

Marie C. Niebauer
174 E. Cleveland Road
South Bend, Indiana 46637

FIRST CLASS MAIL

THE ROCKFINDER

MAR 1976



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.
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THE MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC., a non-profit organization, is affiliated with the MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL & GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES and with the AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES.

REGULAR MEETINGS

TIME: 2:00 P.M.	PLACE: Nature Center
Fourth Sunday of Each Month	Rum Village Park
June - Field Trip Meeting	2626 So. Gertrude Street
July - No meeting	South Bend, Indiana
August - Annual Picnic	

DUES

Individual - \$3.00 per year Family - \$5.00 per year Junior - \$0.50 per year

ROCKFINDER STAFF

Editor.....	Fred Niebauer	174 E. Cleveland Rd, So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Asst. Editor...	Sherry Russell	27911 North St, No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Staff Members..	Club Members		

All contributions for publication should be in the hands of the editor by the 5th of the month, of publication.
Permission is hereby granted to reprint, at any time, items published in the ROCKFINDER, provided due recognition is given.

THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 16
Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc.

Number 3

March 1976
South Bend, Indiana

Regular Meeting:

March 28, 1976

Time: Doors Open 1:30 PM, EST
Meeting 2:00 PM, EST

Place: Nature Center
Rum Village Park
2626 S. Gertrude Street
South Bend, Indiana

Program: Business Meeting

Auction -- Material to be
donated by members. Proceeds
will go to Scholarship Fund.
Jim Russell, Auctioneer

Hospitality:

Hap & Mary Mortenson
George & Pauline Kelsheimer
Stephanie Hoffman

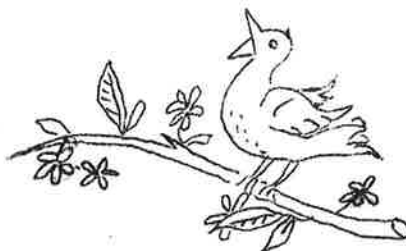
Educational Meetings:

Time: 7:00 PM, EST

Place: First Bank Basement
Corner of U.S. 31 North
and Cleveland Road
South Bend, Indiana

Program: Friday, March 26, 1976
"Calcite and Its Crystal
Forms"

Program: Friday, April 9, 1976
"Gem Faceting, A Precise
Art"



Calendar

- April 1-4 Lake County Gem & Mineral Society show. Lake County, Illinois
- April 3-4 Michigan Geology & Gemcraft Society Seminar, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- April 3-4 Duneland Rock Club show Crown Point, Indiana
- April 9-11 Flint Rock & Gem Club show, Flint, Michigan
- April 16-18 Michigan Gem & Mineral Society show, Jackson, Michigan
- April 24-25 Peru YMCA Rocks & Mineral Club, Inc. show, Peru, Indiana

President's Message:

Greetings,

As I sit here trying to conjure up a message for this month, I am faced with the realization that meaningful messages are going to become increasingly difficult to come by. This in itself could be a frightening prospect for the president of any organization, if that individual did not have the support of an understanding and cooperative membership such as we have in the Michiana Rock and Gem Club.

So much for the kudos; now I drop the other shoe.

I want to ask the entire membership for their "all out" cooperation with respect to:

- A. Fred Niebauer, project chairman of our Nature Center exhibit of "Indiana Rocks, Minerals and Fossils", informs me that the committee is still in need of display materials to complete the exhibit case assigned to us. This project was initiated almost five months ago and has "hung fire" long enough. Let's all get behind this project as it can be completed as we can move onto another project.
- B. Our Rock and Gem Show on Sept-11th and 12th. Things are starting to roll on this project but a great deal more help will be needed. Remember, I'm approachable - just tap me on the shoulder or call me 272-4834 (South Bend) and say "what can I do to help." Reiterating what I have previously said "this is your club" it will be no better or no worse than you choose to make it.

With less than six months to go it is not too early to start thinking about our own exhibits. Remember that this year we have rules established for exhibits and displays. If you do not have a copy of the rules, see Jess Wise, exhibit chairman, for a copy.

George E. Kelsheimer -2-

Collecting Trilobites New Craze

One of the most-hunted animals in the Midwest is the trilobite.

That's right - a trilobite. And it has been extinct for more than 200,000,000 years.

In perhaps the ultimate nostalgia trip, thousands of amateur fossil hunters have been combing the dry remains of what was once the great inland sea.

Like live-animal hunters and fishermen, they mount their finest specimens, guard their special spots, and gripe about the big one that got away.

The glamor of the trilobite - an invertebrate - is its extreme age, said Arthur Blocher, a retired college professor from Amboy, Ill. It is said to be the oldest animal that looks like an animal to laymen.

The trilobite consists of three basic parts: A head, cylindrical-shaped thorax, and tail. It was segmented in many sections and was crawling across the shallow sea floors in the Cambrian period, some 600,000,000 years ago. They were the dominant life forms on earth when fish and amphibians swam their first strokes.

Blocher calls the collecting craze a "fever". He has more than 6,000 specimens himself. He said he is willing to put up with amateur collectors, but many clutter up likely sites and enrage local farmers by collecting without permission and leaving gates open.

From: Grit Feb. 15, 1976

Submitted by Lucy Miller

I want to thank George Kelsheimer and anyone else who helped him get the Rockfinder out while Marie and I were enjoying the southern sunshine during the past two months.

Fred Niebauer, Editor

Minutes of the Last Meeting:

The Michiana Rock and Gem Club met, in the monthly meeting, at the Nature Center, Rum Village Park, South Bend, Ind. on Feb. 22, 1976.

The meeting was called to order by president George Kelsheimer. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer's report was presented by Jim Russell, acting for Max Cripe, who is on vacation. Mr. Russell reported on the club's income and disbursements during the past month.

Treasurer's report approved and accepted as read.

Each standing committee chairman reported on the work of his or her committee. Requests were made by several committee chairman:

Sunshine Pauline Kelsheimer sent cards to Elza Brockenhamer and Mrs. Reamer.

Field Trip Frank Elwell is still working on field trips. If members are interested in three-day trips, let Frank know. Trips planned as far as follows:
April 11, Pugh Quarry, Custer, Ohio

May 14, 15, 16 Morgan Monroe State Forest.

June 13, Chaney Quarry

Sept. 19 Toledo or Flint Ridge. This will be a bus trip.

Open Forum Meeting for June 27 to be moved to June 13. Meeting to be held at Chaney's Quarry. Bring a picnic lunch.

Membership - One new member today was Marie Bybee.

Old Business Max Cripe will send out the paid receipts for 1976 as soon as he gets back from vacation.

New Business George Kelsheimer reminded the club members of the MWF 1980 Federation Show. Motion was made by Bess Wise to turn it over to

Minutes (continued)

the executive board. Motion was carried.

A book in memory of George Collins on Gems and Minerals of America, will be bought for the Plymouth Library.

Our program for February was Silversmithing by Lou Bourdon.

Our program for April will be presented by the junior club members. James Russell will contact the kids.

Door prizes were won by Josephine Kytta, Wayne Schalleol, and Dorothy Bixel.

Attendance: 42 members
15 visitors

Motion was made to adjourn by James Russell and second by Frank Elwell.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Jordan, Secretary

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management has a new recreation guide for visitors to the Mojave Desert of California. The map with its approximate center at Barstow, is a 17 x 22 inch publication which folds to pocket size. It will be useful to rockhounds as well as to other desert enthusiasts.

Printed text and desert photos are printed on the reverse of the map. The publication is available at the Barstow Way Station, B.M., 831 Barstow Road, Barstow, California 92311.

From: AFMS Newsletter

Don't forget to bring something you would like to donate to the auction for the Scholarship Fund at our March 28th meeting!

MASTER CARVER CREATES LIMESTONE
SCULPTURE

By Julie Albertson

The masterpiece designed by 77 year old Frank Arena's skillful hands is "Washington Crossing The Delaware", a life-size statue comprised of 12 figures and a boat cut from limestone quarried at Bedford, Indiana. He created the model and faces and hands but had help with the rest. He used the oil painting by Leutze to guide him, but he had to visualize the backs of each figure, which was very difficult.

As an introduction to the task, Mr. Arena traveled to Washington Crossing Park, Pennsylvania, on the banks of the Delaware River. Here he observed the final resting place of the 27-ton carving which will be completed by late April of this year. The 20' long x 9' high x 8' wide statue will overlook the Delaware approximately where General Washington crossed the river on December 25, 1776, and won the Battle of Trenton, America's first victory of the Revolution.

Returning to Indiana, Bedford's quiet carver began the bicentennial project by first designing a pattern or model of the boat and all of the figures. These were constructed half the size of the actual carvings.

"When modeling, you keep adding to your work, but when carving, you keep taking away," he said with a grin.

Completing the model within the first eight months of 1974, Mr. Arena began carving the actual figures. To cut each one, he took several precise measurements from the model before forming any small portion, such as a nosepoint, on the limestone.

"There's no guesswork," he claims. "It's all done exactly."

To accurately carve any project, Mr. Arena uses an air hammer to which different tools are attached. These tools include mallets, chisels, and quick and flat gouges.

"The tools are the same as they've always been, but the power-

driven hammer makes the work quicker and physically easier," he said.

"It was hard to measure the hands in the painting," and, in order to shape the hands that hold oars, I had to change their position a little. That's because I didn't bore a hole through a carved hand, I carved the fingers around the oar handle," he said.

According to Merle Edington, manager of the Bedford Chamber of Commerce and originator of the project, Indiana limestone has been used to construct many federal buildings in the nation's capitol and other government buildings throughout the country. Thus Bedford's birthday present to the United States should be a lasting and fitting tribute to America's bicentennial and to the role of Indiana limestone in this country.

The \$120,000 project, paid for entirely by donations from private enterprise, school children and anyone else willing to contribute, will be dedicated July 5, 1976, in a ceremony at Washington Crossing Park, Pennsylvania. Frank Arena will attend the dedication.

From the Feb. 1976 issue of Indiana State Board of Health Bulletin

Submitted by Lucy Miller

Did Stone Trees Move 100 Miles?

Geologists believe the stone trees in Northeastern Arizona's Petrified Forest National Park grew on a hill possibly a hundred miles away. They fell, were swept away by floods to lowlands and were buried in marshy sediments.

The land sunk. Some 70 million years ago an upheaval occurred that raised some of the trees, now turned to stone, to the surface.

From the South Bend Tribune

Submitted by Dewey J. Hassler

Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER



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

Issue No. 163 - March 1976

Meet Our

Treasurer

Milford J. Sharp of Fairview Park, Ohio is the 1976 Treasurer for the Midwest Federation. He has had financial experience as local treasurer for his union. He has also been a State Director for Ohio.

Mr. Sharp is now a teacher in training of workers in installation and operation of switching equipment for Ohio Bell Telephone Company.



Mr. and Mrs. Milford Sharp

IT'S ALL AMERICAN TIME !

Every club should fill out and mail in its All American entry now. This is also the Midwest Merit Award competition. The blank appears in the November and January AFMS Newsletters and was handed to delegates at Detroit. If your club's Award Chairman can't find a copy, I have extras.

Midwest has always been the leader in this program. It is important to us to keep up with our own history and accomplishments, to learn what others are doing, to share our ideas, and to participate in the activities of our Federations. Please see that your club entry is in the mail soon. No scrap books this year so your entry should not be too much work. We have had many winners and are proud of them all, but we are also proud of all the clubs who have participated. Absolute deadline for postmark is March 1st. Why not do it now since 1975 is now history?

Judges for the current competition are announced on page 2. Mail those entires to me: June Zeitner, Midwest Merit Awards Chairman, Mission, South Dakota 57555.



THIS IS YOUR LAND
KEEP IT CLEAN

Plans continue for convention

The site of the 1976 Midwest Federation Show and Convention is at the "Show Center" located at 9785 St. Charles Rock Road in West St. Louis County just minutes away from Lambert International Airport.

St. Louis in '76

MIDWEST FEDERATION
SHOW AND CONVENTION

JULY 22 - 25, 1976

The Show Committee is also pleased to announce that they have now selected the headquarters motel which is the Ramada Inn, 9636 Natural Bridge, Berkeley, Missouri 63134. This motel is about 1/2 mile from the airport, 1/4 mile from Interstate 70 and is about 3 miles from the show site. The Ramada Inn will provide free transportation to and from the airport and to the show site for their guests. When writing the motel for reservations, ask for "1976 MWF Convention Special Rates". The Show Committee has reserved 200 rooms and expects them to go fast so reservations at the headquarters motel should be sent in early. These special rates are good only through April 1, 1976.

The headquarters campground is "Pinewoods Park", which is located one mile west of Wentzville on Interstate I-70 at AA exit. You may write the owners, Leonard and Ellen Grimm, Route #1, Box 314, Wentzville, Missouri 63385. This campground has fishing, recreation area, pavilion, Olympic size pool, and a large number of camp sites with no or full hookup.

A complete list of recommended motels and camping facilities close to the show site may be obtained by writing the show chairman.

The show itself will have over 300 displays on one open floor which is completely air conditioned. In addition to the competitive displays and other special displays, the show will have a large number of museum exhibits.

Show attendees will be able to purchase supplies from 40 nationally known gem and mineral retail dealers. A large wholesale area encompassing 16 dealers has been provided from the wholesale trade. Free special lectures and programs are being provided all four days of the show.

The show committee has selected "Twenty-one Tours, Inc." of St. Louis, Mo. to provide daily tours from the show to outgoing attractions in the area.

Inquiries about the show should be directed to Garald Hook, 932 St. Charles Avenue, St. Charles, Missouri 63301, phone 314-724-5427.

WELCOME! NEW CLUB!

Sanilac County Lapidary, Inc.
Mr. Henry Wede, President
5301 Harrington Road
Corswell, Michigan 48422
Joined 1-16-76

JUDGES ANNOUNCED

Mrs. June Zeitner, Merit Award Chairman for the Midwest Federation, has announced the following judges for the Midwest regional division of the AFMS All American program and the Midwest Merit Award Competition. Chairman: Mr. Leo Yanasak, Midwest Past President, Des Moines, Iowa. Committee Members: Clyde Hanson and Doloris Poffenberger, both of Des Moines.

In keeping with the custom of the past several years all committee members are from one area to facilitate conferences and communication. Past judging teams have been from Mountain Home, Arkansas, the Chicago area and the Twin Cities of Minnesota.

Mr. Yanasak is currently show advisory committee Chairman for the Midwest and has served the Federation in various capacities for many years. An active member of Des Moines Lapidary Society, Leo has held all offices in that club and has been in charge of such projects as the clubhouse owned by Des Moines Lapidary.

Clyde Hanson is a past president of the Dallas County Club and the Des Moines Lapidary Society. He is also a member of the Central Iowa Mineral Club. Doloris is Vice President and program chairman of the Dallas County Rock club and served that club last year as secretary. The Dallas County Rock Club has won several All American and Merit Awards in the past. Des Moines Lapidary was a winner last year and has contributed much to the Federation including the hosting of a national show.

Guidelines will be provided the judging team and all entries postmarked prior to March 1st will be judged. All American Trophies will be awarded at Austin at the National Show and Midwest Merit Awards will be presented at St. Louis at the Midwest Federation Banquet.

NEW FOSSIL BOOK

A new fossil book, Common Fossil Plants of Western North America, is the first guide to the fossil plant kingdom written especially for the amateur. This book, written by Dr. William D. Tidwell, may be ordered from Brigham Young University Press, Marketing 205 UPB, Provo, Utah 84602.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Howard Taylor, MWF President, announces the appointment of Leonard Nicholls, 32141 Meadowbrook Lane, Livonia, Mich. 48154 as chairman of a new committee to be known as "Reopen and Keep Open Collecting Areas".

NATIONAL "GEM CAPERS" OF '76

June 17, 18, 19 & 20, 1976

The annual National Gem and Mineral Show of 1976 will be held at the Austin Municipal Auditorium and Convention Center on Town Lake in Austin, Texas. The show and convention will be hosted by the Austin Gem and Mineral Society for the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies.

The headquarters hotel is the Sheraton Crest Motor Inn also on Town Lake and only a very short distance from the Auditorium. Hotel reservations should be made through the Austin Chamber of Commerce, Austin, Texas 78704.

Visitors to the show will have the opportunity to hear some very outstanding speakers on earth sciences and the lapidary arts.

There will be special exhibits at the Texas Memorial Museum. A shuttle bus will be available from the Auditorium, Hotel, to the Museum.

There will be no organized hunts directly from the show. There will be hunting information available and after the show hunts are being planned.

Planned for your extra pleasure are two activities which will be held at the Coliseum. Thursday we will have a Bar-B-Que supper with square dancing immediately following. On Friday we will serve Mexican Food with a special program immediately following.

The swappers area will be in the Coliseum, just across from the Auditorium, and will be open from 10-5 Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We are asking all swappers to bring your own card table, box or magic carpet to set up your material. Remember, there will be no selling or buying in the swappers area.

For an advance registration packet, write Roberta Goldenberg, Route #3, Box 196G, Georgetown, Texas 78626. For general information regarding the show, write National "Gem Capers" of '76, P.O. Box 4327, Austin, Texas 78765.

\$6,000 CHECK

The Midwest Federation has received a check in the amount of \$6,000 as a partial payment of the Midwest's share of the 1975 Greater Detroit International Gem and Mineral Show.

MRS. ELLA PARR STRICKEN

Mrs. Ella Parr, wife of Bernard Parr who is a past president of the Midwest Federation, died at Mansfield General Hospital, Mansfield, Ohio in December. She was a past president of the YWCA and a member of Church Women United, the Women's Committee of the Mansfield Symphony Society and Descendants of Mayflower Pilgrims for the State of Maine.

It was the wish of Mrs. Parr that tributes of remembrance be made to the classes for the partially seeing and the blind, department of special education of the Mansfield City Schools. In addition to her husband, she is survived by two sons.