

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

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

# THE ROCKFINDER

FEB - 1978



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.  
1978 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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	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 Drive, So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Historian....	Bess Wise	1513 Clarendon Ave., Niles, Mich.	49120
Field Trips..	Dewey Hassler	R. R. #3, Plymouth, Ind.	46563
Safety.....	Clifford Schryver	201 Indiana Ave., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Sunshine....	Pauline Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Scholarship..	Catherine Grayckowski	1111 No. Huey St., So. Bend, Ind.	46628
Displays.....	Bob Miller	1106 Clayton Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46614
Publicity....	Sherry Russell	27911 North Street, No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Membership...	Jesse Jordan	16705 Eisenhower St., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Junior Activities...			
	Joe Charles	26863 New Road, North Liberty, Ind.	46554
	Germaine Lifke	620 E. Marion St., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544

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 Street, 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 18                      Number 2                      February 1978  
Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc.                      South Bend, Indiana

## Regular Meeting:

February 26, 1978

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

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

Program:      Business Meeting  
  
         Sea Shell Collecting  
         By George Kelsheimer

## Hospitality:

Margaret & Bob Heinek  
Kathy & Bob Miller  
Catherine & Larry McHugh

## Educational Meetings:

Time:      7:30 PM, EST

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

Program:      Friday, February 24, 1978  
         Copper Enameling - Materials  
         to be furnished. It was fun,  
         so we're going to do it again.

Program:      Friday, March 10, 1978  
         Pot-ology - Bring a small or  
         medium clay pot, a spatula,  
         old can or something to turn  
         your pot upside down on, tum-  
         bled stones or shells to  
         cover the pot. Adhesive will  
         be furnished.

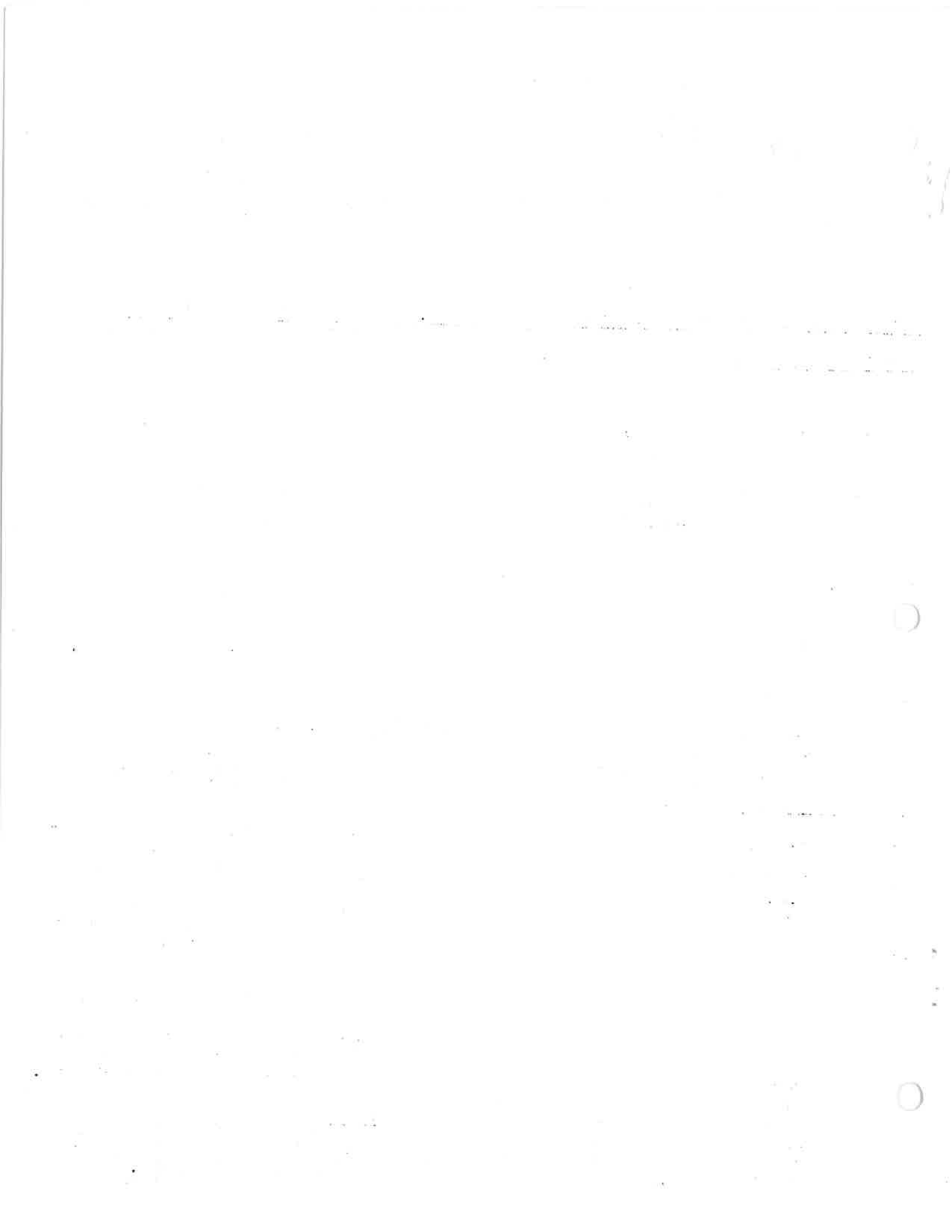


## Calendar of Events:

- March 10-12 Beacon Rock & Fossil Club Show, Grand Haven, Michigan
- March 11-12 Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society Show, Stevensville, Michigan
- March 29 - Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Show, Grand Rapids, Michigan  
April 1
- April 1-2 Peru Rocks & Mineral Club Show, Peru, Ind.
- Sept. 9-10 Michiana Rock & Gem Club Annual Show, 4-H Fairgrounds, South Bend, Ind.

## DUES ARE DUE

If you have forgotten to pay your 1978 dues, this will be your last copy of The Rockfinder.



FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER,

Hello to all you snow bound rock hounds. I hope all of you make it through the "Big Blizzard of 1978" without any trouble. Let's hope this is the last of this stuff.

So much for the crummy white stuff and on to the rock hounding. We've started our plans for our 1978 Show. I hope that this year's show will be bigger and better than last year. I know if the membership helps like it did in 1977, we will have a great show. We will be starting to make some display cases as soon as we get a break in the weather. Speaking of displays, I hope this year that there will be more club member displays than there were last year. Let's try to double our club displays. Remember this is a Club show and its success can only be gained by each member contributing displays, donations for grab bags, silent auction, kiddies games and the club booth. Your help is needed.

Speaking of the 1978 Show, we need a theme for our Show. So here's what you do:

1. On a separate sheet of paper, submit one theme name. You may submit as many as you like. Be sure to sign your name on each.
2. Turn them in at the February meeting.
3. The Board will select from the themes turned in the five top names.
4. At the March meeting we will all vote on them, selecting the best name.
5. This contest is for the entire membership, adults and junior members.
6. A beautiful prize will be given to the winner.

Hello, Dewey. Just a reminder that we are all ready to go field-tripping whenever you are. Dewey's been working hard already getting things lined up for some really great field trips. If you have any suggestions, drop Dewey a line.

As you all know, we had to cancel our 4th Friday educational meeting on Potology for January because of the blizzard. We will reset this to the

FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER (CONTINUED)

2nd Friday in March, the 10th. Remember what to bring. See the educational listings. Hope we have a good turn out. See all of you at our regular meeting this month.

Jim

THOUGHTS WHILE LOOKING OUT OF THE KITCHEN WINDOW

The sun is shining brightly on a blanket of new snow and it sparkles like diamonds.

It reminds me of a day we spent in the high desert of Oregon looking for sunstones. Our daughter's family along with Larry and I were weekend guests of Dr. Paul and Mrs. Kleiver of Lakeview, Oregon. (The highest town in Oregon.) They are dedicated rock hounds and were eager for us to go to McDermotte for picture rock.

The drive from Ashland to Lakeview was breathtaking, I just wished my head was on a swivel! The logging trucks that came hellacalarping around the hairpin curves made my hair stand on end.

The Kiever's home was a rock hound's dream. Rocks of all kinds and description from all over the world, plus a building in the rear with bins full.

On figuring the mileage, we decided we just wouldn't have time enough to spend at McDermotte, so we voted on the desert.

The Kleivers took their grandchildren in their jeep and the rest of us rode in John's International Harvester. The jeep bounced over rocks and ruts and streams like a roller coaster. John was hard put trying to keep up with it. We drove for over two hours without meeting another car, just a few deer and a coyote. The trees were thinning out and the landscape was looking barren, with a few lakes with white alkali shores. Then nothing but sand and tumbleweeds.

Paul drove hell bent for leather with a cloud of dust behind, John trying to keep him in sight. All I could think of was what if the car rolled over in this God-forsaken

(Continued on Page 3)



THOUGHTS WHILE LOOKING OUT OF THE  
KITCHEN WINDOW (CON'T FROM PAGE 2)  
place. I made a mental note that

Paul was not going to operate on me if we did! We finally stopped and piled out in relief. I never realized the desert could be so cold. The jackets that I thought were silly to bring along sure felt good. We fanned out to look for sunstones, frankly I did not know a sunstone from a moonstone, but soon learned.

The sun came out now and then and the stones sparkled like diamonds and I went bananas. I lost track of time, felt neither hunger or cold, nor did I worry about creepy crawly things of which there were many, I'm sure, nor the whereabouts of my grandchildren.

I did find the prize one for the day, hope to have it faceted.

I noticed huge piles of sand here and there and found out the pros were coming with washtub-sized sieves and shoveling the sand through. Wished I had one - my aching back!

A sand storm came up, blinding us and we left in a hurry. Again the good Doctor drove over terrain that loosened the teeth (and John's transmission). We started home, all of us wishing we had more time to rock hunt in this fascinating state. We drove through the mountains at night. It snowed, turned to sleet, and then to fog. I prayed a lot.

Enough of daydreaming, Catherine - back to the dishes.

Catherine McHugh

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING

The Michiana Rock and Gem Club met January 22, 1978 at Rum Village Nature Center, South Bend, Ind. The meeting was called to order by President Jim Russell. Minutes of the December meeting were read and approved.

Librarian-George Kelsheimer will be buying some new books for the library this year. If you have any books that have been checked out for a long time, please return them.

Displays-Bob Miller would appreciate it if you have anything that could be used for displaying, you can give Bob a call.

Assistant Editor - Sherry Russell is in need of articles to put in the Rockfinder. If you have done anything

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING (CON'T)  
interesting, send it to Sherry.

Old Business - Sherry Russell has been busy checking out places to get "Rockhound" patches. She is sending the patch she has to a company that we received a brochure from to confirm the price of approximately \$1.05 each. As soon as Sherry gets it back, she'll let us know at the regular meeting.

New Business - President Russell wants the club members to think about donating material to be sold at Cedar Rapids Midwest Federation show this year. The money will be used to help support the scholarship fund. If you have any questions on this, call Jim. Also, it is time to think about our Rock Show in September. There will be a contest for the best theme again this year. Start Thinking! At our February meeting you can enter as many themes as you want. Last year Sherry Russell won the contest with "Rockhound Roundup." The Board members will select 5 and we will vote on it at our March meeting. There will be a change in price of the dealer tables this year. \$30 per table instead of the \$25 charged last year. This year in charge of the Kiddies Wheel - Kathy Miller. Identification - George Kelsheimer. Door - Christine Shoemaker and Betty Jordan. Club Information - Fred & Adeline Niebauer. Grab Bags - Larry McHugh & Frank Elwell. Silent Auction - Sherry Russell. Working Displays - Merl Lechlitrer, Joe Charles and Russ Randolph. Club Booth - Catherine McHugh. Special and Club Displays - Margaret and Bob Heinek. Food - Junior members. Motion was made by Margaret Heinek, seconded by Mary Miller to present trophies again this year. Motion carried.

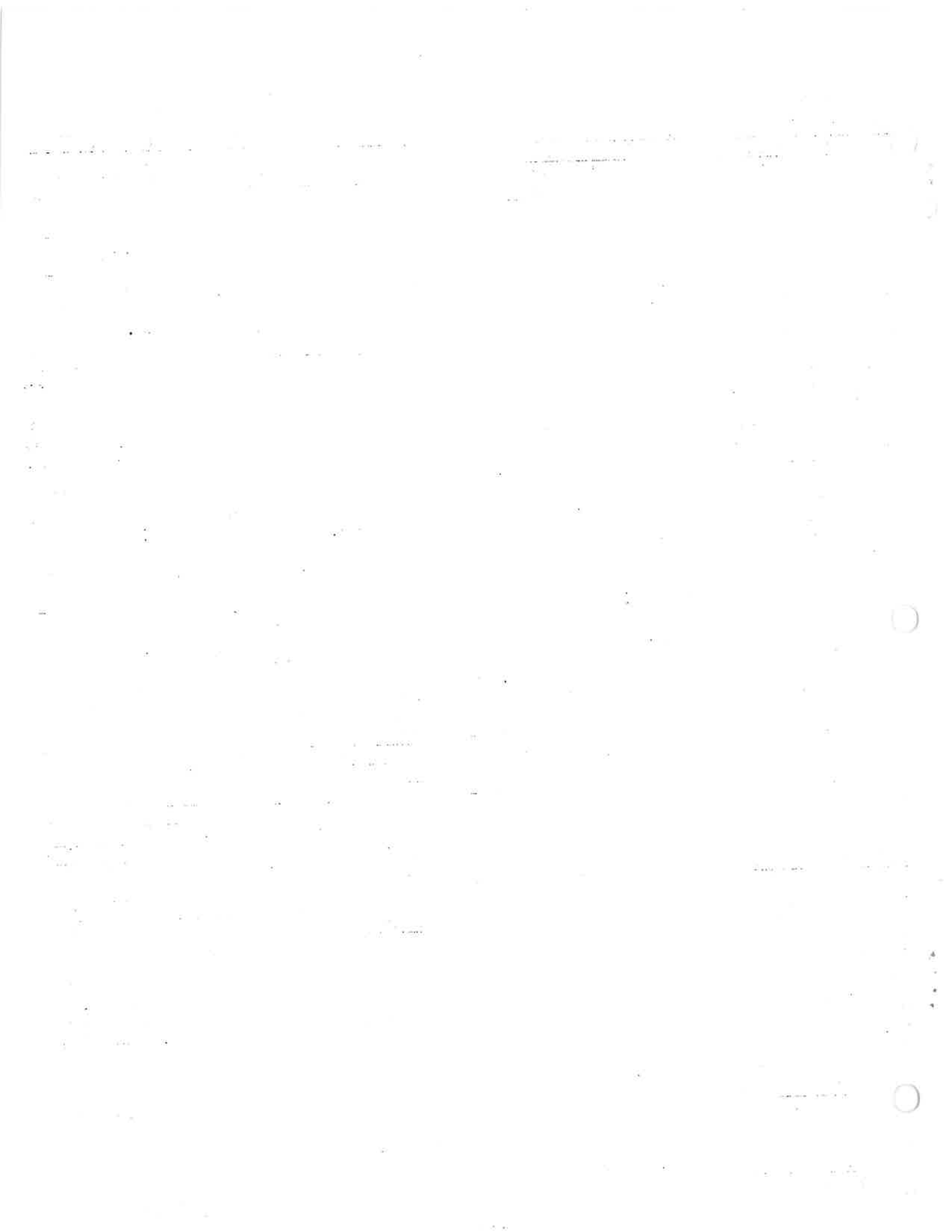
Door prizes - Door prizes were won by Sherry Russell, Mr. Mangold, and Rene Blondia.

Attendance - Members 40

Guests 11

Motion was made to adjourn by Margaret Heinek, seconded by Mary Miller.

Secretary,  
Betty Jordan





ASK ME AGAIN

When I wrote about our vacation last year, I forgot to tell you, just in case you are planning to go on any over-nighters for any length of time, how to pack up for camping. If you are new at it, first of all, if you are afraid of getting lost and going hungry, FORGET IT! if Molly Elwell is along. It's like taking Ewell Gibbons. First, we stopped at a shopping center in Wisconsin to pick up some groceries. When we got ready to leave, we had to wait for Molly, Catherine and John Paul. They went to a sausage shop down the street. "Just to Look!" Finally, Molly brought back enough free sausage for nine of us to eat for supper. We had one more stop before we got to the campground. It was a rest stop. We took a long walk up a big hill. Sure enough, before we left, Molly had enough wild berries for dessert. On top of this, she and Larry cooked a big pot of beans. When we got to the campground, got all hooked up to water and electricity, we had one big supper; cheese, beans, meat and dessert.

Catherine and Larry rented a nice motel room just in front of our campers. It had a TV, a big bed, and a SHOWER. Well, we gave them a couple hours to get settled in. Then, Molly, Frank, Jess, John and I went to check on them. We took along a towel, wash cloth, soap and a change of clothes. After our visit, it was bed time. It was hot when we left, so I took sheets, 2 summer blankets, twin size. (So I forgot the pillows, big deal!) John packed his own sleeping bag and pillow. Did you ever see two adult people struggle over blankets in a 17 ft. camper after eating a big supper of BEANS! I offered Jess the blankets because I was not cold. It must have been at least 50 degrees. It started to rain. I was just about asleep when the thunder and lightening started. I thought for sure that our camper was going to be washed across the street right into Lake Superior. "Look out Mr. Jordan, you're about to loose some

ASK ME AGAIN

of your blankets to cover up my head!" When it finally stopped, I settled down for some sleep. It wasn't long until KNOCK, KNOCK on the camper door. It was another good old rock hound who had joined our group. Ray Welborn, with a big old "Good Morning, the sun is out, it's a beautiful day for rock hunting!" "OK, Ray, I'm ready." I was so cold, I slept in my clothes. Anyway, if you go north, it gets cold up there at night. Take some blankets!

Betty Jordan

FEBRUARY BIRTHSTONE

Amethyst, the February birthstone, is found in Canada, Brazil and other parts of the world.

Amethyst is from the quartz family. It is believed that the color in amethyst may be due to manganese. Most amethyst is found in crystal forms. Some amethyst of good color can be cut and polished into beautiful stones.

It has been said in olden years that a person who possesses amethyst shall not become intoxicated. Whether this is true or not is unknown, but the crystal formations are truly beautiful in their natural state and are a collectors delight.

NAME OUR SHOW - WIN A PRIZE

How would you like to win a prize? All you have to do is submit a name for our 1978 Rock and Gem Show.

Write your choice for the Show theme on a piece of paper, sign it and turn it in at our February meeting. You can submit as many names as you like, one per paper.

The Board will select 5 and we will vote on them at the March meeting. A prize will be given to the person who submitted the winning name - you may win the prize!

