

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

THE ROCKFINDER

DEC 1977



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.
1977 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Treasurer....	Merl Lechlitner	1409 Penn Ave., Mish., Ind.	46544
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Past Pres....	George E. Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637

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Hospitality..	Catherine & Larry McHugh	130 So. Holiday Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46615
Education....	Margaret & Bob Heinek	Box 152, New Carlisle, Ind.	46552
Librarian....	George Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Historian....	Bess Wise	1513 Clarendon Ave., Niles, Mich.	49120
Field Trips..	Bill Crull	728 Broadway, Apt. 2A, Niles, Mich.	49120
Safety.....	Joe Coyner	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
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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.
Permission is hereby granted to reprint, at any time, items published in the ROCKFINDER, provided due recognition is given.

THE ROCKFINDER

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

Number 10

December 1977
South Bend, Indiana

Regular Meeting:

December 18, 1977

Time: Social Hour 12:30 PM, EST
Dinner 1:30 PM, EST

Place: Pinhook Park Pavilion
Riverside Drive, South Bend

Program:

Christmas potluck dinner
preceded by social hour.

A short business meeting
after dinner.

Rocko to be enjoyed by all.

Educational Meetings:

Time: 7:00 PM, EST

Place: First Bank Basement, corner
U.S. 31 North & Cleveland
Road, South Bend, Indiana

Program: Friday, December 23, 1977
No Meeting

Program: Friday, January 13, 1978
Zipology
Bring old metal zippers,
flat polished stones,
Elmers glue & scissors.

Program: Friday, January 27, 1978
Pot-ology
More on what to bring in
next Rockfinder.

DUES ARE DUE!

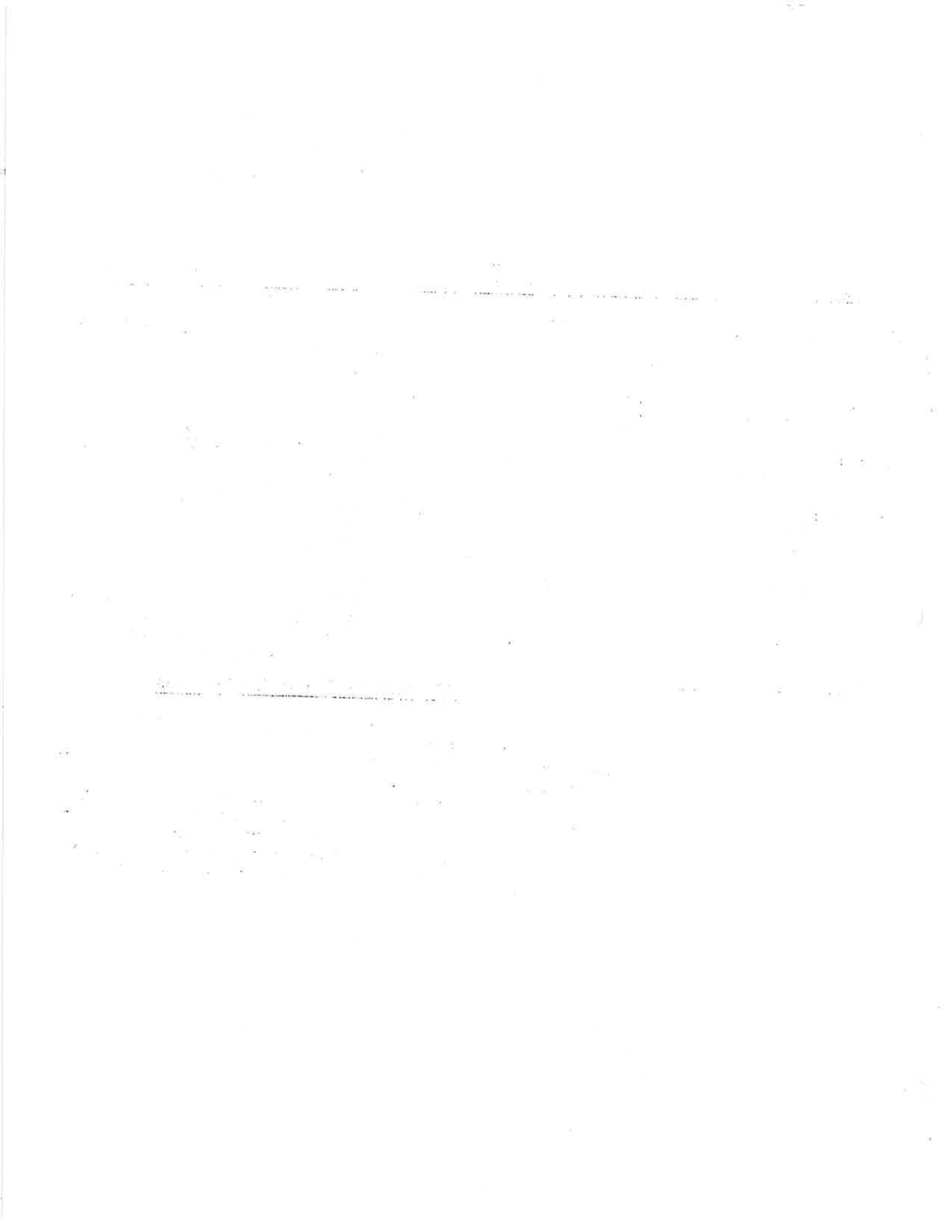


CB Channel 7 For Rockhounds

Rockhounds in the west have been using CB Channel 7 for quite some time to keep in touch with each other. At the National show in Ogden, Utah last August Mrs. Henry Bonar, Odessa, Florida, past president of the Eastern Federation, suggested that rockhounds in other parts of the country use Channel 7 much as the truckers now use Channel 19.

The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) does not make official exclusive designation to groups for use of any of the 40 channels, but any group is free to use a channel in this manner if desired. Only exception is the emergency Channel 9.

From December 1977
AFMS Newsletter



FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER,

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all.

I trust that all you rock and gem polishers and jewelry makers have been busy, busy making up your Christmas gifts this year. Now that Old Man Winter has set in, we have more time to spend in our workshops getting those special projects done. If you have started them, study this word and do what it says:

GETOUTINTHESHOPANDGETTOWORK!

Every year at the beginning of a New Year, everyone tries to make "New Years Resolutions." Some of them we keep, others we just forget about. Here are some New Years Resolutions that I would like to see all you Rock Club members make and keep:

1. I will attend all Rock Club Sunday meetings.
2. I will attend as many Friday night Educational meetings as possible.
3. I will make all of the Club field trips.
4. I will take an active part in the Club Show by helping and displaying.
5. I will help my fellow Rock-Hound as much as possible.
6. I will help our Junior members.
7. When on field trips, I will not only collect for myself, but will also collect for the club show.

Let's all try to keep the 7 resolutions that I have listed and this will give the Club 100% support and participation for 1978. Remember this is your club and only you can make it a success.

Hope to see all of you at our Christmas Party this month. I know all that attend will have a rockin' good time.

Your Rocky Leader,
Jim

Caves and Caverns

Not all nature's beauty is found on the surface of the earth, as one will find by visits to the caves and caverns of our country.

If you plan to go to Pennsylvania, you might visit some of these caves and caverns:

Laurel Caverns	Uniontown
Indian Caverns	Spruce Creek
Indian Echo Caverns	Hummelstown
Lincoln Caverns	Huntingdon
Lost River Caverns	Hellertown
Penn's Cave	Centre Hall
Coral Caverns	Manns Choice
Crystal Cave	Kutztown

Information furnished by
Carlton Pletcher

Cocoanut Drop Cakes
(Kisses with Egg Whites)

About 50 one and a half inch kisses

Sift:
1 cup sugar

Beat until stiff:
3 egg whites

Add the sugar very slowly, beating constantly.

Fold in:
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 1/4 cups shredded cocoanut

Drop the batter from a teaspoon onto a greased and well-floured tin. Bake the cookies in a slow oven 300° for about 30 minutes.

From The Joy of Cooking
Submitted by Mary E. Miller

DUES ARE DUE!!

Minutes of the November Meeting:

The Michiana Rock and Gem Club met November 23, 1977 at Rum Village Nature Center. The meeting was called to order by president Jim Russell.

Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved after corrections were made concerning the donation to the Nature Center. Due to the illness of the treasurer, Merl Lechlitner, Jim Russell read the treasurers report. It was approved for audit.

Business - Sherry Russell volunteered to check into some printing places for "Rock Hound Patches." Sherry will give us some prices at our January meeting. Nominating chairman, Catherine McHugh, asked for nominations from the floor three times, having none. The officers for the year 1978 are as follows:

- President James Russell
- Vice Pres. Merl Lechlitner
- Treasurer Christine Shoemaker
- Secretary Betty Jordan
- Liason Molly Elwell

After the officers accepted, president Russell asked the secretary to cast one unanimous vote. "I the secretary cast one unanimous vote."

Motion was made by Bess Wise, seconded by Doris Pletcher, to donate \$50.00 to help buy a Tela-projector for the Nature Center. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jess Wise, seconded by Fred Niebauer for the board members to make a decision on how many guests would be allowed to attend the club's Christmas Party. Board members attending the November meeting, President Russell, Vice-President Joe Charles and Secretary Betty Jordan, held a brief meeting. Our decision was then presented to the members. Two guests per family membership or single adult membership. Same rules apply to guests as to members, one dish per two people or one dish if individual person. One Rocko prize per person. If more than two guests, \$1.00 per guest to help pay for the meat.

Minutes of the November Meeting (Cont.)

The club will have a special guest at our Christmas Party, Mr. Charles Walker. President Russell announced he has sent a bid in for us to have the Midwest Show here in 1981, if possible. If not, in 1982.

Door Prizes - Door prizes were won by Carlton Pletcher, Jim Russell, and Joe Charles. Motion was made to adjourn by Mary Miller, seconded by Bess Wise. Motion carried. Attendance 32 members, 2 visitors.

Secretary,
Betty Jordan

Letter From Lucy

Sorry to miss so many meetings but can't drive and have no way.

Leaving for the west the third week of December and won't be back until after Easter. Plan to see the Hoovers while in Apache Junction. Will be there with friends the last two weeks of January. Taking my water colors along and will try and get a picture of the beautiful Superstition Mountain from De Grazia's Gallery, where he invited me to come. I'm thrilled to have been asked by him, so famous an artist.

Please read this letter at the meeting for I'm wishing all of you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas and joyful New Year.

Your "Rock Loving" member,
Lucy Miller

Look for some excellent and different agate from India to show up on the lapidary market soon.

From December 1977 AFMS Newsletter

Dues are Due!!!!

Merl Lechlitner will take your dues and magazine subscriptions for the new year, 1978.

What Rockhounding Means To Me

To Me, rockhounding is a chance to be out in nature, see Mother Nature in her perfection. When I go collecting enroute to the site, I can see the trees, the lakes, the wildlife and beauty that abounds. After reaching the site and working hard all day, digging in rock, suffering a few minor brusies, and getting tired out, I soon forget about this when that pocket or vug containing a beautiful cluster of crystals, glittering and shining, is in my grasp. I am the first person in the world to see that specimen, and to see the perfection of nature - the near perfect geometry of a crystal, or the delicate coloration of an agate.

Rockhounding is a chance to forget all my problems. Once I am out in the field digging, I wonder if I will find that "perfect" specimen - whether the next rock you turn over contains the find, or is just a dud. Even if I don't find anything, I am rewarded with the beauty of nature, and a chance to get away from it all.

But above all this, to me rockhounding is a privilege granted collectors by mine, quarry, and land owners. And today, that privilege is in danger of being taken away.

Vandalism by collectors, littering, destruction of land, trespassing, unauthorized use of explosives, people hoarding material and hauling it out by the truckload - these are just some of the problems caused by some so called "rockhounds." While they are in a very small percentage, these collectors help to close up many collecting sites each year. People take these sites for granted, and feel they can do whatever they want, whenever they want, with no consideration for anyone else except themselves.

The people who own the land the site is located on, or the site itself, receive nothing for allowing collecting, and are under no obligations to allow rockhounds to

(Continued Next Column)

What Rockhounding Means To Me (Cont)

collect there, and because rules are broken and property damaged, the sites are closed by the owners.

This wanton destruction must stop, or rockhounding will be a privilege of the past, and the only "collecting" will be buying at shows and from dealers. Also, SAFETY and COMMON SENSE RULES should be followed by every rockhound, with no exceptions, but obviously, not every rockhound does.

Because I am an Junior, and hopefully have many more years of collecting ahead of me, I do not want to see this privilege taken away, and I will warn any misfit rockhounds and vandals, or even turn them in, whenever I see one of them destroying something, and I urge all other rockhounds who enjoy their collecting privileges to do the same, not just to benefit himself, but to benefit all of us.

This is the trophy winning, 1st place article in the 1977 AFMS Bulletin Contest Junior Division. It was written by Anthony Dunn, Depew, New York.

From December 1977

AFMS Newsletter

"Squash Blossom"

The increased interest in Southwestern Indian jewelry has brought to attention the term "squash blossom."

This is really a stylized pomegranate flower from the Mediterranean countries. It was probably taken to Mexico by the Spaniards, and then in to our Southwest. It seems to have no actual cultural significance to its present users, but usable as an artistic form.

Also coupled with the "squash blossom" is the use of the crescent. This dates back to antiquity, the pre-Phoenicians, the Moors and others.

From Gem City Rock News

Attention clubs... note directory deadline date

The 1978 Directory forms should be in your hands by this time. Please note that the absolute deadline for returning these forms completed with check for dues will be January 10, 1978. There will be no grace period. If you want your latest club information in the Directory it must be in Jean Reynold's hands by January 10, 1978. This was the decision of the Council at their meeting in Dayton this year.

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 Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311

December 1977 - Issue No. 180

A message from President Paul Good

It is a great pleasure to accept the Jade gavel. I am thankful for the vote of confidence which has been given to me by the members of the MWF to serve as your president for the coming year.

I realize that the year ahead will be hard work and will take a lot of time to carry out the work that is to be done. There has been a lot accomplished in the years past, but I am sure there is still plenty to be done. With the help of the elected officers, State directors, committee members and each member of the Federation, we can complete a lot of work in 1978.

Remember, "This is your Federation." I hope the member clubs will feel free to use what the Federation has to offer and make suggestions on how we can help improve our services. In order for any club or Federation to grow, it takes cooperation of everyone, both the member clubs, and the executive committee, officers and assistants working together.

Let us all make this a GOOD year for the Federation. If I can be of help to you, please feel free to call upon me or any one of the officers or committee chairmen.

ALL AMERICAN DEADLINE IS MARCH 15, 1978

Midwest Federation clubs will find the All American-Merit Award entry blank in the November AFMS Newsletter. Please notice there is a new deadline. The forms must be mailed to the Regional Chairman, June Zeitner, by **March 15** this year. The date had to be changed because the Regional Shows begin in April this year. Midwest has traditionally supported the AFMS All American program with enthusiasm. Check to see if your club has its entry blank, which should be slightly easier for your club to fill out this year. For more information about the All American and Midwest Club Merit Awards write to June Zeitner, Mission, South Dakota 57555.

Program notes

Program chairman, Donald Stinnett, announces the return to the program library three programs that had been withdrawn from service sometime ago due to the worn condition of the slides. The programs are, "Our Igneous Rocks," "Our Sedimentary Rocks" and "Our Metamorphic Rocks." These are all fine educational programs and can now be booked again by clubs.

A group of Wisconsin clubs have made available to our library a program entitled "Ice Age National Scientific Reserve." This program is available now for club booking.

Our program chairman, the Stinnetts, Don and Louise, are continually at work in efforts to encourage clubs to make new programs. If your club is interested in making a program for the library contact the Stinnetts for help and guidance.

Through combined efforts of a group of Wisconsin clubs and individuals they have made available to us a program entitled "Ice Age National Scientific Reserve." The dream of this area as a park was that of Ray Zillmers and it was finally enacted through the cooperation of the State and Federal governments.

The clubs and individuals whose efforts helped make this program possible included Dr. M. E. Ostrom, Director and Geologist of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey; Harry Pease of the Milwaukee Journal, Kettle Moraine Geological Society, U. S. Geological Survey EROS Data Center and Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wisconsin). Betty Rasmussin was the organizing factor. The program is available now for club bookings.

Order your programs well in advance of the date you wish to use them. Always give second choice of programs and dates so that you will be sure to have a program for your meeting date. And be sure to indicate exactly to whom the program is to be shipped with complete address. Include your clubs check in amount of \$2.00 for each program ordered.

Address your request for information, or for booking slide programs, to Donald Stinnett, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, Michigan 48134.

LITTER IS AN UNSIGHTLY THING!

Write it right

by J. C. "Cal" Keator

The importance of correctly recording events and writing records cannot be overemphasized. Serious problems can develop or important information can be lost in foggy writing. If there is any possible way, the general reader will get the wrong impression, and the sharpie can deliberately obscure entirely the original event or intent.

In the first place, your power of observation should be developed to the fullest. Do you see and comprehend what you are looking at? Or do you go around with your head in a sack-seeing only what you want to see?

Let's get down to cases! We read many bulletins. A VERY FEW present a true picture of our conventions. Many times we have had to agree with the quote: "You wouldn't believe that these different people had been to the same meeting."

The same can be said about our own board meetings.

"The committee reports were read and accepted."

"The membership chairman submitted three applications for membership. MSC"

"The board approved the dealers for the upcoming show."

"Next year's show date has been set."

"The First Vice President gets her wishes."

What earthly good is this "tule fog?" Those present at the meeting knew what was going on but next year, or even next month, who could tell what happened.

What committee reported, who was the chairman and what did he/she report?

Who were the new members accepted? What are their addresses and phone numbers?

Who were the dealers the board approved? Someone will say, "We didn't approve dealer A," another will say "We didn't approve dealer B," and someone else will say, "We approved dealer Z" (whose application was received only last week, AFTER the meeting.)

And . . . what is the date? ? ? of the next show? ? ?

"The First Vice President gets her wishes" is what I recorded as secretary for a church youth group fifty years ago - in 1926, to be exact. I have never forgotten what the minister's wife said. "Maybe those of us here know about what you have written, but next month we won't remember what the 1st Vice President is to do." Write it correctly and you will save a lot of trouble, headaches, and confusion. You are writing HISTORY.

There is a lot of discussion as to just who the charter members of a club are. The secretary didn't think it was necessary to write the names down. "Everybody knows who they are." Write it correctly, to avoid possible legal problems later. If the club is organized as a non-profit educational group, say so in writing. You might have to prove it.

There is no excuse for sloppy inaccurate lazy reporting.

I heard one club secretary say, "I didn't agree with the motion so I just didn't write it down." Another said, "I never take notes. I write out the minutes just before the board meeting."

How can I be sure I am right? Here is a partial listing of our reference library:

First I have a 95¢ Vest Pocket Dictionary in the rack by the phone where I do most of my writing.

The American Heritage Dictionary is our best reference dictionary.

If we can't find the right word, "Rodale's Word Finder" comes to our rescue.

Some of our mineral authorities are: first, the Golden Book "Minerals of the World - A Guide to Field Identification" for a very quick answer. We have several Dana's but the most often referred to is "Dana's Textbook of Mineralogy - Fourth Edition". We have all Sinkankas' books, Sanford's "Oddities", Fentons Rock and Fossil Books, and, for "pick and shovel" definitions, we have the Bureau of Mines Dictionary of Mining, Mineral and Related Terms.

We supplant the above with a number of books on geology, archeology and paleontology, and for anything regarding exhibiting we refer to the Federation manuals or Fleischer's list of mineral species.

We have one book, "Techniques of Clear Writing" by Robert Gunning, which describes the fog index. Every written paragraph article or book can be given an ease of reading index. Reader's Digest and National Geographic have an F.I. of about 10 (meaning they could be easily read by a high school sophomore). Technical papers and legal documents can go up to 20 on the Fog Index scale. Only a Ph.D. or a lawyer can begin to wade through that.

We remind you of Col. Johnson's "K.I.S.S." - "Keep It Simple, Stupid."

The over use of 15 letter words will turn off your reader unless he is determined.

Personally, I like the classification of "Reprint Index." If your articles are worthwhile, short (not always), interesting, and factual, other editors will reprint your copy.

Punctuation is necessary but don't sprinkle punctuation marks indiscriminately, like confetti, throughout your copy. Use punctuation to bring out the correct meaning. If you are not sure, look it up in a CURRENT handbook of writing. If you purchase one, make sure it is a recent one or a revised edition. Times and tittles change. (A tittle is a small diacritical mark, such as an accent, or the mark over a vowel.)

Conversely, when you are reading, read it right! Shades of meaning sometimes escape you because you are not paying attention to what you are reading.

WRITE -- AND READ -- CORRECTLY!

NEW AFMS PRESIDENT

Donald B. Langston assumes his duties this month as the 1977-78 President of the AFMS. Don lives in Ft. Worth, Texas and is a Senior Design Engineer at General Dynamics, owner of Texas Mineral Supply and Prospector Lapidary Shop.

He attended the Spartan School of Aeronautics and received his B.S. degree in 1951 from North Texas State University, and an M. Ed. degree in 1962 from Texas Wesleyan College.

Don is a past president of the Rolling Rock Club, the Ft. Worth Gem and Mineral Club, Stonesteppers of General Dynamics, General Dynamics Recreation Association and the South Central Federation.

NEW CANADIAN EDITOR

Ed Montgomery has been named bulletin editor for the Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Clubs wishing to exchange with the Federation should address Mr. Montgomery at 56 Col. Danforth Trail, West Hill, Ont. M1C 1R1.

TWO MISSOURI WILDERNESS AREAS

Missouri has two Wilderness areas, with four others under study. The two are Hercules Glades of Taney County and Mingo National Wildlife Refuge in Wayne County.