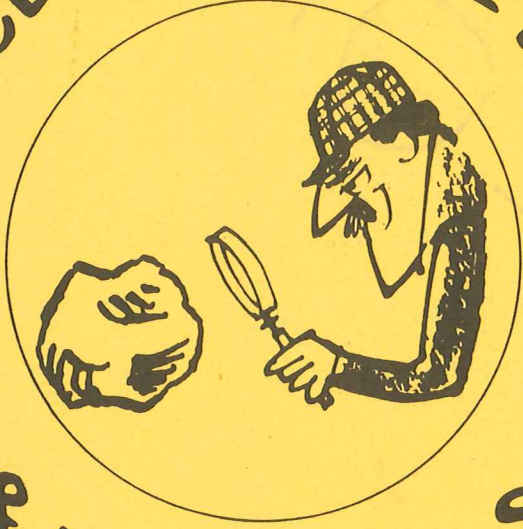


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CEDAR VALLEY GEMS

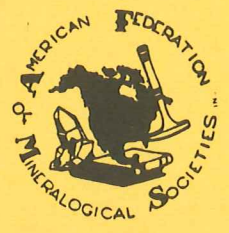
CEDAR VALLEY

ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY



JAN 1979

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 and Geology and the Arts of Lapidary and Geology.

OFFICERS

President	Larry DeSotel	247 Sussex Drive NE	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	377-1641
Vice Pres.	Cliff Steiner	4406 Walker St NE	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	393-4152
Secretary	Leslie Blin	505 5th Avenue	Marion, Iowa	377-3339
Treasurer	Wilma Ramsell	715 Greenfield ST NE	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	393-1395
Liaison	Frances Bates	2739 2nd Ave SE	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	366-6012
Editor	Betty DeSotel	247 Sussex Dr NE	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	377-1641
Co-Editor	Jackie Steiner	4406 Walker St NE	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	393-4152

BOARD MEMBERS

(1975)	Truman Ramsell	715 Greenfield St NE	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	393-1395
(1976)	Alberta Cray	1125 J Ave NW	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	362-5530
(1977)	Ray Shedenhelm	2111 Chandler St SW	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	365-3089
Past Pres.	Jim Dickens	531 30th St. SE	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	363-7693

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Field Trip	Robert Blin	505 5th Avenue	Marion, Iowa	377-3339
Magazine/ Librarian	Idella Hogan	1565 7th Avenue	Marion, Iowa	377-1382
Historian	LaVonne Grove	700 35th St #309	Marion, Iowa	377-3614
Membership	Marian Peters	1475 24th Street	Marion, Iowa	377-2839
Hospitality	Gert Myers	335 27th Avenue SW	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	362-7080
Telephone/ Publicity	Helen Shedenhelm	2111 Chandler St SW	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	365-3089

CLUB MEETING Third Wednesday of each month except June, July and August -
7:30 PM REC Building - Marion, Iowa.

BOARD MEETING Fourth Wednesday of each month except June, July and August 7:30 PM

CLUB DUES Due and payable January 1st of each year.

Regular Membership - \$5.00 per adult couple; \$3.00 per single adult; \$5.00 per family membership.

Junior Membership - \$2.00 per junior member (a Junior member is anyone under 18 years of age).

Associate Membership - \$3.00 (Associate members 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

JANUARY 1979
VOL. 6 - ISSUE 5
PAGE 1

JANUARY MEETING

Wednesday, January 17th, 7:30 P.M.

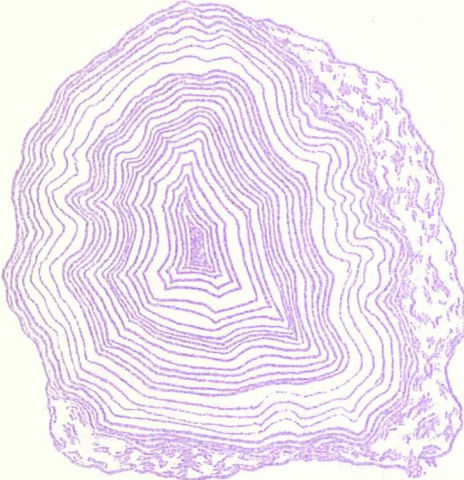
REC Building in Marion

PROGRAM - "Lake Superior Agates"

DOOR PRIZES - We still have quite a few to give away.

DISPLAY TABLE - Bring Lake Superior agates.

Goodies - Remember to bring some cookies! Ora Mae Cozart, Helen Lutz & Rosie R.



PROGRAM - Our new Vice- President, Roger Dabler, informs me that Gene Burry of Vinton will give a slide presentation on "Lake Superior Agates" for the program Wednesday night. He will also bring a display of Lake Superior Agates. I know this will be an excellent program, don't miss it!!

BOARD MEETING-Wednesday, January 24th, 7:30 P.M.

The Jan. Board meeting will be held at the home of Jack and Connie Bevauns. If you are a member of the Board and cannot attend please contact President Bevauns. ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.

Here are directions: Take Center Point Road to Coldstream, turn right onto Coldstream, turn left at Sierra Drive, go to Northgate, turn right, their house is the second one from the corner on the left side. Address: 2011 Northgate Dr. N.E., C.R. Good Luck!

PEBBLE PUPS MEETING - Friday, January 19th, 4:00 P.M. (see page 5) If anyone would like to assist Helen Troxel with the Pebble Pups.... planning meetings, field trips and assist with calling, paperwork, etc. please let Helen know, as Secretary she will not have as much time for Pebble Pups planning.

INDOOR FIELD TRIPS - Field Trip Chairman, Rick Austin, would like to set a date for some indoor field trips during Jan. Feb. & March. Would anyone like to have an open house indoor field trip???? If you would like members to come and see your collection please call Rick and he will set a date. 377-4741 We have in the past visited 2 or 3 homes and then had a potluck supper afterwards, lots of fun!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 7 - 8....CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA (Show) Hawkeye Downs Fairgrounds.

March 9 - 11....Kansas City, Mo. (Show)

March 24 -25.....Lincoln, Nebr. (Show)

March 31 - April 1.. "National Fossil Exposition" A Show & Swap by the new Mid-America Paleontology Society (MAPS) Alberta Cray tells me this will be held at Macomb, Ill. at Western Ill. U.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - DECEMBER 1978 - EXECUTIVE MEETING

The Executive Board of Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society met at the home of Larry and Betty DeSotel, Dec. 16, 1978, 7:30 P.M. The meeting was called to order by President Larry DeSotel.

As there were no minutes to approve, Larry asked the secretary if she had anything else. She announced the regular meeting of the Audubon Society, Monday, Jan. 8, 1979 will feature Tom Davis, geologist with the Crawford Quarries. They will meet in the Cherry Auditorium, Coe College, at 7:30 P.M. Mr. Davis' topic is "Geology of Eastern Iowa."

Alberta also announced that Lumir Diask is at Mercy Hospital, Room 7118. Larry asked Alberta to call Ora Mae Cozart, asking her to send Mr. Diask a card from the club.

Treasurer Marian Peters gave the financial report. She presented a bill for a stapler and some files. A bill was presented by Skinny Lutz for wood preservative for the club's shed. It was moved and seconded that the bills be allowed. Carried. Marian reported she had sent in the 1977 tax report and that the 1978 forms would be sent soon after the first of the year.

Larry read a letter from the Eastern Iowa Science and Engineering Fair committee, stating the fair will be held March 31. Jack Bevauns, 1979 - 1981 president, will represent the club, and will be assisted by Jim Dickens. The club will award \$25. in prize money for the winning exhibits in the Earth Science Field.

Larry read a letter from St. Lukes Hospital asking for a donation. No action was taken.

Alice Brown reported they had received a letter from Paul Good, MWF President, expressing that he was both "shocked and pleased" at how well we had done, that is, how much we had made at the show, and the amount we were able to send in to the Midwest Federation.

Larry noted he had received a letter from Betty Crawford regarding the state director. (As most of you know, Truman was our Iowa State Director at the time of his death.) Larry was asked to take this position of State Director. (Larry has served as an assistant State Director for sometime.) Larry inquired if there was anyone in the group who would like to take the job of Assistant State Director. He will be going to a meeting at Sumner; he will inquire if anyone there would like to take the position.

Don Bates had checked on additional insurance for the club shed, and it's contents. Liability, theft, fire, etc. will bring the total of the present policy up to approximately \$188. Helen Troxel made a motion we continue this policy. It was seconded and carried.

There was a discussion on the show theme. This must be in by the January meeting in order to get the flyers printed. Call Don if you have an idea.

Secretary's Minutes continued from previous page

Keys for the shed were also discussed. It was decided the president should have one key; others will be distributed later.

Skinny said he felt we should get more involved in our community-noting that Cedar Rapids needs a zoo and a museum. Later he made a motion that we donate to a zoo, if the city gets one going. He had had a talk with one of the city officials which led Skinny to believe this was a possibility. The motion was tabled till we see what action is taken.

Helen Troxel reported the Pebble Pups need donations of cabs to be used for Christmas gifts.

Helen reported the display cases at Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, have been modified, and are now ready to receive a display. Alberta Cray suggested that two or three families should be assigned to this display project for a given period of time, (perhaps changing the display every three or four months), noting that in this way it would not be a one man project, but a club project.

Roger Dabler reported he and Elwin Woolf have audited the books of the Midwest Federation Show, and have found them to be in good order.

Fran Bates announced it will be time to send in information for the Merit Award in February. She urged us to contact her right away, or write it down and mail it to her NOW!! (Have you talked to another organization, school class, etc., have you donated time, money or rocks, in the club's name, to another organization? This is the kind of information Fran needs to fill out the form.)

Jim Dickens made a motion that we take to the club as a recommendation that we give \$200. to each of the several clubs that assisted us with the Midwest Federation Show. The motion was seconded and carried.

Jim also made a recommendation that we bring our donation to the AFMS Scholarship up to 1000%. Don Bates seconded. Carried. Alberta was asked to write to Kate Steinbrenner and find out what amount would be required to elevate us to this level.

There was some discussion on the blacklight booth and lamps for use at the show. No decisions were made.

Alberta Cray made a motion that we take to the club the recommendation that we support a Cornell College student with a \$200. scholarship, noting that Cornell is in Linn County, and we should support our county. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to adjourn. Seconded and carried.

A social hour followed with the DeSotels serving a smorgasbord of goodies. Mmmm Mmmm, good! Thank you, Larry and Betty.

Respectfully submitted, Alberta Cray, Secretary

AN UNTITLED WARNING

A terrible thing has happened. On March 11, 1978, Charles R. Savage brother of Pete Savage, our club Treasurer, died. He died after 29 days of suffering while under a life support system.

Charles Savage was an engineer with the railroad, he was an experienced gunsmith. He was a very intelligent man and he thought he would develop another interest, so he started an evening class on jewelry making. A good friend gave him some scrap silver to work with. He went into his shop, closed the door, and went to work. He melted the silver (just took a minute), the autopsy showed chrome and cadmium poisoning!

Before he went into the hospital, there were a few discomforting symptoms, his nose hurt and he was nauseous for three days. His lungs hurt. He thought it was pneumonia but medication wouldn't help. He went to the hospital and that is when they found out his lungs were failing to take oxygen to the blood. They put him on the support system, but it was too late; the damage was irreversible. It only took a minute to melt the silver!!

Please, everyone read this and remember it. Tell everyone, BE CAREFUL, know your materials, use ventilation, use masks, go outside. The list goes on and on. This doesn't change what has already happened, but it can change the future.

By Joe Pfeifer, Salt Lake City, Utah
from "Mineralscoop" bulletin of the
Mineralogical Society of Utah via
The Pseudomorph, via Earth Science
News

WARNING TO SILVER-SOLDERING ENTHUSIASTS: Silver brazing, alloy, frequently called "silver solder," is an extremely valuable industrial material used for joining metals and alloys such as silver, copper, brass, bronze, stainless steel, carbon steel and dissimilar metals combinations where it is necessary to perform the joining of these metals at low temperatures. Fumes generated during brazing can be a hazard. Brazing fluxes generate fluoride fumes when heated. Cadmium in silver brazing alloys vaporizes when over-heated and produces cadmium oxide, a highly toxic substance. When cadmium oxide fumes are inhaled into the respiratory tract, they can cause pulmonary distress, shortness of breath, and in cases of severe exposure, may cause death.

Silver brazing filler metals containing cadmium are: BAg-1, GAg-1a, BAg-2 and BAg-3. Since the boiling point of cadmium is 1412 degrees F., brazing can be carried on safely using BAg-1 and BAg-1a classes of filler metal at temperatures of 1295 -1550 degrees F., 1270 to 1500 degrees F. respectively. Brazing can be carried out safely using temperatures below 1400 degrees F. Since temperatures in the upper portion of these ranges can be reached, it is important to provide adequate local exhaust ventilation or, where this is not possible, individual air-supplied respirators. (This article taken from, "Working with Silver-Solder", Public Health Service Publication No. 1518, U.S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare.)
via Smoke Signals, Rockford, Ill

PEBBLE PUP POST



January meeting- FRIDAY, Jan. 19th, 4:00 pm

at Troxels' to work on the mineral collection. We will be beginning identification procedures including use of chemicals.

DUES ARE DUE!!! Payable to the club Treasurer, Marian Peters or Helen Troxel.

Please Bring some guests!!!

Some tongue twisters.....Truly rural. A skunk stood on a stump, the stump thunk the skunk stunk, but the skunk thunk the stump stunk!

Slippery sleds slide smoothly down the sluiceway!

A big black bug bit a big black bear and made the big black bear bleed blood! submitted by Helen Troxel

A GUESSING GAME



From The Pick and Shovel

1. Red-and-green makes up the best, and almost any color can make up the rest.
2. A form of beryl that's truly pink-To bring out its beauty, facet it, I think.
3. This stone had the deep blue of the sky, and for setting it, silver work you should try.
4. A gist of the sea is this sought-after jewel; imitations may even an expert fool.
5. They say the Chinese know this by its feel, and whether it's cheap or surely real.
6. It's manganese protocarbonate in beautiful bands. The best still comes from a faraway land.
7. Burn up your teakettle with some chromium salt. And you'll make a red stone with hardly a fault.
8. We think of the sea when the stone is clear. Our friends facet them I hear.
9. A mixture of hydrocarbons, black as night - This gem could go into flight.
10. The common kinds are known as "bort", but on SPECIAL rings, the GOOD'S the right sort. By Florence Geisler, Geolgem From Rocks and Minerals via The Petosky Stone

DID YOU KNOW???

The secret of contentment is knowing how to enjoy what you have, and be able to lose all desire for things beyond your reach.

By Lin Yutang, from The Nishna Valley Grindstone

REMEMBER.... when you talk you only repeat what you already know, but if you listen, you may learn something.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!

1. tourmaline 2. morganite 3. turquoise 4. pearl 5. jade 6. rhodochrosite 7. ruby 8. aquamarine 9. jet 10. diamond

SHOULD THERE BE A NATIONAL GEM?By June Zeitner

Chilton Company's mega zine Jewelers' Circular Keystone is polling jewelers about their choice of a National Gemstone. It is not clear whether this would be offered as a bill for Congress so that it would be official, or whether it would be merely a promotional choice for the benefit of the jewelry industry.

The idea undoubtedly came for the State Stone program originated and backed by hobbyists and clubs which has resulted in the official declaration of 38 State Stones. If the National Gemstone is merely an unofficial jewelers promotion, the ballots furnished in Circular Keystone should be sufficient, but if it is to be an official Nation Gemstone, our organizations should have a voice. So should teachers, students, museum curators, scientists, doctors, the clergy, geological surveys, mine owners, etc.etc. etc.

Perhaps if the National Gemstone should become a bill for the new Congress, we should also ask for a National Mineral, a National Rock and a National Fossil at the same time.

Debates on any of these are likely to be long and heated. Proposed for the National Gem have been California tourmaline, Montana Sapphire and several others. Some insist that the National Gem be facetable. If we would choose quartz for a National Gemstone, we could have both faceted gems and cabochons, as quartz includes crystalline amethyst, smoky quartz, citrine, rose quartz and rock crystal and crypto-crystalline fire agate, jasper, chrysoprase, gem chrysocolla, chalcedony, moss, plume and banded agate, carnelian, onyx, sard, glint, mozarkite, binghamite, petrified wood, agatized coral, agatized dinosaur bone, agate thundereggs, and more. No other choice would represent as many people or as many states. 17 states have already adopted some form of quartz as their official State Gem, Rock, Mineral or Fossil. Others may push for carundum or garnet or another local favorite.

What should the criteria be? Benitoite, a fine, true American gem, is too rare and localized. North Carolina's emeralds have the same problem, plus the fact that they do not come in any shade of red, white or blue, which might be desirable in a National Gem. Topaz is found in several states--Utah, Texas, Colorado, California...but not in large enough sizes or sufficient quantities for mass produced jewelry.

How about a National Mineral? Should it be gold, the lure which developed the West, or hematite which helped us through the Revolution and created our industrial age, or copper which is widespread in this nation and which was used by early man, and which comes in desirable colors and shapes? Or a uranium mineral of which we stand in awe and fear?

A National Rock? Some will say it should be granite, some might prefer basalt or limestone. There would be excellent reasons for the choice of any of these.

For the National Fossil, certainly mastodons would be the selection of many. But our trilobites are of great scientific interest. Fossil corals are found in many states. Important in the past of America were the dinosaurs, the saber tooth cats, and the tiny ancestral horses.

Certainly since this entire question is now open for discussion, we should make our opinions and our choices known...continued next page..

SHOULD THERE BE A NATIONAL GEM?...continued.....

Fortunately, we in this organized hobby know more about this subject than the general public, and they will look to us for leadership.

Please fill out the ballot as soon as possible and mail to me. Have your club vote on this. It is not official or binding, but is merely the choice of your club at this time. Results will be published. Letters on this subject are welcome.

Remember, the more of our clubs that take the time to respond to this, the better idea we will have as to which gems are the most popular and how much interest there is.

From AFMS Newsletter, Dec. 1978

June Zeitner
AFMS Newsletter
Mission, S.D.
57555

(Be THINKING about YOUR choice for a National Gemstone, National Rock, National Mineral and National Fossil. We should vote on the CLUBS choice at the Jan. or Feb. meeting..Editor)

APPLICATION FOR ALL AMERICAN FEDERATION CLUB AWARD

It's that time of year again! Fran Bates needs information on things YOU, THATS YOU, have done for community service so she can compile this Application and mail it before the deadline.

HER DEADLINE IS... the 31st of JANUARY! This will give her time to compile it in an orderly fashion and type it up.

Read your Sept. 1978 newsletter about our club winning a trophy and you will see Fran did a good job last year. So, please WRITE DOWN and MAIL to Fran(address inside front cover): When you took your rocks and gave a program at what school or some other group, or was it another club? Where did you display your collection this past year? Did you have the Scouts, Pebble Pups, etc. over to see your collection?, did you write to the Forest Service? She will need When?, Where? and What you did. Month O.K. if you can't remember exact date.

If you have any questions and can't get Fran(she works nites some) call me 377-3339. If you wish you can bring your list to the Jan. meeting and give it to me.

AFMS SAFETY MANUAL

I recieved a copy of the new 44 page AFMS Safety Manual and I think every family should have one. It has 28 chapters. Three sections:

1. Field Trip and Camping Safety - 11 chapters
2. Lapidary Safety - 1 chapter
3. Introduction to First Aid - 15 chapters

I will bring this copy to the Jan. meeting if you would like to check it out and read it. I would like to see the club order a supply of these.

GIVE A HOOT!

DON'T POLLUTE!

HELP KEEP AMERICA CLEAN!

PLEASE DON'T LITTER!

THE ROCK CYCLE.....by Wilma D. Bonar

(Wilma D. Bonar was a member of the Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club and was a past President of the Eastern Federation. She passed away on May 3, 1978. The following article was written by her & appeared in the Coral Geode.)

If we were asked to tell the story of geology in two or three words, how many of us would say, "THE ROCK CYCLE"? And yet that would probably be the most correct answer.

Most of us learned in junior high school about the "oxygen cycle", the "nitrogen cycle", the "water cycle", the "life cycle" and that all processes pertaining to life move in never-ending circles, even the life to death cycle. Although it is not as widely taught, it is even more fascinating to suddenly discover that there is also a "rock cycle".

We hold a piece of rock in our hands--solid, dense--or look at a mountain peak, majestic and enduring--and it is hard to visualize them as having been, or becoming, tiny particles. They do, however, and this interesting process is going on all the time.

These tiny particles may be sand($5/64"$ to $1/400"$ diameter), silt ($1/400"$ to $1/6400"$), clay, which is the finest of all (less than $1/6400"$). These three kinds of particles are called clastic (or fragmental) sediments. Before they became particles they may have been pebbles or boulders. The other kind of sediment is chemical sediments which are minerals--which have been dissolved in water and by evaporation or chemical action have been precipitated out of their solution.

These sediments have become such because of "weathering"--either chemical or mechanical--which process breaks them down eventually to the fine particles we call sediments. Erosion then takes them great distances. The agents of erosion are gravity, wind, glaciers--and greatest of all---running water.

The rate of erosion depends on the gradient, volume of water and the velocity of the water. These sediments are eventually deposited on a lake or ocean bottom. The "rate of deposition" depends on the velocity of the water which slows down as the gradient decreases and the size of the sediments. The larger ones settle out first; the fine ones last.

As time passes, these deposits become hundreds of feet thick, causing tremendous pressure on the bottom layers, and two processes cause pressure on the finer sediments; two, the dissolved minerals in lake and ocean water (silica from quartz, lime from calcite, and iron compounds from limonite and hematite) form natural cements which hold larger fragments together. The depositing according to size is called "sorting" and in most cases is fairly regular, making clearly defined deposits.

As the two processes work on these deposits (over long, long periods of time) the pebbles and gravel form conglomerate (puddingstone); the sands form sandstone and the silts and clay form shale (or mudstone). All of the particles had become rounded because of the carrying in water. If particles are sharp and angular (instead of smooth and rounded) the rock is called breccia (brech'ea).

Sandstone may be composed of many kinds of grains, but most are made of grains of quartz. Quartz is the most durable of minerals, resisting weathering, and although the grains become cemented in forming sandstones,

THE ROCK CYCLE...CONTINUED

there is always space between the grains, up to 30%, so that sandstone will be porous and so is called permeable, as water can pass through it. Sandstone feels rough and gritty; can be a great variety of colors. Silica cements form the most durable sandstones. Arkose contains feldspar. Sandstones are used for building stones and to make glass.

The clays that make up shale or mudstone may be composed of a mixture of minerals but are usually composed of kaolin. The pore spaces in shale are so very fine that water cannot pass through--(clay soil will not drain) and the rock is said to be impermeable. Because of the fine particles, shales are smooth, layered, easily broken, and are many colors. Mudstone is similar but does not split into layers, Clay is used in making cement, bricks and tile. And we find many fossils in shale and sandstones.

If we look closely at rocks, we know as METAMORPHIC ROCKS, we may think they resemble these sedimentary rocks that we are talking about--and it will be with good reason for the metamorphic rocks come from sedimentary rocks. Meta means change and morph means form, so these rocks have changed their form. The most common metamorphic rocks are slate, quartzite, gneiss and marble.

The natural agents that have changed these sedimentary rocks into metamorphic rocks are pressure, heat and chemical. Quartzite is harder and denser than sandstone and retains no pores; slate does not split along the bedding lines; pebbles in conglomerate may be flattened; mineral grains in schist are in parallel layers as though pressed with a giant hand; we find fossils in distorted shapes, and in the field, we see horizontal layers of rock which have become wavy up-and-down patterns. The larger crystals in these changed rocks is believed to be due to heat--from magmas and from the friction of vertical and horizontal movements of the earth's layers.

The third group of rocks are called igneous, meaning fire-formed, because they have been formed by the cooling and hardening of the hot molten rock from within the earth's crust.

We can start our cycle with the igneous rocks as they are usually thought of as the parent rocks of the crust. As these are extruded, exposed to the surface, by earthquakes, erosion or diastrophism (movement of the crust), they are acted upon by the two kinds of weathering; reduced to the two kinds of sediments and carried by water and deposited. We have already described the processes which can change these sedimentary rocks to metamorphic rocks. These in turn, may be subjected to such high temperatures inside the earth's crust that they melt and become magma, later solidifying into igneous rocks to complete the never-ceasing "rock cycle". The rock cycle has many short-cuts--igneous rock may be metamorphosed; metamorphic rocks may weather or may be metamorphosed a second time. But ever since the earth was formed, the rock cycle has been going on and on, endlessly and never-ceasing as mountains are carried to the sea to rise up again as mountains.

via Golden Spike News

SAFETY TIP

When slabbing with your rock saw, never open the lid until all of the mist has settled. The oil mist can be very harmful to your lungs.

From The Nishna Valley Grindstone, via The Tully, via Boup Scoop

CONGRATULATIONS!!

To LARRY DESOTEL, new Iowa State Director for MWF. Larry has accepted the position of Iowa State Director which was held by Truman Ramsell before his death in October. Larry has been Assistant State Director. The new Assistant State Director is Bernie Hermanson of Sumner, Iowa. He is a teacher and member of the Northeast Iowa Rock Club. Congratulations to Bernie Hermanson also.

BLACK LIGHT BOOTH REPORT _ By Jeff Nekola

As chairman of the Black Light Booth for the Show I DESPERATELY need a loan of a large, at least 2 feet, long short wave light. I Also need fluorescent material to borrow for use in the booth. Please call me if you can help. 363-9792

LIBRARIANS REPORT - By Jeff Nekola

Our Club Library has lots of GOOD reading material. Magazines 1954 to present. Earth Science, Iowan, Lapidary Journal, Rocks and Minerals & some good books. Call me or Stop by and take home a stack. 363-9792 800 25th St. N.E., Cedar Rapids.

IN MEMORY OF TRUMAN

I recieved a copy of a letter sent by Marilyn Bekker of the Muscatine Study Club, Inc. to Wilma Ramsell. I quote in part:

"In memory of Truman, 10% of the proceeds of the auction held each year at the annual Swap will be contributed in his name to the Federation Scholarship fund. This project to begin with the 1978 Swap.

The club greatly appreciated his help in our only fund raising activity. The faithful attendance of both of you was looked forward to and very much enjoyed each year."

Marilyn A. Bekker

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Babe Barnett is really busy! He tells me he was to Marengo last week with his film and rock collection. Was out searching for GOLD too. And found some! Goes to Clinton next week to a college there for 2 days of programs and he thinks maybe he'll be on TV. Then goes to Vetern Hospital in Marshalltown for a program.

I know a lot of our members are visiting schools, scouts, etc. and it would be nice if you'd let me know when you do so I could print it in the newsletter, it might encourage others to try it.

Patty and I and Jeff Nekola had a display of Linn Co. rocks & Minerals, Fossils of Eastern Iowa, and Rocks and Minerals at the Indian Creek Nature Center during November. Mel Abernathy loaned us his specimen of the Linn County Rock for the display.

Patty & I gave a program on rocks & minerals to two 5th grade classes at Linn-Mar Novak School in Dec.

I was told that Elwin Woof and Roger Dabler both gave quite a few talks to groups. I was told Larry DeSotel had quite a write-up in FMC newsletter.

Merry Christmas * Happy New Year

Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER

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

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January 1979 - Issue No. 191

Program fee eliminated New programs added

Donald Stinnett, Film Library Program Chairman, announced the decision of the Executive Committee to eliminate all charges for the use of the Federations slide and movie programs by member clubs. Beginning January 1, 1979 clubs may book these programs without payment of the service charge.

He also announces the addition of eight new slide programs to the list of those available for immediate booking.

"Ohio Lapidary Creations." This program by the Euclid Lapidary and Mineral Society is about finished articles created with unusual cabachons, vases, silver work, etc.

"Creative Lapidary with Reforzado" (in Spanish means reinforced). This is a process developed by Les Petery of the Gem City Rock Club. This was one of the 1977 American Federation award winning programs.

"Geology of Yellowstone and Grand Tetons" by Dr. David Hess, Environment Committee of the Midwest Federation.

"Method for Making Intarsias" and "High Desert Country" two excellent programs received in our program 'swap' with the Northwest Federation.

"Introduction to Faceting" and "Geology of Minerals of Rutherford Mine, Amelia, Va." are two more of the American Federation award winning programs.

And how many people would like to go "down under"? The Wisconsin group from Verona has provided a chance to do this with our latest program "Noodling, Yowah Nuts and Walkabouts." If you don't talk Australian, it's about Australian Opals. There are 140 slides to give you a good view of the out-back and opal mines.

All of these programs together with the others in the library are now available without charge. Order early to allow time for processing and always include a second and third choice so that your club will not be without a program for your meeting. Send your request to E. Donald Stinnett, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock MI 48134.

NEW SOUTH DAKOTA DIRECTOR NAMED

Midwest President Betty Crawford announces the appointment of Dell Milbrandt, 1301 N. 4th Street, Aberdeen, S.D. as State Director for South Dakota.

MIDWEST NOW 500% IN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

by Katharine Steinbrenner, Scholarship Chairman

Congratulations are in order for our Midwest Federation. Word has just been received that we are now a 500% Federation. This is really quite an achievement and it is all due to the generosity and loyalty of our clubs in supporting the worthwhile project - the American Federation Scholarship Foundation.

Since the report was made at the Fall Executive Committee Meeting over \$930.00 has been received from thirteen Midwest clubs. The following clubs have advanced their Scholarship status:

Ashtabula Rock & Gem Club	600%
Lake County Gem & Mineral Society	1400%
Lincoln Gem & Mineral Society	600%
Michiana Rock & Gem Club	1500%
Rock Exchange Club	900%
Licking County Rock & Mineral Society	200%
Heights Gem & Mineral Society	400%
Central Iowa Mineral Society	800%

A very special thanks to all of the Midwest Clubs that helped us to become a 500% Federation. The 500% Plaque will be presented at our Spring Executive Meeting.

TRUMAN RAMSDELL

Our State Director for Iowa, Truman Ramsell died during the past month in Cedar Rapids. He was a member of the Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral Society and active in the Midwest Federations show in Cedar Rapids last August. He was also a member of the Rollin' Rock Club. He is survived by his wife Wilma, and two sons, Dr. John Ramsell of Omaha, Neb. and Rodney of Oakdale, Minn.

Bulletin Contest blanks mailed

Our Bulletin Editors Committee Chairman, John McFadden, has sent contest rules and entry blanks to all club editors for the 1979 Bulletin Editors Contest. If your club has not received copies of these rules please send a request for duplicate copies to John McFadden, 1201 N. Wheeler, Griffith, IN 46319.

This year in addition to the Bulletin Editors Contest there will be classes for New Bulletin Editors, Original Articles, and Special Publications.

Deadline for mailing your entries is Jan. 15, 1979 and they must be received by John by Jan. 25, 1979 to be eligible. Winners will be announced at the Editors Breakfast in Columbus, Ohio during the Midwest annual show and convention.

The Midwest has always had a vast interest in the Bulletin Editors Contest and it is hoped this years will be one of biggest and best. Be sure your club joins in this activity.

COPY DEADLINE, TOO MANY "BLACKHAWKS" CAUSE REPORTING ERROR

A copy deadline for the 1978 MWF Directory plus three clubs with "Blackhawk" in their names caused a reporting error in the 1978 Directory, regarding the Scholarship

A copy deadline for the 1978 MWF Directory plus three clubs with "Blackhawk" in their names, caused a reporting error in the 1978 Directory, regarding the Scholarship status.

Information that the Blackhawk Rock Club, Rockford, Ill., was 1000% in Scholarship status reached the printer after the pages were prepared and printed, and a transformation of status with another Illinois club showed the Rockford club with a completely incorrect status listing.

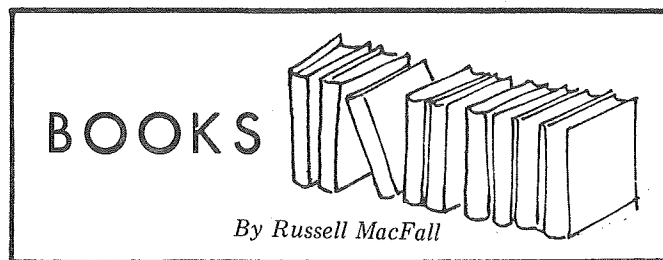
A report from Cedar Rapids on the amounts realized from each club's donation of material for the auction reported \$16.75 to be credited to an Iowa "Blackhawk" club instead of the Blackhawk club in Rockford, Illinois.

Our Scholarship Chairman, Katharine Steinbrenner, has had the error corrected and the Rockford Rock Club is shown as 1000% and the \$16.75 is credited to them.

SHOULD THERE BE A NATIONAL GEM?

In the December issue of the American Federation Newsletter there was a story as to whether there should be a national gem together with a ballot to fill out and return.

If this has not been brought to your clubs attention by the person in your club receiving the AFMS Newsletter, check around to see who this person is and then discuss it at your club meetings. Then return the ballot so your opinion can be known.



With a growing interest in fossils among members of the federations, perhaps the time has come to speak of a few publications of interest in this aspect of our common hobby. One book that has just come to this reviewer's attention is Common Fossil Plants of Western North American, by William D. Tidwell and published by Brigham Young University, Provo Utah. It is soft bound but more substantially than a paperback; includes an exceptionally generous number of illustrations in its 197 pages, and retails for \$7.95.

Anyone who has collected fossils has soon learned that books about fossils are everywhere, those about fossil invertebrates are plentiful, but books about paleobotany are few and far between. That is one reason this book, which appeared in 1975, is so welcome. Besides a systematic treatment of the ferns, cycads, conifers and angiosperms, Tidwell devotes some pages to a history of collecting, review of the plant kingdom and remarks about collecting, preservation and methods of study. Tidwell describes his work as an effort to unite the opportunities of the amateur collector and the skills of professional paleobotanist in working for science.

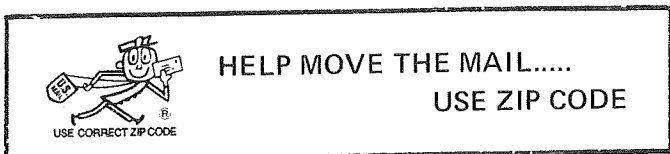
A publications with an unfortunately short life is worth recalling because its one issue is still of real value to the fossil collector. This is the sumptuous magazine FOSSIL, which saw daylight for the first time in May, 1976, in San Diego California, under the editorship of John B. Wexo. The issue is splendid with color, authoritative with distinguished contributors, and notable for its articles on trilobites, continental drift, fossils on stamps, fossils from Lake Worth, Texas, and the history of fossil collecting in the west, sacred ground for the dinosaur worshipers. Its review of fossil literature is exceptionally attractive, and is one reason that those who can find a copy on a rock shop shelf would be well advised to buy it at the original price of \$5.00, as this reviewer did.

BUYERS GUIDE LISTINGS

If your club wishes to be listed in the Lapidary Journal ROCK HOUND BUYERS GUIDE the forms must be returned by February 15. Please make certain that the proper address of your club is included. It is surprising to see the number of listings sent in with the name of the club, but with no mention of the city where the club meets. Sometimes the information is so incomplete that it is impossible to trace back and find out where the club belongs, and then it has to be left out of this world-wide list of over 1000 rock, gem and mineral clubs. The listing is free. Send completed forms to P.O. Box 80937, San Diego, Calif., 92138.

DEADLINE EXTENDED

Deadline for sending in your application for the annual AFMS All American Awards has been extended to March 31, 1979. LaDocia Ellis, Education Chairman, says this will give clubs more time to complete their application and get it mailed to their Regional Chairman.



NEW OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

- PRESIDENT - Jack Bevauns
- Vice - President - Roger Dabler
- Secretary - Helen Troxel
- Treasurer - Marian Peters
- Liaison - Fran Bates
- Editor - Leslie Blin
- New Board member - Helen Shedenhelm replaces Bill Myers (til 1981)
- Membership - Mary Dickens
- Hospitality - Rosie Richardson & Ora Mae Cozart
- Telephone/Publicity - Jackie Steiner
- Display - Don Bates
- Supply - Craig Simmons
- Librarian - Jeff Nekola
- Historian - *Alice Brown*
- Resources Material - Leslie Blin, Jeff Nekola, & Gladys Zobac
- Pebble Pups - John & Helen Troxel, Don & Fran Bates
- Field Trip - Rick Austin

MARK THOSE NEW CALENDARS



The regular meetings will be held in the REC Building in Marion on the following dates, all Wednesdays: Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March 21, April 18, May 16, Sept. 19, Oct. 17 and Nov. 14 (note this is a second Wed. because of Thanksgiving.)

The REC Building will be open at 7:00 P.M. for members who wish to come early and visit, also for the hospitality committee to make coffee and members to set up chairs & tables and displays, so if you have a job to do before the meeting or just want to visit come at 7:00. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30 P.M.

The Marion Community Center has been reserved for the Christmas party on Dec. 8th, 1979. It is held on the second Saturday of Dec. The gym has been reserved from 5-10 P.M.

During the summer months we have potluck picnics. The Secretary, Helen Troxel, has reserved pavilions in Thomas Park in Marion for these picnics. June 20 (brown pavilion) July 18 (blue pavilion) August 15 (green) These are at 6:30 P.M.

"Return to the Tetons"

This is the title of the next Audubon film at Coe Sinclair Aud. on Thurs Febuary 22nd.

RESOURCE BOOKS...Are you looking for information for summer vacations???

The club has a few Resource Books left, at \$1.50, they are full of information to plan vacations. They are available at meetings.

From the PICK AND CHISEL...Patience is the ability to idle your motor when you feel like stripping your gears.

Tact is the art of building a fire under people without making their blood boil.

EDITORS REPORT

I want to thank Helen Troxel for a job well done as Co-Editor the past two years. She always had articles to contribute, in fact, I still have some to print yet. She always gave me items for the Pebble Pups page. We will miss her help assembling the newsletter, she was getting good at coping with the confusion and stamping the newsletters right side up. Hopefully the Sec. job won't take so much of her time that she can help now & then.

Don't know what we'd do without ever-faithful Jeff Nekola! He never misses a chance to help with the newsletter. And is full of suggestions and helpful ideas. He will make a good Editor, soon? Thanks, Jeff for your help in the past two years and I'll get it PERFECT sometime!

Thanks to Alberta Cray for typing the minutes on the masters for the last two years, it made my job easier. Now WHAT will you do with ALL that SPARE time???

While I'm at I'll thank the rest of the staff, hopefully they will help for another two years, Patty as artist, Bobby, Robert & Mike who run it off and help assembly it and address and mail it. Thanks, fun isn't it?

Now, would anyone else like to help with the newsletter, we can always use more help and need people to call on when some one can't help that month. Please give it a try, no experience needed. Call 377-3339

Leslie Blin, Editor

P.S. Gladys Zebac will do typing and be Co-Editor for the coming two years. Unfortunately she missed helping this month because she has been sick in bed with a miserable ear infection. She is feeling better today for the first day I've talked to her but felt bad too about missing working on the newsletter this month. I'll let her do Feb. alone to make up for it!! Get well, Gladys, Feb. will be her before you know it!!

CHRISTMAS PARTY & POTLUCK

The Christmas Party & Potluck was held Dec. 9th at the Marion Community Center. Fifty members and guests attended. Helen Troxel did a great job of leading us in singing Christmas carols. Connie Bevauns played the piano for the singing. Wasn't the past and present Presidents singing group good? The Blins got a few brave members to try the Jingle Bell Rock, did you know that Fran & Don could jitter-bug?? Jeff Nekola called the numbers for Bingo to give away the exchange gifts.

NEW IVORY LAW - From ROCK TALK, via PICK AND DOP STICK

As of June 11, 1978, the African elephant has been put on the threatened species list by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Dept. of the Interior. This means that anyone who has any form of African elephant ivory, should be prepared to show that it was imported into the U.S. prior to that date. Also, anyone owning such material must obtain a permit to sell to anyone in another state, otherwise, he is liable to large fines or imprisonment.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, JANUARY 1979

A real rockhound issue, an archeological dig in Brazil, fossils of Colo. bison, and Diamonds. Don't miss reading it.

GET WELL !

Alberta Cray had surgery on her foot again, more neuroma like she had removed last April. Larger and took longer to heal this time but she was talking about going back to work today.

Norval Brunk had a heart attack the week before Christmas and spent the holidays where but is home now and getting along well. Ida got the shingles on Christmas but she is better now . Hope you're both well soon.

Lumir Dlsk has had surgery and been in and out of the hospital since before Christmas but is home now and getting along Alma says. Hope to see you at the meetings again soon.

Get well! Gladys Zobac. I need a Co-Editor/!! She had terrible pain with an ear infection but is better today.

I see in the Limestone Rattler from Winterset that Amel Priest has had a heart attack, is now recuperating in his trailer at Port Isobel, Texas.

Louie Cozart was in the hospital for a while at Christmas, been home for a week but tells me he has to go back in tomorrow. He is having a lot of fluid problems. Hope you are better soon! Mercy Hospital I think.

DeSotels recieved a letter from Curtis Thorton who moved to Florida. Sent a picture of his home, sounds like he is enjoying it where. The letter was passed around at the Christmas party. He was complaining of a cool spell, 75°, we'll trade this snow for your cool spell, Curtis!! Right now outside it is 4° and snowing, and we have plenty of SNOW now!! Highest temperature this year has bee 10°, lowest -16°, averages about 0° most of the time. Glad you're enjoying it down there, write the news!

DIRECTORY CHANGES - Change Gladys Zobacs phone No. to 396-0210
Correction on Lumir & Alma Dlsk phone 362-4594

Add Cliff & Jackie Steiner, 4406 Walker St. N.E., C.R. 52402, 393-4152

An old Tennessee mountaineer and his wife were sitting in front of the fireplace one cold winter evening when the wife said to her husband, "Zeke, you haven't brought in a coon for over amonth, and them poor hounds feet are all cut up and sore from running around them thar hills."

"Yeah, ah know, Liz, he replied; "Ah've been thinking about going down to Si Perkin's kennels and seein' if ah can buy a couple of those knew fangled Rock hounds ah heard about when I was down to the city last summer." From THE PICK AND SHOVEL, via GI Nugget, via Jade Journal, via Stan Palmer

Gladys Zobac ask me to remind everyone: DON'T FORGET to write to your Senator(Culver)& (Jepson) and Representative(Tauke) to vote for wild-erne ss status on Forest Service lands which amount to 64 million acres.

YOUTH IS A GIFT OF NATURE. AGE IS A WORK OF ART. From Achates

Make new friends, but keep the old; Those are silver, these are gold, Newmade friendships, like new wine, Age will mellow and refine.

Author: Joseph Perry from The Nishna Valley Grindstone

Happy New Year, Leslie

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