patterson of Marengo; and two grandchildren.

Services were conducted Tuesday, Oct. 31, at 10:30 A.M. at the Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories by the Rev. Charles Moore. Burial was in Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery.

It is with deep regret we announce the passing of T.J. Ramsell. He was a dedicated member of the Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society since 1968. He was very active in the club right up to his death. (he was helping plan the 1979 Show). He served as Advisor for the Midwest Federation Show in August and was at the Show greeting old friends at the door.

Truman was a hard working member. He was Assistant Show Chairman from 1970 thro 1973 and Show Coordinator 1974 - 1977. He loved Shows and also Swaps. His was a familiar face at Shows and Swaps in Iowa and surrounding states. He was a popular rock auctioneer until a couple of years ago he had to give it up because of his health. (Remember his remark, "I'll TELL you when to stop bidding".)

Truman taught fluorescent rocks & minerals classes during the winter of 1972-73. He had an outstanding display of fluorescent rocks and minerals. (Remember his pet peeve about the spelling of fluorescent? I can still hear him saying, "It's Flu, not Flour", "you use flour to make a cake".

continued.....

T.J. RAMSELL

Truman presented many programs on fluorescents to scouts, schools and other rock & mineral clubs.

He served on the Board for 6 years, 1970 - 1975. He was Swap Chairman 1971 and 1972.

His basement was a museum which he loved to show to scout groups or any rockhounds who happened by.

He was State Director for Iowa 1975-78 and Assistant State Director 1973 and 1974.

Truman was MC for the "Purple Banana" awards at our Christmas party and was on the original committee from 1971-1977. He really enjoyed seeing that deserving members got their "awards". He knew each & every member and had a fantastic memory for remembering things they deserved "awards" for. During his illness the last couple of years he was forced to give up working with rocks and sold his machinery and most of his rocks, but he wasn't one to set idle. He started whittling and amazed everyone with his creations. This spring & summer he made beautiful hand carved canes. He was also a poet and has a book of poems. We have all gained some knowledge from him and he will be missed.

Leslie Blin

OUR FRIEND KERNEL T.J. RAMSELL

All of us that knew T.J. will miss his indomitable spirit and his delightful sense of humor. He always had a twinkle in his eye even when he was ill. He enlivened any gathering with his wit and had a ready comeback when we teased him back. When I called him a general nuisance, he informed me he was not a general-only a colonel. I told him we'd spell it Kernel for corn and he promptly adopted the title and introduced himself thereafter as Kernel T.J. When Helen Shedenhelm & I told him we'd like to enliven the Club Christmas party with some "awards" for goofs made by members during the year, we asked him if he'd MC the "awards". He was delighted & added a few of his own and called them "Purple Bananas". He made them so much fun that members were disappointed if they didn't get one. Thereafter at any club gathering he always carried a little black book in his pocket and would make a great show of writing in it when someone said or did something funny.

We were proud to call him our friend.

LaVonne Grove

Rock of Ages, cleft for me. Let me hide myself in thee.
Let the water and the blood from thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, Save me from its guilt and pow'r.

Truman, our member and friend, was also Director for Iowa in the Midwest Federation at the time of his death.

Our sincere condolences to his wife and our friend, Wilma.

Helen Troxel

If anyone has some remembrances of Truman, long or short, please see that I get it and we will put some more in the Dec. newsletter.

the Editor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Betty and I journeyed to Lansing, Michigan on Friday, October 27th to attend the Fall Federation Meeting. Our prime purpose in going was to present the MWF a check for their share of the profits of our Federation Show. I went also as your Assistant State Director. The Federation were pleasantly surprised when they heard the amount of the check.

The State Directors meeting started Saturday morning at 8:30 am and lasted until 9:30 am. The Executive Meeting started at 9:30 am and went until about 2:30 pm. Because of the distance very few states were represented at these meetings. (We drove 977 miles.) However the meetings were informative and well conducted. The Federation has a fine group of officers. At least one good thing came out of the meeting. In ordering Slide Programs in the past the club had to send \$2.00 to cover shipping. No longer. The Federation as another service to their clubs will pay this charge. However the club will continue to pay return shipping. One thing a club can do is order these slides to present to different groups as a part of Community Service. Of course if they do, they are expected to pay the \$2.00. The Federation has spent a lot of money in the last two years repairing their slide programs.

The Fall Federation meeting was held in conjunction with the Lansing Clubs Annual Show. It was a very nice Show.

On returning home Sunday night the Dickens greeted us with the sad news of Truman's death. In passing Truman left many friends. We as club members who was closest to him will miss him the most. Truman was an outstanding person and club member. Where ever he went he was an ambassador of good will and an excellent ambassador for our Club. As the State Director of Iowa, he did an outstanding job. He was well respected by all who knew him.

When you receive your copy of the proposed changes in the By-Laws, please read them. They are YOUR By-Laws. If you see anything that you have a question on or suggestions or changes please speak up. They will be voted on this month. Many hours were spent by LaVonne Grove and the Board to have these ready for you.

There will be an election of officers and one Board member this month. If you desire to run for one of these offices PLEASE let someone know so you can be nominated.

Hope to see you all at the meeting.

Respectfully,
Larry

PEOPLE who won't get involved with their club are like the two shipwrecked men in a lifeboat. From their end of the boat they watched as the people at the other end bailed frantically to keep afloat. One said to the other, "Thank heavens the hole is not on our end of the boat!"

From Chert Chatter via Chips & Facets via Pick & Shovel

PEBBLE PUP PAGE"PEBBLE PUP POST"

Next meeting--Troxel's house, 6:30 PM Monday, November 20. Please note this change from our usual time. We will work an hour on our new mineral collection.

Book for sale! About 250 pp. published by Iowa Geological Survey for the recent field trips which they hosted for the 42nd Annual Tri-State Geological Field Conference. This book is \$3.00 if you pay Helen Troxel who will pick it up in Iowa City for you. It is excellent for local information and well worth the price.

Serious question for careful consideration: What, Oh what, is it called when a piano falls down a mine shaft??

Answer: "A-Flat Minor"

Hey, Pups! We're sorry some of you missed the last two field trips we had. The one to the Robin's Quarry was not our best trip, but we did find some undeformed brachiopods weathered free from the matrix and a few calcite crystals.

But the trip to Dubuque under the guidance of the Geological Survey was something else! In addition to good company, excellent information about the landforms we were seeing, hot chili eaten at the Balltown restaurant, we collected more good specimens at Graff and in Dubuque itself than we could use. Both locations were replete with what is called "diminutive forms of fossils." "depauperate fauna zone" was the term formerly used for these small variations of marine life of the Devonian era, but the better term used to describe the size of the animals rather than to imply something was wrong with their environment is preferred by the Survey now. The theory behind these small forms is quite interesting--ask us and we might tell you! (smiles)

Incidentally, Jamie, we aren't sure you'll be invited to the next trip. Imagine, one of our own Pups finding TWO trilobites at Graf and a HUGE cock's-comb marchasite cluster in Dubuque. You sure earned some Brownie points in the eyes of the Survey on behalf of our club, but enough is enough. Practically no one else found anything at all like that!

***** Submitted by Helen Troxel *****

Happy Birthday **1** year
Pebble  Pups

1979 GEM AND MINERAL SHOW...APRIL 7 & 8, 1979

1979 SHOW REPORT.....by Don Bates, Show Coordinator,,

Here is a list of the Committee Chairman:

- Dealer Chairman - Larry DeSotel
- Special Exhibits Co-chairman - Betty DeSotel
Alice Brown
- Tickets Sales - The Treasurer
- Local Publicity - Mary Dickens
- Hostess Chairman - Ida Brunk
- Black Light - Nekola's
- Pebble Pit - Robert Blin
- Guards Chairman - Elwin Woolf
- Swap Chairman - Bill Myers
- 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 - Liaison officer
- Club Demonstrations - Leslie Blin
- P.A. Chairman - Jim Dickens
- Photography - Mike & Bob Blin
- Assistant Coordinator - ??
- Radio & TV Publicity Chairman - ??
- Clean-up Chairman - ??

WANTED.....

If you would like to join the fun please Call Don and volunteer for a remaining Chairman opening or call one of the Committe chairman and tell them you'd like to help. Don's phone is 366-6012

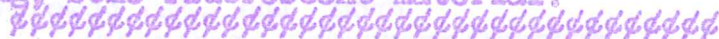
Don would like the club members opinion about having one wholesale dealer at the April Show. He has had inquires from wholesale dealers who would like to come to our show. Be thinking about this before the next meeting, we will discuss it then. There are no Show meeting being planned as of now. Reports will be given at the regular meetings.

Bring your IDEAS for a THEME and FLYER to the November meeting.
Editor's note...Several members and some Committe Ch. have suggested we stress "educational" in this show, thats a hint for the theme & flyer.

ROCK AUCTION ROCK AUCTION ROCK AUCTION ROCK AUCTION

The Ruth Taylor Rock Auction was postponed last Sunday so you haven't missed it. It will be:

Sunday NOVEMBER 19, at 2:00 pm, in her basement at 1121 Seymour Ave.
IOWA CITY, IOWA BOB JENSEN WILL be the auctioneer
Excellant quality cutting material, slabbed & rough. From Calif., Ariz., N. Dakota, & Wyoming, Some fluorescent material.



FOR SALE.....Timex rotating display case . Merkill Grove, 377-3614



Now that we finally have a chicken in every pot, we can't afford to turn on the stove!
from the Nishnav Grindstone Valley

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP.....by Jamey Stout, Pebble Pup

On Oct. 15 the Tri-State Geological Convention went on a trip called "Geomorphology and Basal Maquoketa Stratigraphy In the Vicinity of Dubuque"

It was a windy day but otherwise it was a nice day. The only other people I knew besides my Dad were the Troxels, but I made a lot of new friends.

The first stop we made was at Graf. It was very interesting. There were lots of cephalopods and they were lying everywhere. My Dad found the head of a trilobite.

One lady found a trilobite cast right over a nautiloid. Everyone was really jealous!

The next place we went was Leath Furniture. In the rocks around it we found tiny shells and sponges. We learned this was caused by chemicals coming down and killing most of the sea life. There I also found a piece of cock's-comb marcasite. It's 2" by 2" full of blades. One of the blades is a centimeter wide.

Next we went to Coulor Valley. It used to be part of the Little Maquoketa River. There are Indian mounds on the sides of the valley.

Our last stop was Balltown. At Balltown you could see for a couple of miles to the Mississippi River. Also you could see Silurian Dolomite Capstone rising from the rolling Galena formation. At Balltown we went to Brietbach Brothers and had great chili and hamburgers.

CHAROITE

Charoite is a new gem mineral from Russia. Named for the Chary River of Siberia, the mineral is a gorgeous lilac color with a silky luster. Occurring in a rock with canasite and tinaksite, it is associated with the potassium feldspars.

The charoite is tough, hard, and dense and takes a jade-like polish. Inclusions of yellow tinaksite and green aegirine plus grains of quartz and occasionally black metallic "feathers" make the gem unique and showy.

Charoite has been cut into vases, bowls, carvings and ornamental objects and is already a choice collector's item. Very little was imported to this country, and most was imported as finished art objects. No one knows how large the deposit is and whether more of the material will become available to American lapidaries.

A few pieces have been exhibited and sold at shows. The Smithsonian has several excellent pieces, as have Midwest collectors Lawrence Stallang and Ed & Mary McNamar. Jack Greespan has the most exceptional cabochon of the new gem.

From the AFMS Newsletter, Nov. 1978

Did you know that "Jumping to Conclusions" uses up 500 calories according to a recent report. "Beating around the bush" takes 75, "Pushing your Luck"- 250 calories, "Wading Through the Paperwork" takes 500, "Throwing Your Weight Around" 50-300 (depending on your weight), "Passing the Buck" 25. There's more, but I'm out of room. These came from the Iowa Square & Round Dancing News.

Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER



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All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information concerning publication should be sent to the Editor, Haydon Peterson, Parrot Printing, 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311

November 1978 - Issue No. 189

Meet your new Midwest Federation officers



Here are your new Midwest Federation officers, elected at Cedar Rapids last August during the annual show and convention, to serve the Federation during 1979. They assume their duties November 1. From left, Jean Reynolds, Clarendon Hills, Ill., Secretary; Otto Ensminger, Lombard, Ill., Treasurer; Bernice McCloskey, Elm Grove, Wis., First Vice President; and Betty Crawford, Mansfield, Ohio, President. Mel Sharp, Fairview Park, Ohio, Second Vice President was not available when this picture was taken.

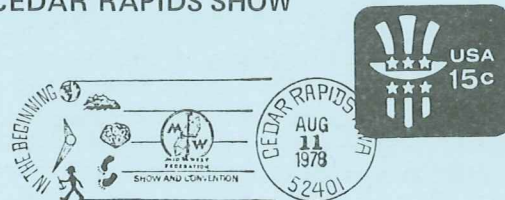
MIDWEST SELECTS NANCY NEWBERRY TO RECEIVE AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP

Nancy Graham Newberry has been chosen by Prof. Donald Peacor as the scholar to receive the stipend of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies in the Midwest Federation. Nancy is from Coldwater, Mich., and has done her undergraduate work at the University of Michigan, where she won the Branstrom Freshman Prize, and was honored by being chosen by Prof. Peacor to work on a project with him.

Miss Newberry, 22, will be working toward her master's degree in geology and will be assisting in teaching mineralogy. She has a wide range of outside interests, such as spinning, dyeing and handweaving. She is at present restoring an antique loom for her hobby. She takes part in 30-mile bicycle rides, enjoys sailing and swimming, and is an officer of her sorority, Delta Gamma.

She has also promised to keep the federation informed of her progress at the University.

SPECIAL STAMP CANCELLATIONS AT CEDAR RAPIDS SHOW



During the Midwest Federation Show and Convention in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, last August the U.S. Postal Service cancelled attendees stamped envelopes, to be sent through the mails or to be held as keepsakes... collectors items in either case... with a special cancellation.

In keeping with the shows 1978 theme "In the Beginning" artist Jane Machak of Grayslake, Ill. rendered the original drawing from which the U.S. Postal Services cancellation was made, to depict according to a time clock "That in the beginning was Earth, followed by the formation of mountains, plants, animals, footprints of man, and today, rockhounds".

Postal officials report 948 of the cancellations were placed on envelopes.

can.

If you should need additional information about any of the contests, write to these people.

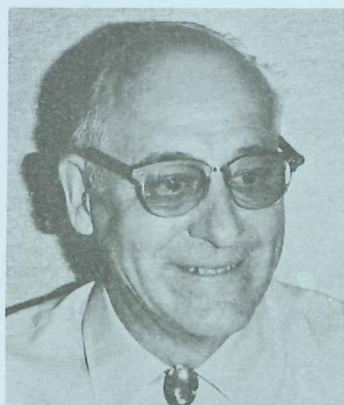
Bulletin Contest: Mrs. Elza Slatery, 133 Lynda Drive, Chattanooga, Tenn. 37405; All American Awards Contest: Mrs. LaDocia Ellis, 1350 Bidwell Ave., Chico, Calif. 95926; and Slide Program Contest: Mrs. Kay Jensen, 199 East Brook Road, Pittsford, N.Y. 14534.

CONTESTS

Annually the American Federation sponsors three contests which they encourage all clubs to enter. With our October issue we included information about the 12th annual AFMS Bulletin Editors Contest and with this issue we include complete information about the All American Awards Contest and the Slide Program Contest. Check this information about these contests and get your club entered in as many as you

COLUMBUS CALLING... MIDWEST SHOW AND CONVENTION... AUG. 2-5, 1979 ... COLUMBUS, OHIO

Meet Ellis Courter: Your new AFMS President



Ellis W. Courter

Ellis W. Courter, the new president of the AFMS, has always had a keen interest in community affairs. He is a past president of the Optimist Club of Northwest Detroit of which he has been a member for the last twenty-eight years. For many years he worked with the Boy Scouts of America as the Advisor of an Explorer Post. He also served the District and the Detroit Area Council in many capacities, including several years as District Cabinet Advisor. During this time, he received the high honor of the Silver Beaver Award.

He became interested in minerals when his son as a Boy Scout was studying for his rocks and minerals merit badge and as a result, in 1951 he joined the Michigan Mineralogical Society. Later he became its president for two years.

Since then he has traveled extensively in the United States, Mexico, and Canada to further his interests in geology, mineralogy, and the collecting of crystallized mineral specimens. His current specialties are thumbnails and micromounts.

For ten years he was the editor of the Conglomerate, the official publication of the Michigan Mineralogical Society, and during this time, he gained some note as a writer, contributing many articles for the benefit of the hobby, not only for the Conglomerate, but also the Lapidary Journal and the Earth Science Magazine.

In 1960, he became active in the affairs of the Midwest Federation and after serving the Midwest in several capacities, he was elected as its president in 1968. At the conclusion of this term, he was named the Treasurer of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, a position which he has filled for the past ten years.

In 1974, he became a Regional Vice President of the American Federation and since has progressed through the chairs of this organization. With his current election as president of the AFMS, he automatically becomes the Vice President of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation with Dan McLennan of the Rocky Mountain Federation succeeding him as treasurer of the Foundation.

Mr. Courter is also a member of the Friends of Mineralogy and currently is the treasurer of the Southeastern Michigan Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy. Although now retired from the business world, for many years he was the Treasurer-Controller of the Michigan Northern Division of Electrographic Corporation.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE NEW AFMS PRESIDENT

There are many in this world of ours who fail to find or take the time to develop a hobby of some kind, and because of this, they are being denied the many benefits and pleasures which can come from such an endeavor. And so to the more than 66,000 official members of the Regional Federations of the AFMS, my congratulations for being a part of the throng of organized gem and mineral enthusiasts that are spread so profusely about our country. Indeed you are fortunate, for to you comes the opportunity of working with and making friends with some of the best people in the world, along with the opportunity of gaining an educational insight into the fascinating world of rocks and minerals.

It is my hope that in the year ahead the AFMS may be instrumental in bringing you an even greater amount of

AFMS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NAMED

At the AFMS annual meeting of the Board of Directors at Pleasanton, Calif. last July, it was voted to hire an Executive Secretary. Don Langston, AFMS President during 1978 was directed to make the appointment.

He has appointed Mignon Wagner, 611 Clifford Drive, Austin, Texas 78745

Mrs. Wagner has served as Executive Secretary of the South Central Federation for several years and is well qualified for this position.

SAFETY MANUALS

Mailed to each MWF club with this issue of the Newsletter is a copy of the AFMS Safety Manual.

This is an excellent booklet on safety and we urge it be shown to the membership of each club.

Individual copies are available. Ask the supply officer in your club to contact Clinton Heckert, 725 Stewart Ave., Elgin, Ill. 60120,, the Midwest Director of Supplies, for prices.

FALL MEETING

The annual fall Executive Committee of the Midwest Federation held in Lansing, Michigan on Saturday, Oct. 28 will be reported in the December issue.

pleasure from this association, not only in the way of more collecting fun, but also in educational benefits which are so much a part of this hobby. It is to this end that the officers and committee personnel of the AFMS are dedicated as they look ahead not only to the blessings but also the obstacles they will face during the coming year. And indeed, there are both.

There are some unshakable obstacles that must be considered because many of our favorite collecting areas are constantly being threatened. Private owners continue to close quarries and mines to collectors because of increased insurance company demands, while the government still pursues its endeavor to create new wilderness areas that could isolate or make many public collecting areas inaccessible. Suffice it to say that no matter how hard we work, such obstacles cannot be completely eliminated, yet be assured that the AFMS through its committee personnel along with that of the Regional Federations will be working hard to help the situation.

WITH OUR MEMBERS

HELP! HELP!! Jeff Nekola is calling for help. He is working on his Science Fair project and would like all the information he can get from members on PINT'S QUARRY. Also would like to borrow some nice specimens from there, especially some chalcoprite if you have it (page 26 in Minerals of Iowa) HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JEFF, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!

The WHOLE Richardson clan have been to Wisconsin fishing this fall. Jack Jenning caught a 28 lb. Salmon in Lake Michigan near Algoma/ Rosie took her canner and canned them right there. Rosie also had two nasty falls which banged her up but she says she is recovering but still has aches and pains here & there. BY the way--HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ROSIE!!!!!!!

Thanks to Gladys Zobac for typing the masters for the By-Laws, that was some job! I sure appreciated having you do it. Thanks!

The Troxel's son Rick is getting married this month and their daughter is moving to Nome, Alaska. That's a lot of excitement for one month!

Our belated condolences to Chuck & Vera Vyskocil on the loss of Chuck's mother last month. I'm sorry I didn't get the word.

Would any MEMBER be interested in a workshop///?? Of any KIND???? How about one on ROCKS AND MINERALS???? PLEASE call so we can get it set up . Call 377-3339 the Blins.

I just received a copy of the new AFMS Safety Manual, all members should read it . Who wants to read it first? Call or pick it up.

DEADLINE for December articles will be Nov. 27 as we MUST get the Dec. newsletter in the mail EARLY.

Wally and Marian Peters attended the Clarinda Show in Oct. and commented it was a real nice Show with some outstanding exhibits.

LATE FLASH!!!! I just recieved a card today about a rock sale. in Cedar Falls. It says: "We wish to extend an invitation to you and all of your members of your club to the Rock Shop Estate Sale of Bert & Alta Salton. A chance to buy (reasonable) hundreds of excellent polished, unpolished, cut & uncut rocks and fossils, also rock equipment. Open Sat. Nov. 18- 10:00 to 5:00 and Sunday Nov. 19, 1:00 to 5:00 . Address-802 -3rd St., Reinbeck, Iowa. This is not an auction .

Please remember this is election nite at the Nov. meeting and should be a good program too. See you there!!!!

Leslie, Pat, Robert & Helen, AND Jeff

CEDAR VALLEY GEMS
Mrs. Robert Blin - Editor
505 - 5th AVENUE
MARION, IOWA 52302

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