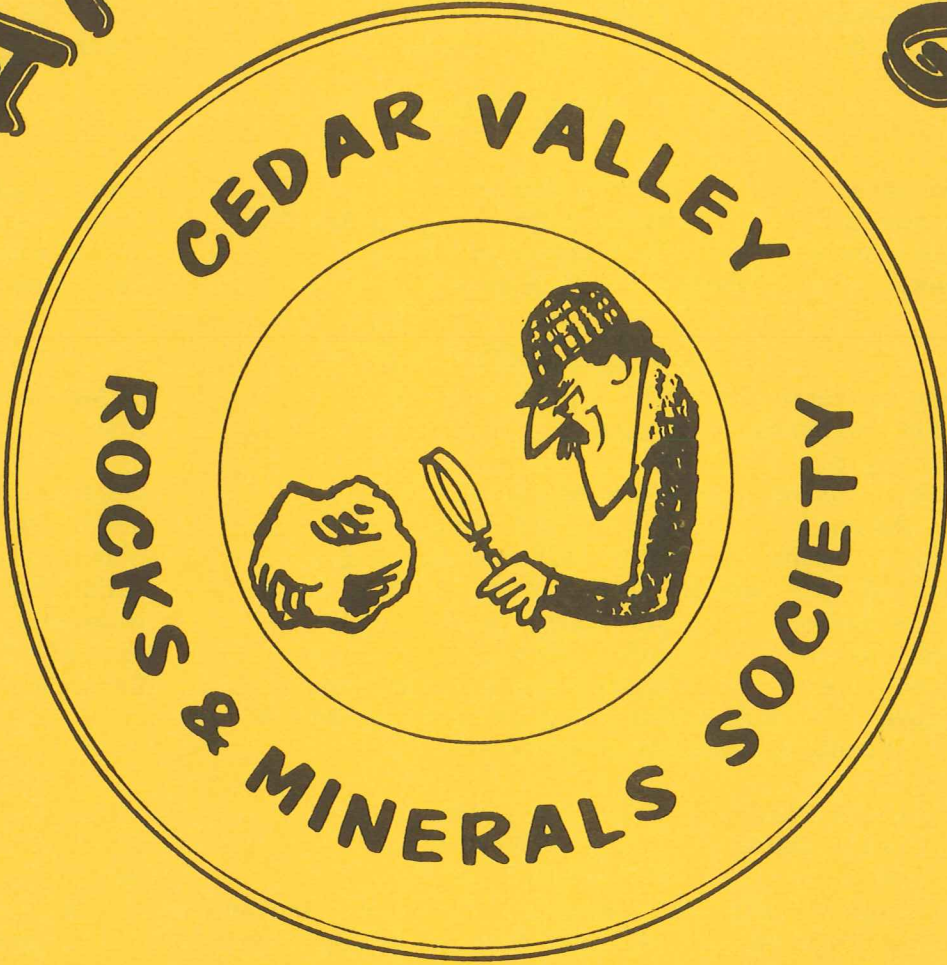


**CEDAR VALLEY GEMS**  
**ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY**



The logo is a circular emblem with a double-line border. Inside the inner circle, a person wearing a checkered hat and a jacket is shown in profile, holding a magnifying glass over a rock. The text "CEDAR VALLEY" is arched across the top of the inner circle, and "ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY" is arched across the bottom. The words "CEDAR VALLEY GEMS" are written in a large, bold, sans-serif font around the outer edge of the emblem.

DEC 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	505 - 5th Avenue	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.

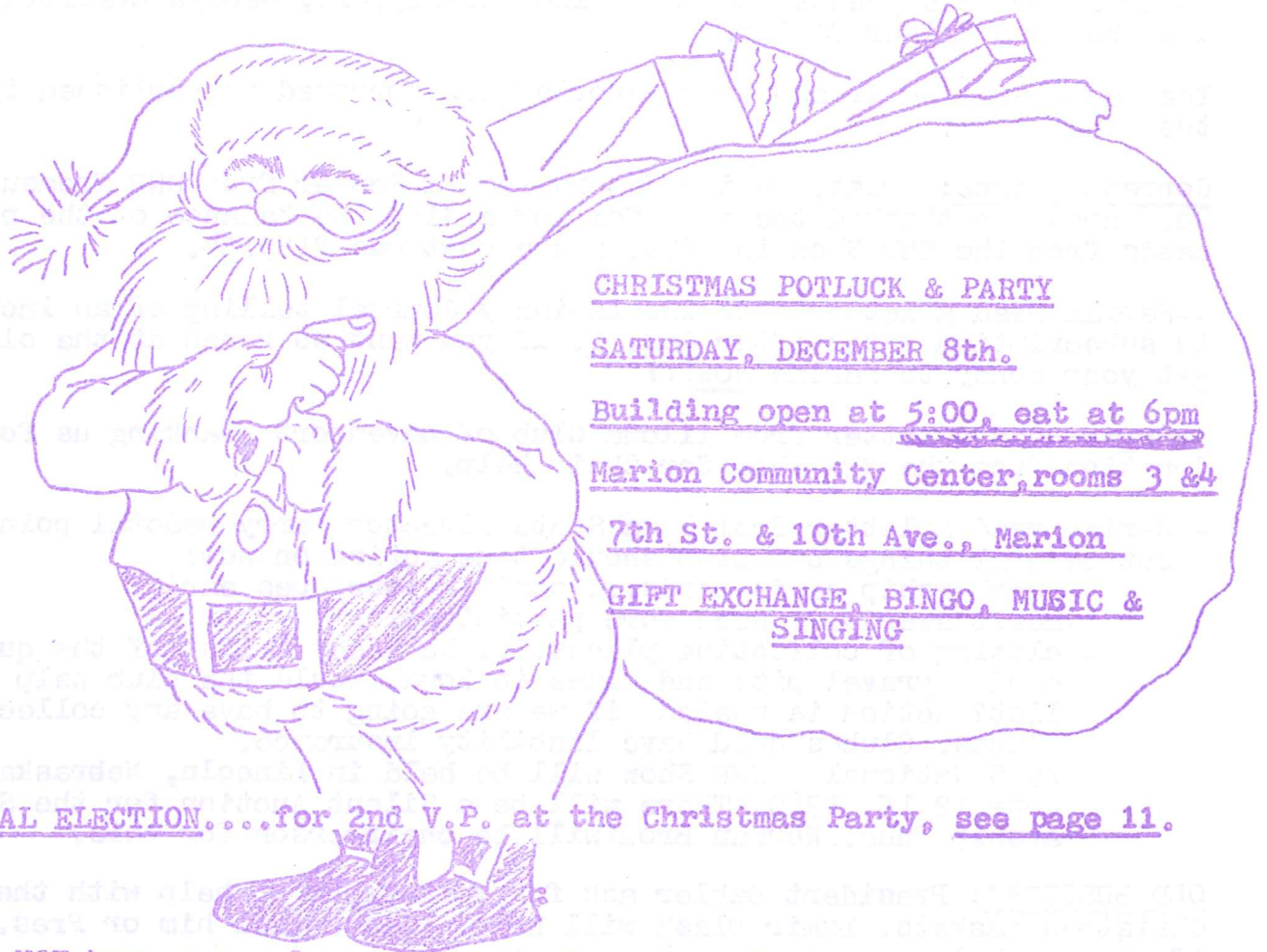
CLUB MEETINGS: Third Wednesday of each month except June, July & August (we have picnics at parks) and December (2nd Saturday night is our Christmas Potluck and Party).  
7:30 PM at Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative Building at 999 - 35th St., Marion, Iowa.

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.

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

DECEMBER 1979  
VOL. 7 - Issue 4  
PAGE 1



CHRISTMAS POTLUCK & PARTY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th.

Building open at 5:00, eat at 6pm

Marion Community Center, rooms 3 & 4

7th St. & 10th Ave., Marion

GIFT EXCHANGE, BINGO, MUSIC &  
SINGING

SPECIAL ELECTION....for 2nd V.P. at the Christmas Party, see page 11.

We DO NOT have a regular meeting in December, instead we have a Pot-luck Dinner & Party. BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY and guests are welcome!!!

FOOD....Bring one or two hot dishes, plus a dessert or salad.  
Bring your own table service. Coffee and punch will be furnished.

GIFT EXCHANGE ...This is optional. If you wish to join the gift exchange bring an appropriate gift for a rockhound, of at least a \$1.00 value. Please mark it man, woman, child or anyone. The gift should be something a rockhound would enjoy; rocks, books, jewelry, etc. To exchange these gifts we will play bingo, you will get to pick your gift when you "bingo". Everyone can play Bingo but only those who bring an exchange gift can pick a gift when they "B-i-n-g-o".



CHRISTMAS BASKET DONATIONS.....Please bring some items for our Christmas baskets for the needy to the Party. Items can be canned goods (meats, soups, fruits, etc), and staples such as; cake mixes, jello, puddings, crackers, sugar. We will take up a collection for money to buy fresh fruit, vegetables, meat and dairy products. Lumir Dlsak, Ida Brunk and Norma Banks are the Christmas Basket Committee if you have any questions.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - NOVEMBER MEETING

The regular meeting of the Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society was called to order by President Roger Dabler at 7:15 pm on Nov. 14, 1979, at the Marion REC Building.

Roger introduced guests Jean and Milo Cerveny, Jr., George Crawford, and the Gene Geiger family.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were approved as published in the newsletter.

Correspondence: Treas. Marian Peters read a letter from MWF Treasurer Wm. Parch who thanked the club for forwarding the balance of the proceeds from the MWF Show in 1978. The amount was \$189.54.

--Marian read a letter from The Lapidary Journal telling of an increase in subscription rates after Jan. 1. If you want to renew at the old rate get your money to Marian NOW!!!

--Roger read a letter from Illowa Club of Davenport thanking us for the donation from the MWF Show for their help.

--Marian read a letter from Iowa State Director Larry DeSotel pointing out several things our club should take action on now:

-- membership cards... send in your dues early.

--merit awards... need more participation

--closing of collecting places.... he needs a list of the quarries, sand & gravel pits and mines in Iowa. Would the club help make a list? Action is needed if we are going to have any collecting places. Club should have liability insurance.

...1980 National & MWF Show will be held in Lincoln, Nebraska on June 12-15, 1980. There will be a Silent Auction for the Scholarship Fund. Norman Brown will be chairperson for this.

OLD BUSINESS: President Dabler ask for volunteers to help with the Christmas Baskets, Lumir Dask will help. Please call him or Pres. Dabler if you can help.

--The Board voted to elect a 2nd Vice-President during the Oct. Board meeting. Pres. Dabler ask for a vote from the membership at this time. The members voted to elect a 2nd Vice-President at the Christmas Party. Pres. Dabler will appoint a Nominating committee.

--No theme or flyer design ideas were recieved for the Show flyer. Fran Bates will get the flyers finished and printed.

--Larry DeSotel suggested we try to get the mastodon skull for the show. Several members agreed it made a good special exhibit.

--Pres. Dabler announced we need someone to compile the Merit awards material. Must be sent by March 31st, 1980.

NEW BUSINESS: Jim Dickens reported that the club needs a new duplicating machine and a second typewriter. Editor Leslie Blin urged we buy a new one while we have the money and a second typewriter would be a big help. Jim reported that they and the Blins have been looking at duplicating machines and quoted several prices. Pres. Dabler will appoint a Committee to look for a new duplicator and typewriter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 for refreshments.

Leslie Blin, Secretary, Pro tem

*Dues are Due!*

SECRETARY'S REPORT - NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

The Board meeting of the Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society was called to order by President Roger Dabler on Wednesday, Nov 14, 1979, following the regular meeting at the REC Building in Marion.

The 9:05 pm meeting was attended by members Roger & Pat Dabler, Jim Dickens, Robert & Leslie Blin, Pat Blin, Larry DeSotel, Skinny & Helen Lutz, Marian Peters and Jeff Nekola.

Buying a duplicating machine and typewriter were discussed. Pres. Dabler appointed the Dickens, Blins and Larry DeSotel to a committee to check on machines and prices.

Roger announced a field trip to Wayland, Mo. for geodes on Sat. Nov.17.

Larry ask for help making a list of quarries, Roger volunteered to help.

Leslie Blin suggested we set up field trips for Jan., Feb. and March to members homes or U.of I. Geology Dept. or museums. No action taken.

The Board adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Leslie Blin, Secretary Pro tem

\*\*\*\*\*

TREASURER'S REPORT - OCTOBER 1979 -Submitted by Marian Peters

BALANCE ON HAND.....\$804.51

DISBURSEMENTS

Prof. P. Garvin.....\$15.00  
 Midwest Federation..... 29.60  
 Cornell College..... 200.00  
 U. of Iowa..... 200.00  
 Midwest Federation  
 (balance of MWFSHOW money)189.54  
 Marion Comm. Center..... 30.00  
 Leslie Blin(supplies).... 26.25  
 Lapidary Journal..... 6.70  
 Total disbursements \$697.09

minus disbursements \$804.51  
 697.09  
 \$ 107.42

RECEIPTS

1980 dues, Vyskocil.....6.00  
 Blin, Lapidary Journal.....6.70

\*\*\*\*\*

AN UNDERCOVER STORY

Back in the days when Paul Revere's silver shop was not heated, his apprentices and helpers, alike, donned their winter underwear with the first fall chill and neither removed nor washed it until it was too hot to stand it. Over this period, the daily dust of silver accumulated in the fibers of the material. In the spring, the now heavy underwear was burned, for many reasons, and the silver was reclaimed. This is how we got the term "Long John Silver".

From The Pick and Shovel via Joliet Gem Star originally.

CHERT---A GEOLOGICAL MYSTRY

Geologists call it chert; archaeologists call it flint. Indians used it for making arrowheads, spearheads, and small cutting tools. Lapidaries and rockhounds collect it. But no matter what its name, chert or flint remains a challenging mystery to scientists and laymen alike.

While chert is easily identified on sight and by simple tests, a shroud of scientific mystery surrounds its chemical composition. Even the most exacting professionals do not agree on the solubility of silica and calcium content, precise age determination, and primary versus secondary processes in disposition or sedimentation.

Chert, which has a smooth surface, sharp edges, and curved (conchoidal) fractures, accumulates in stream beds as gravel and on hillsides and slopes within the soil. Since it is brittle, dense and harder than glass it remains as one of Missouri's common rocks because of its extreme resistance to weathering. It is this quality which makes chert stream gravel valuable for use in road construction and for concrete aggregate.

Jasper, agate, tripoli, and mozar kite are all varieties of chert of "cherty" material. Its form varies from nodules, beads, concretions, and stringers to rounded or irregular tube like figures. Chert concretions such as those near Osecola, Mo., are naturally spherical and porous. Some of the "petrified cannon balls" are as large as cantaloupes, others as small as glass marbles.

Chert is as inconsistent in coloring as it is in shape and size. Iron oxides stain it red, rust, tan, yellow or brown---with most shades of the prism colors being subtly represented.

Scientists know what chert is and where to find it, but they still are searching for a logical answer to the questions of how it got that way in the first place, and when. It remains one of the mysteries of the geological world. (From Missouri Geological Survey via SFMS Newsletter From The Gode )

\*\*\*\*\*

NEW FOSSIL REPRODUCTION PROCESS-Wallis Triebull, in THE TULLY, via ROCK ROCK TALK

Herr Franz Weigert, the owner of a steel engraving plant in Neuburg, Germany has developed a method of reproducing fossils that makes it difficult to tell the difference from the real thing.

He first forms the originals into silicon casts, after which a special engraving device is used to imitate the fine lines of every scale, feather or leaf appearing on the original fossil. The engraving device has pressures up to 1000 tons and is capable of exacting the original color of the fossil. The reliefs turn out so realistic that if it weren't for the plastic base, one would not be able to distinguish the fake from the real.

He has so far reproduced archaeopteryx, fish, ammonites, crinoids and other fossils from Bavaria.

A long list of foundations around the world including the Smithsonian have expressed their willingness to place fossils with Weigert for reproduction. Scientists and educators concur that these reproductions will be excellent study material for science students, teachers and others interested.

*Due over Due!*

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

'Twas the night before Christmas,  
 And all seemed to be swell,  
 Until someone noticed a peculiar smell,  
 It hadn't the perfume of newly mown hay,  
 Nor of the cow stable - it was far from that way.



We looked in all corners, about everywhere,  
 Even under the cushion in Granny's old chair,  
 It seemed to grow worse as we neared the tree,  
 In fact, it cast out its smell, full and free.

Then we started, one and all, on the gifts under the tree,  
 Here's a doll for our Mickey; a nightshirt for me;  
 A ball-bat for Jackey; a teakettle for Ma;  
 A sled for Jimmy; a new pipe for Pa;  
 Writing paper for Ethel, she writes all the time,  
 About everything and always in rhyme.

There was ribbon and paper all over the room,  
 Everyone's face was a picture of gloom,  
 Our tree looked quite ragged, like a cyclone had struck,  
 But in all of our looking we had had no luck.

Until someone noticed, down under it all,  
 A crude package wrapped up like a glove for baseball.  
 We had found what we searched for, but no one shouted  
 with glee,

What was it we found?

In all of our buying,  
 No one thought of our cat,  
 So, our four-year-old Tommy,  
 Had wrapped up a dead rat.

Old poem, author unknown  
 From THE ROCKY LEDGER

\*\*\*\*\*

SAFETY.....From the BEAR TRUNK newsletter I noticed this paragraph:

"Harry Kitzelman is having a bad time with the Chemotherapy. He is one of the people who get dreadfully sick from them. He also takes radiation treatments. He has inoperatable tumors in his lungs. I make it a point never to mention these things, but this time I have a reason. The Drs. blame the many hours Harry spent breathing embedding plastic while he made tables, lamps, and hundreds of other items for his condition.  
 BE SURE YOU WORK IN WELL VENTILATED AREAS, AND NOT TOO LONG."

\*\*\*\*\*

COMPARATIVELY SPEAKING....A plain bar of iron is worth \$5.00. This same bar of iron, when made into horsehoes, is worth \$10.50. If made into needles, it is worth \$4,285. If turned into balance wheels for watches, it becomes worth \$250,000. This is true of another kind of material....  
 YOU. Your value is determined by what you make of yourself.

James M. Hughes, educator, via ERAMS & The Jaspilite, &The Mich. Gem News  
 From The Nashua Valley Grindstone

HOW GOOD ARE YOUR OFFICERS?... by June Zeitner, via The AFMS Newsletter

Recently someone told me their club was no longer going to have a safety chairman because "he never does anything anyway" and someone else mentioned that their club was dying because the president wasn't "a leader."

In most cases it is the club which is responsible, not the officers. If there is a safety chairman, members should bring safety problems to him, and inform him of hazards for him to warn others about and write about. If the members have a legislation chairman, they should insist upon being informed of impending legislation which needs their support or opposition, and they should act on the information. If the club has a program chairman to select the year's programs, members should tell the chairman what they like and what they expect before the programs are ordered. If the officers make out the budget, the club should let the officers know how it feels about the various expenditures.

If the bulletin editor has the bulletin full of reprints and the members want to see original material with a local slant, the club members should write more things for the bulletin. In other words the officers of a club are no better than the club itself. If a club is floundering, it should not blame it's officers, but it should re-examine itself. Even mediocre officers respond to firm advice, and, if need be, reasonable demands. An officer will grow in his job only if he is confident that he is performing as his club wishes.

Some clubs may have too many officers and chairman. Those who have jobs which the club feels essential should have an opportunity at every meet- to tell about their accomplishments and their plans. If the members don't want to listen to some of these reports, they should decide if the committee is really necessary.

A common complaint is that only a very few are willing to take any offices. This again is a reflection of the entire club. If an enthusiastic group persuades their most qualified members to take these jobs, and then supports them in every way, and shows its appreciation, new officers may become easier to recruit. Those who take these offices should begin training possible successors, and the club should not demand that good workers serve term after term.

Who is the most important in the club? If a field trip chairman is able to open up a wonderful new collecting site, he is temporarily the most important. If the bulletin editor brings home the National trophy, he or she for a time is the most important. If a president is able to attract the interest of community leaders and gain recognition for his club, he is on top for a while. But none of these officers are worth anything without a good, enthusiastic, vital, hard-working club,

\*\*\*\*\*

HELPFUL HINTS...Jasper is more troublesome to polish than agate because many jaspers contain hematite which is very difficult to polish. If you are on a field trip, a good way to test for good jasper is to wet it. If it absorbs the water and dries rapidly, throw it away. It will not polish. If it stays wet and does not dry right away, it contains a high amount of chalcedony (quartz) and will take a good polish. Most jaspers polish well on leather with Linde A, but good results can be obtained with tin oxide on either felt or leather.

From the Gravel via Breccia and The Geode



## DECEMBER'S BIRTHSTONE-TURQUOISE

by JEFF NEKOLA

If any gemstone could be considered truly American, December's gemstone, Turquoise, would have to be it. By far, America's Southwest has the greatest quantities of Turquoise now available, and a sort of Turquoise fever has overwhelmed the country, with Indian jewelry shops springing up all over the country. What is Turquoise, its history, and how do you know if what you bought is really Turquoise?

The love for Turquoise was felt also by our Native Americans. From our Southwest, primitive Indian cultures of at least one-thousand years ago began excavating Mount Chalchihuitl near Santa Fe, New Mexico. They spread this, their favorite gemstone over the whole continent. Indian cultures as far apart as the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico to Ontario, Canada incorporated turquoise into their jewelry, and it became their most prized possession. As fact for this, observing how these people mined the gem, it can be seen how much they would slave for it. With only stone hammers to quarry with, they created a single pit 200 feet deep and 300 feet wide. To initially crack the hard rock, the Indians had to heat the rock wall by building wood fires against it, and then quenching the hot rock with water. The sudden contraction that then happened made removal easier, but finding the great quantities of wood and water in the desert surely wasn't. Think of the work it took to bring them into the middle of the desert! Considering the smoke, steam, and heat along with strenuous labor those miners must have lived in, it hardly seems worth the effort, even with rewards of Turquoise.

From observing the stone itself one can almost see these hardships. Turquoise is chemically termed as Hydrous basic phosphate of copper and aluminum ( $\text{CuAl}_6(\text{PO}_4)_4(\text{OH})_8 \cdot 4-5 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ). It is brittle and usually opaque although the crystalline material is transparent to translucent. Turquoise has a hardness of 5 to 6 with a specific gravity of 2.6 to 2.8. Most Turquoise is rather porous and light blue-totally unsuitable for gem material-about 90%. Of the remaining 10%, only a small amount is truly top gem grade. This material is a beautiful blue, (only to be described as Turquoise blue) hard, and solid. This can be cabbed, carved, or made into beads, taking a beautiful polish. One type of Turquoise is called 'Spiderweb' which has a beautiful black, polishable matrix webbed intricately woven within blue Turquoise. This has been the mainstay of America's recent Turquoise boom.

Turquoise forms interestingly. It is a secondary mineral, usually of igneous rocks. It is thought that the weathering of feldspar (Aluminum), Apatite (Phosphate), and chalcopyrite (Copper) is the beginning of the formation of Turquoise. Normally then these elements are percolated through broken igneous rocks by hydrothermal waters, mixed together, precipitating out in either vein or nodule form. Sometimes, though, it forms in pegmatite or cold water environments.

The only known locations for crystallized Turquoise are in these. The most famous location by far is at Lynch Station, Virginia in a pegmatite copper prospect. Valuable as micromounts, the most prized are the crystallized rosettes, but the scattered single crystals also bring high prices. Virtually unknown, and nearly 300 miles closer than Lynch Station is Buckeye Mountain in Polk County, Ark-

Turquoise-continued

ansas (See February 1979 Lapidary Journal). Occuring with rare iron phosphates (Laubmanite, Strengite, Beraunite, Rockbridgite, Kidwellite, Cacoxenite) and Goethite in fractured noviculite as micro-crystalline blebs and stalactites, it seems strange to me that this locality hasn't been publicated more often. Unfortunately, though, none can match the quality of the Virginia materal.

These two localities are the exception, not the rule, however. Otherwise, Turquoise is found in arid copper deposits. This is where our gem matreial comes from, as in our American deposits in Colorado, Nevada, Arizona, and NewMexico. The U.S. isn't the country, however where gem matreial is found. Since 3400 B.C. Egyptians have mined the deposits at Sarabit Elkhadem on the Sinai Peninsula. The Mid-East also has another famous deposits in Iran, Persia, and Turkey. China and Tibet also produces significant quantities of the heavily blue stone.

Since it is found all over the golbe, it also has a wide range of names. The partial list that follows I feel is extremely interesting:challaina, callais, callean, callaica, dohtklishi, smaragdus, aerizusa, iaspis, cyanos, xifios, chalchihuitil, xiuhtomtljetl, a piruzeh, makat, harminei, sakhamy, fidjidjy, buscechiica, lahahica, tien-tse, turchion turchesia, turcois, turqu&is, turquoise,turkey stone, furchus, turchina, turchesia, turchoys, boreas, turckise, japis, the list goes on and on.

That's the Tuquoise story--next month GARNET.

\*\*\*\*\*



Home Sapiens

The 1987 MWF SHOW & CONVENTION "IN THE BEGINNING".... by Lavonne Grove  
Historian

The MWF Show and Convention was held August 10-11-12-13 at Hawkeye Downs in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, with the Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society as hosts for the event.

Norman Brown and Larry DeSotel were Co-Chairman for the event. T.J. Ramsell was originally to be a Co-Chairman and helped get plans started but due to ill health, he resigned. T.J did serve as advisor.

Committee Chairman were: Secretary-Alberta Cray; Treasurer -Betty DeSotel  
Dealers - Larry DeSotel; Special and non-competitive exhibits-Alice Brown and Frances Ling; Competitive exhibits- Charles and Dorothy Shoemaker; Publicity and advertising-Joe and Gerry Kysilka; Pre-registration-Geraldine Brown; Delegates' luncheon and awards banquet- Gert Myers & Mary Dickens; Editors' breakfast- Leslie Blin; Security- Don Bates; Signs & posters- Pat Blin; Ribbons & Awards of Appreciation cards-LaVonne Grove; Camping-Lyle & Karen Waterman; State Directors' and Executive meetings-- Truman Ramsell; Swap area- Dom Bates; Electrician- Bud Cray; Floor Chairman- Bill Myers; First Aid-John Troxel; Credentials- LaVonne Grove; Programs-Helen Troxel & Connie Bevauns; C.V.Hospitality Booth-Rosie Richardson; Hotel/Motel/Camp(off grounds)- Skinny & Helen Lutz; PA system Jim Dickens; Pebble Pit -Robert Blin.

There were 58 non-competitive exhibits(Editors note-I shall only list our members, if there are additions or corrections please let me know so the history can be changed)

Curt Thornton-Minerals, Fran Ling-Sapphires, Robert & Leslie Blin-fossils and lapidary, Mike Blin-lapidary, Bob Blin-carvings, Pat Blin-fossils, Jim & Mary Dickens-fluorescents, LaVonne Grove-wire gem trees, Roger Dabler-fossils, Jeff Nekola-minerals, Raymon Ferguson-lapidary & blacksmith shop handcrafted from stone, Lyle & Karen Waterman-minerals and lapidary, Charles Shoemaker-carvings, Norm & Alice Brown-fossil bark, Bud & Alberta Cray-fossils,.

There were many beautiful, outstanding, informative, fascinating, educational, unusual exhibits. It would take weeks to describe them all. The very special exhibits, listed as such, were; Fryxell Museum, Augustana College, (Dr. Michael Hager), Rock Island, Ill.-rare and large fossils and especially a large flying fossil; LaFayette Funk, Shirley, Ill. -large fossil specimens; Lizzadro Museum, Elmhurst, Ill.- gemstone carvings; Pearl and Harold Hempel, Beaver Dam, Wisc.-pearls and things related to pearl industry; Tolson Ratloff, Lincoln Park, Mich.-opal and silver crosses and symbols; Les Petery, Quincy, Ill.-reforzado.

There were nine demonstrations by individuals, one of which was faceting by Joe Kysilka.

There were 12 demonstrating dealers. There were 48 competitive exhibits.

Each of the states in the MWF had an exhibit set up in the Hall Of States shoeing rocks, minerals and fossils found in their states. C.V. purchased State flags for each of the states and donated these flags to the MWF for use at future MWF shows.

There was a Special Stamp Cancellation at the Show. Described in the MWF newsletter as, "In keeping with the 1978 Show theme "In the Beginning" Artist Jane Machek of Graylake, Ill, rendered the original drawing from which U.S. Postal Service cancellation was made, to depict according to

1978 Show & Convention (the history..continued)

a time clock; "that in the beginning there was earth, followed by the formations of mountains, plants, animals, footprints of man and today Rockhounds". Postal authorities reported 948 cancellations were placed on envelopes."

The theme "In The Beginning" was suggested by Wally Peters. Patty Blin designed the flyers.

There were many excellent programs during the show.

Programs for Thursday: "Sand Casting" by Dan & Inez Finch, "Pints Quarry Minerals" by Lois Fleming; "In The Beginning There No Fossils, But Organisms Were Just Dying To Become One", by Don Good; "Casting and Fabricating Silver" by Dean Anderson; "Mining and Life on the Opal Fields of Australia" by Kenneth Helfand, Australian Mining and Equipment Co.

For Friday: "Carvings and Craftsmen of Idar-Oberstein, Germany" by Russell M. Kemp; "The Iowa Gold Panner" by Howard Barnett; "Echinoderms of Ordovician Age" or "Is 450,000,000 (million) years Close Enough to The Beginning?" by Harrell Strimple; "Coldwater Cave" by Don Koch; "Geological Outcrop Sites from the Beginning to Now" by Joe Brown; "Rough to Shine, Beginning to Finish" by Floyd Zook; "Photographing Micromounts by Dan Behnke; Micromount Specimen and Information Exchange.

For Saturday: "Art of Using Crushed Stone for Pigment for Painting" by Bryce Barker; "Solnhofen---Page from the Past" by Dick Johannesen; "Rock Hounding in Latin America" by Dr. Harry Raplus; Mid-America Paleontology meeting; "Iowa Landforms" by Jean Prior; "Field Tripping In Iowa" by Dick Johannesen; "Grotto of the Redemption" by Father Greving.

For Sunday: Church Services- Artist Bob Naujoks, WMT, presented "IN The Beginning" The message was all given in mural form Rollin' Rock Club meeting; "Lake Superior AGates" by Maynard Green; "In The Beginning" or "The Way It Was, a History or the Rock and Gem Hobby for the Last 40 Years" by June Zeitner; "In The Beginning God Created the Heaven & the Earth" or "Crosses and Symbols of Opal and Silver" by Tolson Radloff. (Rev. Ramon Ferguson, Father Greving and Rev. Charles Moore were worship leaders. Rick Austin played the guitar for singing.)

The Editors Breakfast, Executive Committee meeting, Delegates meeting and Luncheon and the Awards Banquet were all held in the Sheraton Inn. There were 136 people attending the Editors Breakfast, 142 attending the Delegates Luncheon, and 236 attended the Awards Banquet. At the Editors Breakfast Cedar Valley was given a second place plaque in the APMS Special Publication Contest, for "The Resource Book" by Helen Troxel & Leslie Blin; a Certificate for sixth place in the MWF Large Bulletin Contest for Editor Leslie Blin; a Certificate for tenth place in the APMS large Bulletin Contest for "Cedar Valley Gems", Editor Leslie Blin; and a certificate for eighth place in APMS Special Publication Contest for "The First Twenty-five Years With the Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Soc." by LaVonne Grove and Gladys Zobac. LaVonne Grove, Mary Dickens, Gert Myers, and Helen Shedenhelm assisted in checking Credentials for the Delegates meeting, Helen was C.V.'s delegate.

T.J. Ramsell was M.C. for the Awards Banquet, Dr. Stanley Grant, Iowa State Geologist, was guest speaker. (His speech, "We are Closing Nature's Libraries", was later printed in the APMS Newsletter and then in the Cedar Valley Gems") June Zeitner presented the Awards. C.V. was presented a second place trophy in MWF ALL American Club Contest and another trophy for second place in the APMS All American Club Contest. (continued next month)

# 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

PRESIDENT  
Mrs. Bernice McCloskey  
P.O. Box 527  
Elm Grove, WI 53122

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT  
Milford J. Sharp  
3901 West 210th St.  
Fairview Park, OH 44126

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT  
Larry Nawojski  
22757 Redwood Drive  
Richton Park, IL 60471

SECRETARY  
Miss Jean Reynolds  
107 Tuttle Avenue  
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

TREASURER  
William Parch  
Oakdale, WI 54649



December 1979 - Issue No. 199

## FALL EXECUTIVE MEETING REPORT AND MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

Dear Friends: This is being written immediately after the fall meeting in Milwaukee on Saturday, Nov. 3, where Larry Nawojski, Bill Parch, Jean Reynolds and I together with Executive members from Nebraska, Ohio, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Wisconsin spent the weekend working on Federation business.

We thank the members of the Kettle Moraine Geological Society and the Wisconsin Geological Society for their hospitality and also Dr. Katherine Nelson, Curator of the Greene Geological Museum at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, for opening the museum to us Saturday evening.

Get well wishes were sent to First Vice President, Mel Sharp, who is recovering from a hip replacement operation. Seems Mel will do anything to get back on the rock piles.

Your club will receive complete copies of the minutes as soon as they are printed. In the meantime you will be happy to hear that we hope to revive "BEN", the Bulletin Editors News. This will be sent to your editor about four times per year.

Programs are being updated and we are getting close to the 100 mark. Don Stinnett will continue as chairman. Remember to get requests for programs in early, order only what you need, and return them promptly. Comments are appreciated.

Art Millard, Special Displays Chairman, plans a new Special Display Manual which should be of value to your show chairman. Your help is needed to make this a complete and helpful booklet. Watch your mail for information.

The combined AFMS and Midwest show in Lincoln, Nebraska, June 12-15, 1980, will again feature a silent auction for the bene-

fit of the Scholarship Fund. Money received from this sale of donated material will be credited to your club as a Scholarship donation. Start getting your material ready now. Chairman Norman Brown, Eiawatha, Iowa, will have additional information in the Newsletter.

1980 membership cards were given to State Directors and assistants for distribution. Information forms which you will also receive are to be completed and returned immediately. Please don't take a chance on misplacing or delaying information which is necessary to keep Midwest records up-to-date and avenues of communications open. Mail is sent to the person you name to receive it and this is designated each year in the Midwest Federation Directory.

One of the nicest part of being President is working with those serving on the Executive Committee. In addition to being active in their own clubs many took time off from their jobs, came to Milwaukee by car, or plane and paid their own expenses during the weekend. Most arrived on Friday and left on Sunday. They spent a solid day of work on Saturday discussing Midwest activities throughout their stay, and all seemed to enjoy every minute. A big THANK YOU to all. As most of you already know there is a spirit of closeness and congeniality among rockhounds everywhere which makes our hobby a really special pleasure.

My very best wishes to every Midwest Federation member for a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year. May you continue to enjoy your hobby, gaining knowledge and sharing this knowledge and enjoyment with others.  
*Bernice McCloskey*

GET READY FOR THE AFMS/MIDWEST SHOW  
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA...JUNE 12-15, 1980

## MORE NEW PROGRAMS NEEDED

Our Library Program Chairman, Donald Stinnett, is again asking our clubs to supply more new slide programs. Stinnett says our need never ends for new programs. Many of our current programs are becoming faded and worn. Supplying the Midwest with a program would be an excellent project for this coming year.

Be sure to wrap and tape the box when you return a program and return it promptly following your clubs use so that others who have the program booked will not miss out. Since programs are shipped by UPS, if you live on a rural route please include your telephone number when you order so that UPS may contact you to be sure delivery can be made.

Always give second and third choices when you order a program so that if your first choice is not available we can ship your second or third choice and you will be sure to have a program for your meeting. And order as far in advance as possible and in this way, in most cases, your first choice can be booked to you for your club date.

There is no charge for use of the programs by Midwest clubs. Send your requests to Donald Stinnett, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, MI 48134.

## AFMS CABS ON DISPLAY

62 of the cabs presented to the Smithsonian by AFMS on the occasion of its 25th anniversary are currently on display in the Hall of Gems. The beautiful display of cabochons of American gem materials cut by members of clubs belonging to the Federations, is well arranged and attractively labeled, giving names of clubs and individuals who sent the cabs.

Paul Desautels, Curator of the Hall of Gems, recently told June Zeitner that the initial AFMS gift of 1309 cabochons has inspired many others to send cabs to the Smithsonian. He feels the National Museum now has an enviable collection of native gems. Cabochons which are not on display are in the study and research area, and are arranged by species in large (and heavy) books, with each cab in an individual plastic envelope.

The cabochons on display this fall in-

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### MOPAIN VALLEY LAPIDARY CLUB

Dan King, President  
3211 Vernon Avenue  
Brookfield, IL 60513  
Joined June 18, 1979

### Individual Members

Louis Shy  
545 City View Avenue  
West Portsmouth, OH 45662  
Joined October 15, 1979

## SOUTH DAKOTA CLUBS PRESENT CHECK TO STATE LIBRARY

The South Dakota host clubs for the Midwest Field Convention of 1969 recently presented \$870 to the South Dakota State Library of Pierre for books and visual education programs in the field of minerals, gems, fossils and other earth sciences. Maybelle Wilcox, Winner, former Midwest State Director for South Dakota, presenting the check on behalf of clubs at Murdo, Mission, Martin and Winner, explained that the clubs had previously purchased 10 large showcases with profits from the convention, which are available to clubs throughout the state for their shows.

The books and movies which will be acquired by the State Library can also be used by any club in the state, and will also be available to schools and others interested in learning about earth science. State Librarian Vince Anderson, Pierre, accepting for the library, complimented the clubs for their generosity and for their enthusiastic promotion of the advancement of earth science. He commented that with the help of the clubs this library section would be greatly enriched.

cluded plume agate, domeykite, Bruneau Canyon jasper, variscite, tremolite, nephrite, lazulite, dinosaur bone, gem chrysocolla, prehnite, rhodonite, turquoise, obsidian, Petoskey stone, williamsite, petrified wood, limestone, unakite, breccia, oolite, shattuckite, banded agate, gold in quartz, and more.

WITH OUR MEMBERS

ANN GRISHM came home from the hospital on Wed. Nov. 21st.

Geraldine Jacobs had surgery, stayed home three weeks to recover and went back to work today(3rd) will be able to Square Dance again soon.

Cliff & Jackie Steiner are in their new home in Powell, Wyoming. Connie & Jack Bevauns visited them this fall and reported it is very pretty out there and they went fossil hunting with Cliff & Jackie. Mel & Neva Abernathy recieved a letter from Steiners last week telling of their new home. They live 5 miles from town, have bought a home, like it fine, do a lot of fossil hunting and they have joined a Rock Club, been to two meetings. They have potlucks with all their winter meetings. Rt. 2 Box 118x 82435

GLADYS ZOBAC is feeling better but gets tired easily. Finally able to quit taking antibiotics.

DON SHAW is in St. Lukes Hospital. Went Sat., wasn't feeling well, had some tests and hoping to come home Wed. or soon. Room 589.

REV. MOORE went into the hospital Nov. 25. Sunday. Had surgery on Friday but will possibly be needing some more soon, They're still taking tests. He is in Room 336 at St. Lukes Hospital.

INDOOR FIELD TRIPS?.....Would anyone like to host an indoor field trip in Feb. or March????? Please let Pres. Dabler know if you would be willing to let us come and see your collection. An indoor field trip to U. of I Geology Dept. is being planned for Jan. (possibly the 3rd Sunday ofr Sat.)

ELECTION FOR 2nd V.P.....at the Christmas Potluck & Party, Dec. 8

Nominations will be taken from the floor for nominees for 2nd V.P. Please get consent of the member before nominating them from the floor. The tentative duties of the 2nd V.P. will include appointing and possibly serving on Special committees (like Christmas Basket, Christmas Party, etc.) fill in for V.P. when they are gone, attend regular meetings and Board meetings. The exact wording for the By-laws will be set by the Board. The idea of the 2nd V.P. was to have someone "in training" for the V.P. in a year and the Pres. in 2 years. SO all you canidates WAITING in line to be PRESIDENT now is YOUR chance!!! Be at the Christmas Party and SPEAK UP!!

Former members MR. & MRS. DONALD ARTMAN Have a new address. 4824 Sagitaris Ave. , EL Paso, Texas 79924

GERT VACIK is the new Editor for Rockhound Tales the newsletter for Old Capitol Geological Club. CONGRATULATIONS! Gert you're doing a great job, I hope your typewriter SPELLS better than mine! Altho a member of the Iowa City Club and not ours shes a very active rockhound and always ready to help our club in any way, I might mention we have a lot to thank her husband GEORGE for too. Keep up the Good work!

We wish all our members who are in the hospital or not feeling well a speedy recovery and hope everyone will be able to attend our Christmas potluck & Party Sat. night.

Thanks to Jim & Mary Dickens for helping with the newsletter this month & last month too. And Thanks to Jeff Nekola for the articles typed on masters.

ATTENTION.....all members, exchange editors, to whom it may concern!!

The Cedar Valley Rocks And Minerals Society "Gem And Mineral Show" is

Saturday APRIL 12 and Sunday APRIL 13, 1980

not as previously reported in this newsletter as the 13-14.

\*\*\*\*\*

One of our favorite snacks we like to take camping. We named them:

DOUGHBALLS.....put 2 cups dry milk  
1 cup peanut butter  
2 cup rice crispies in a bowl and  
Add 1/2 to 3/4 cup warmed honey and  
mix with your hands. Make into walnut sized  
balls. Roll in sesame seeds, shake off excess.  
Store in tight container in a cool place.

Does anyone have a favorite recipe they would like to share ,please  
get it to me and i'll publish it.

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
Leslie, Pally, Mary + Jim, Robert, Bobby, Jeff*

Cedar Valley Gems  
Mrs. Robert Blin -Editor  
505 - 5th Ave.  
Marion, Iowa  
52302

FORWARD & RETURN POSTAGE  
GUARENTEED  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

THIRD CLASS

