

FREDERICK C. NIEBAUER
174 E. Cleveland Road
South Bend, Indiana 46637

FIRST CLASS MAIL

THE ROCKFINDER

FEB 1977



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.
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Field Trips..	Bill Crull	728 Broadway, Apt. 2A, Niles, Mich.	49120
Safety.....	Joe Goyner	4124 Cottage St., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Sunshine....	Pauline Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Scholarship..	Catherine Grayckowski	1111 No. Huey St., So. Bend, Ind.	46628
Display.....	Jess Wise	1513 Clarendon Ave., Niles, Mich.	49120
Publicity....	Sherry Russell	27911 North St., No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Membership...	Russ Randolph	19797 Detroit St., So. Bend, Ind.	46614

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 each month of publication.
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THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 17
Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc.

Number 2

February 1977
South Bend, Indiana

Regular Meeting:

February 27, 1977

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

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

Program:

Business Meeting

Program to be presented
by Joseph Charles

Hospitality:

Irene & Robert Unguraft
Marie Bybee
William Crull
Rene & Jeanette Blondia

Educational Meetings:

Time: 7:00 PM, EST

Place: First Bank Basement
Corner of U.S. 31 North
& Cleveland Rd., South Bend

Program: Friday, February 25, 1977
Wire Wrap Class by Clarence
Finley. Other activities
for those not in class.

Program: Friday, March 11, 1977
Same as above (Feb. 25, 1977)

Program: Friday, March 25, 1977
Fossil Identification.
Bring your fossils for
identification.



HAPPY VALENTINE DAY



Calendar

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| March 5-6 | Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society Show.
Stevensville, Michigan |
| March 30 -
April 2 | Indian Mounds Rock
and Mineral Club Show,
Grand Rapids, Michigan |
| April 1-3 | Flint Rock and Gem
Club Show, Flint,
Michigan |
| April 15-17 | St. Joseph Valley Rock
Hounds Show, Pierre
Moran Mall, Elkhart, Ind |
| April 16-17 | Peru YMCA Rocks &
Mineral Society Show,
Peru, Indiana |

From Your Rocky Leader

HI to all you snow bound Rock Hounds. What a way to start February off, Snow, Freezing Temperatures, and of all things, 8 Foot Snow Drifts. Oh well, March 20 is supposed to be the first day of Spring, they tell me, so let's hope for the best.

It was sure great to see so many of you at our January 14 education meeting, as well as at our regular meeting, even though the weather was not that great. It was to bad we had to cancel our January 28th education meeting, but we will be resetting the fossil program for March 25, 1977, as the Heineks have some other programs set up for February and the second Friday of March.

I have two questions for you to be thinking about. 1 - Would the Club members be interested in a Rock Swap, after our show is over with, say in October? 2 - How many days, one or two? Give this some careful thought, and then lets talk about it at our regular meeting.

How about that Bill Crull. Snow and cold and he's planning field trips for the Club. Maybe he has the inside track on the weather. Let's hope so, because it sure will be great to get back into the field and do some collecting.

With the announcement of our 1977 Show, I must ask for all the Club Members help. Each year we ask for items for our ever popular grab bags, material for the good old Dollar-maker, the Silent Auction, and material for the Kiddies games. You know what, I am asking you again this year. I will now give you the famous SECRET FORMULA for producing this much-needed material:

1. YOU GO ROCK HUNTING.
2. YOU TAKE TWO BAGS OR BOXES WITH YOU.
3. MARK ONE "MINE", THE OTHER "CLUB SHOW".
4. FILL EACH BAG OR BOX CAREFULLY.
5. PICK UP TWO OF EVERYTHING, ONE FOR "MINE" AND ONE FOR "CLUB SHOW".

From Your Rocky Leader (Continued)

6. WHEN YOU GET HOME, CALL THE PRESIDENT AND HE WILL PICK UP THE CLUB SHOW BAG OR BOX.

Believe me, the famous SECRET FORMULA works. We need good material, so please help out as much as you can.

Well gang, its back to the sawing and grinding wheels in the shop. Remember when you get up everyday, think R O C K and the snow will go away.

See you at the Education Meetings and our regular meeting for the month.

Your Rocky Leader,

Jim

AMETHYST - THE PURPLE GEMSTONE OF THE NORTHLAND

The birthstone for February is the colorful Amethyst.

The northshore of Lake Superior counts for a wide spread occurrence of Amethyst.

Amethyst is colored, crystal-line variety of the silica mineral, Quartz. It has the same hexagonal prism shape, capped by a pyramidal termination, as quartz. The transparency of quartz/amethyst brings the beauty of color in shades of lavender, lilac, dark purple and deep violet.

The purple in a crystal cluster of amethyst may be hidden under the rich reddish brown coat of a hematitic surface layer. Amethyst also occurs in association with sparkling varieties of smoky quartz. In any one sample of amethyst the color can be uniform or it can deepen with growth of the crystal so that the crystal at its base is colorless which changes to deep purple amethyst at the pyramidal termination.

Hardness, lack of cleavage and transparency lend amethyst the characteristics desirable for use in jewelry or as a decorative stone.

Continued on Page 4

Minutes of the January Meeting

The Michiana Rock and Gem Club met on January 23, 1977 at the Rum Village Nature Center. The Meeting was called to order by President Jim Russell. Minutes of the December meeting were read and approved. Treasurer's report was read by Merl Lechlitner and approved for audit.

Sunshine - Pauline sent a card and plant to Elza Brockenhamer. Elza was present at the meeting and she wishes to thank everyone for the flowers and cards she received while she was in the hospital.

Scholarship - Katy said for us to keep saving Betty Crocker coupons and postage stamps. When you cut out the stamps, leave about a quarter of an inch around the stamp.

Historian - Bess brought a book of some of the history of our Rock Club and a list of the Charter Members.

Programs - Joe is working on ideas for the future.

Editor - Fred would like to have some new articles to put in the Rockfinder. If you have been on a vacation or done anything special, write about it and send it to Fred.

Field Trips - Bill Crull has been busy planning places for us to go. A trip in April to see "Artifacts" from King Tut's Tomb is planned. Bill would like to have at least six field trips this year, with a bus trip planned in the fall. Bill named off a list of places which you'll find in the new directory.

Business - Plans are started to move already for our rock show this year, September 10th and 11th at the 4-H Fair Grounds. This year there will be a contest for the best theme. Bess Wise won the last one in 1975, with the theme, "Rock Hounds Dream". Think hard and turn in your theme at our February meeting. There will be a prize for the winner. Jim named off some of the people in charge: Dealers - Fred Niebauer, Door - Merl Lechlitner and Betty Jordan. Silent Auction - Sherry Russell, Kiddies - Catherine McHugh,

Minutes of the January Meeting (Cont)

Identification - Elza Brockenhamer and Fred Niebauer, Grab Bags - Frank Elwell, Working Displays - Joe Charles, Camping - Carlton Pletcher, Club Booth - Pauline & George Kelsheimer, Special Displays - Jess Wise, Food - Junior Members. There will be an adult to supervise the Junior members. Clean-up - The entire club. If I have left anyone out, I'm sure you will be asked to help or you can volunteer. Motion was made and seconded to have a list of the library books published in the directory, also a list of the field trips.

Prizes were won by Bess Wise, Mary Miller and Linda Lifke.

Attendance - 47 members
1 visitor

Motion was made to adjourn by Carlton Pletcher, seconded by Joe Charles.

Secretary,
Betty Jordan

It's Your Chance To Win

You say you couldn't win a thing. I'll bet your wrong, because anyone can win.

Here is all you need to do:

1. Think up as many names as you wish for our 1977 show.
2. Turn them in at our February meeting.
3. Be sure to sign your name.
4. The Board will select the best 5 show names submitted.
5. In March you club members will select the best name for our 1977 Show.
6. Whoever the lucky winner is will receive a nice prize.

So, don't say you can't win, because it just might be you. Put your thinking caps on and jot down your ideas.

We were sorry to hear of the illness of Loretta Watson and wish her a speedy recovery.

HOSTESSES FOR THE YEAR

February:

Irene & Robert Ungurait
 Marie Bybee
 William Crull
 Rene & Jeanette Blondia

March:

Doris & Carlton Pletcher
 Mary & Hap Mortensen
 Jerry Lifke

April:

Juanita Tetzlaff
 Leota & Joe Joachim
 Olive & Alby Sammons

May:

Peggy, Guy & Eric Forrest
 Bess & Jess Wise
 Katie Grayckowski
 John Nintz

September:

Pauline & George Kelsheimer
 Molly & Frank Elwell
 Helena & Max Cripe

October:

Jesse & Betty Jordan
 Rose Hixenbaugh
 Merl Lechlitner
 Jack & Marjorie Moreland

November:

Mary Miller
 Victor & Avanel Reamer
 Gerald & Christine Shoemaker

Hospitality Chairman
 Catherine McHugh

Phone Number Change

Please change your phone number listed for Merl Lechlitner to 259-6855.

DUES ARE PAST DUE

This is your last copy of the Rockfinder if dues are not paid.

Amethyst - Continued from Page 2

Amethyst is relatively easily cut, engraved or polished, and its wide range of colors allows for attractive combinations in setting. Particularly beautiful are the large even-colored stones used in pendants or rings. Rare stones of such quality command a high market value.

The above information is by way of the Ministry of Natural Resources of Ontario, Canada.

Magnetic Disturbance

NASA Scientists reported that a United States satellite which has been in orbit for eleven years has found a massive magnetic disturbance in the earth along the African equator. It is suggestive of an area rich in heavy metals such as iron and uranium.

The immense area is 125 miles by 430 miles and the ore body could be up to 20 miles deep. This is a discovery of major importance, so the space agency is considering orbiting a satellite for the purpose of charting the earth's magnetic field in hopes more such valuable information can be acquired.

The potential bonanza was discovered by accident when three geophysicists decided to see if there is a jet stream in the ionosphere above the equator. A big kink showed in their data every time they crossed over that part of Africa, so they decided to cross-check their findings. Confirmation came and then they flew magnetometers in aircraft over the region.

From AFMS Newsletter

Visitor

At our January meeting we were pleased to have with us Mary Ungurait.

Midwest Federations 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

February 1977 - Issue No. 172

POSTAL SERVICE MAY SCHEDULE SECOND MINERAL STAMP FOR 1979

Regretfully, Mineral Heritage Stamps will not be issued in 1978.

The silver lining is that the Stamp Committee is taking it under advisement for 1979.

We have been informed that already they are considering 1979 issues and final decisions will be made the early part of 1977. Therefore, it is advisable for requests to be sent in as soon as possible. A simple letter is all that is necessary, addressed to: The Postmaster General, 475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S. W., Washington, D. C. 20260.

Stamps for food

The American Federation continues to encourage clubs to save used commemorative postage stamps that can be turned into money for purchasing food for our less fortunate.

When your club purchases stamps for use on your monthly bulletins, ask the postal clerk for commemorative issues and then ask your members to return them to your club secretary, or in many clubs a stamp chairman, along with any other commemoratives they have received on their mail.

Cut the stamps from the envelopes or packages leaving about 1/8th inch to 1/4th inch of paper around the stamp. Be careful not to cut into the stamp and do not soak them from the paper.

Some areas have dealers who will purchase the stamps, in quantity, usually at least a pound at a time, and then the money can be turned over to some charitable institution in your community for use in purchasing foods.

However, if no such stamp dealers or institutions are available in your community we suggest you send your stamps directly to Stamp Project, Washington State Council of Churches, 4759 15th Avenue, N. E., Seattle, Washington 98105. This organization is equipped to handle your stamps and have contacts with those who know where the food is needed. In a recent year this organization provided over \$14,000 to purchase food from the stamps sent to them.

The stamp project is just one more way our clubs can be of service to others, and remember, every stamp counts!

Geology tour

An invitation from Eastern Federation to come "down South" for a Geology Tour has been received and we have accepted! Now all we need -- is to give you the basic information and take reservations.

Tour dates are May 16 through May 27th. Tour will begin in north Georgia at Red Top Mountain State Park, Cartersville, Georgia. Tour will end in the northwest corner of Alabama near Brilliant, Alabama. Cost will be \$15.00 per adult for the two weeks with children under 18 free. Checks should be made payable to EF Geology Committee. The tour is designed for camping and anyone wishing to use motels will find it somewhat difficult but not impossible. Camping reservations will be made for you but motels accommodations will have to be found each night by persons involved.

The tour will cover all of Georgia and part of Alabama. The weekend of May 21st will be the All Georgia Swap and we will be there for that event. There will be rock collecting (cutting materials and mineral specimens), lectures at night around campfire, sightseeing will be limited to areas of Geological interest. Fossils in both states.

Reservations will be accepted on a first come basis. Tour will be limited to 50 adults. Reservations should be sent to: Don Clarke, Chairman, MF Geology Chairman, 1107 Maple Street, Essexville, Michigan 48732.

Scholarship

Since the Fall Executive Meeting over \$990.00 has been received by the Scholarship Chairman from 17 Midwest Federation clubs. The Midwest Federation is now a 400% Federation.

The following clubs have advanced their scholarship status as follows:

Dallas County Rock Club	1400%
McDonnell-Douglas Gem & Mineral Society	300%
Duneland Rock Club	1300%
Michiana Rock & Gem Club	1300%
Northwest Wisconsin Rock & Gem Club	200%
Blackford County Geological Society	100%
Wisconsin Geological Society	1000%
Muncie Rock & Gem Club	100%
White River Gem Society	700%
Rock Exchange Club	800%

YOU'VE GOT A DATE IN DAYTON (Ohio) JULY 21-24, 1977 - MWF SHOW AND CONVENTION

Chicago area clubs form association

With 16 retail gem, fossil, mineral and lapidary dealers signed up and five wholesalers under contract, the Memorial week-end show of the Chicagoland Gems and Minerals Association is well on its way. Exhibit registration forms will be going out shortly so that the opportunity to show either competitively or noncompetitively will be available to all who wish to be represented at this, the first combined club show in the Chicago area.

A catering service will handle food for the showgoers, and a booklet on motels, campgrounds and restaurants is being prepared. Since the DuPage County Fairgrounds, where the show will be held on May 28, 29 and 30, has ample building space and camping facilities, crowding is not expected. This fairground is near Wheaton about 20

miles west of Chicago and close to Int. 66 and 80.

Combined efforts of several clubs in an area have been so successful in Kansas City, near Cleveland, and in Detroit that the Memorial Day show is expected to be the first of a series of annual shows of the same caliber. As at them, nationally known speakers on various phases of the hobby will be among the major attractions, and demonstrations will acquaint visitors with faceting, silverwork, collecting and the like.

For information write or call the show chairman, M. C. McMahon, at 1220 W. Henderson St., Chicago, Ill. 60657, phone, 312-549-3612.

Mineralogy of Michigan

A new publication was introduced to the hobbyist recently at the Greater Detroit Gem and Mineral Show. Present with a supply for distribution was Irvin V. Kuehner, Geologist with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the editor.

The author is E. Wm. Heinrich, Professor of Mineralogy and Curator of the mineralogy collection of the University of Michigan. According to Professor Heinrich the compilation has a two-fold goal. It seeks to acquaint the layman mineral collector with the geologic characteristics and types of mineral deposits in Michigan and also to record the significant mineral occurrences in the state.

THE MINERALOGY OF MICHIGAN, bulletin 6, is available from: Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Geology Division - Publications, P. O. Box 30028, Lansing, Michigan, 48909.

Price is \$3.00 for each copy ordered. Make checks in that amount payable to: State of Michigan.

THANKS MIDWEST FOR SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

I would like to extend my most sincere appreciation to you and the other members of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies for the geology scholarship awarded the University of Missouri-Columbia. I am most proud and honored to have received the scholarship. The money will come at an opportune time, as it will facilitate my Master's thesis research.

My study will be concerned with deciphering the nature and origin of the porosity within the Bonneterre Formation, southeastern Missouri. As you are probably aware, the Bonneterre is the host rock for almost all of the sizable lead and zinc deposits in the state. My thesis should therefore have economic significance as well as contribute to the sedimentologic knowledge of the Bonneterre.

Again, thank you for your interest and concern with the field of geology. *John W. Ellison, Student, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri.*

NEED AN ANSWER TO A QUESTION ABOUT A COMING REGIONAL SHOW?

Do you want a specific answer to a question about one of the Regional Federation shows beginning in June? Here are the names and addresses of the six Regional show chairman.

CALIFORNIA: Lee C. Carter, 626 Humboldt St., Reno, Nevada 89509.

EASTERN: Don M. Moon, 724 Milton Dr. Hampton, Va. 23666.

MIDWEST: T. T. Cadeau, 263 Ridgewood Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45409.

NORTHWEST: Ivan Rudd, 1518 Canyon Rd., Ogden, Utah 84404.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN: Mrs. Russell Anderson, 402 E. State Hiway, Copperton, Bingham Canyon, Utah 84006.

SOUTH CENTRAL: Jim Knight, 204 Willowick, Conroe, Texas 77301.

CELEBRATES 11TH BIRTHDAY

The Earth Science Club of Missouri, Brentwood, St. Louis County, Missouri, has been a member of the Midwest Federation and American Federation since 1967. It was organized in 1965, and at the regular December 1976 meeting it celebrated its 11th Birthday. The club has regularly made contribution to the Scholarship Fund of the American Federation each year, and now as the Club goes into its 12th year it will become a 1200% Club, as a check is in the mail for another 100% star.

NEW PUBLICATION

A new publication of interest to jewelry makers is the magazine *Casting and Jewelry Craft*. Published bi-monthly the introductory price is \$5.65 per year. Alian Pub. Inc., Dept. S, 507 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017