



DEC 1979

THE ROCKFINDER



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



FIRST CLASS MAIL



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.
1979 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President....	James F. Russell	27911 North St., No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Vice Pres....	Frank Elwell	105 N. Ironwood Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46615
Secretary....	Kathy Miller	1106 Clayton Dr., South Bend, Ind.	46614
Treasurer....	Christine Shoemaker	17650 Briarcliff, South Bend, Ind.	46635
Liaison.....	Margaret Heinek	Box 152, New Carlisle, Ind.	46552
Past Pres....	George E. Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., South Bend, Ind.	46637

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Program.....	Frank Elwell	105 N. Ironwood Dr., South Bend, Ind.	46615
Hospitality..	Catherine & Larry McHugh	130 S. Holiday, South Bend, Ind.	46615
Education....	Margaret Heinek	Box 152, New Carlisle, Ind.	46552
Librarian....	George E. Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., South Bend, Ind.	46637
Historian....	Bess Wise	1513 Clarendon, Niles, Mich.	49120
Field Trips..	Bob Heinek	Box 152, New Carlisle, Ind.	46552
Safety.....	Merl Lechlitner	1433 L.W.E., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Sunshine.....	Pauline Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., South Bend, Ind.	46637
Scholarship..	Catherine Grayckowski	1111 N. Huey St., South Bend, Ind.	46628
Display.....	Bob Miller	1106 Clayton Dr., South Bend, Ind.	46614
Publicity....	Sherry Russell	27911 North St., No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Membership... Junior	Betty & Jesse Jordan	16705 Eisenhower, Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Activities...	Joe Charles	2863 New Road, North Liberty, Ind.	46554

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., South 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 19
Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc.

Number 10

December 1979
South Bend, Indiana

This issue of the Rockfinder is being published after our December Christmas meeting and party, which was held at the Pinhook Park pavillion on December 9th. Your Board Members served as the hospitality committee.

After a delicious dinner prepared by the best cooks anywhere, we all played dirty "Rocko."

There were no service awards given to retiring officers because all the officers are serving for 1980 - I believe that this is the first time that this has happened.

We were again honored to have the Midwest Federation Indiana State Director, Mr. Charles Walker and his friend Fern Penner as our guests.

The seventy-one members and guests had the usual good afternoon of food and fun.

Educational Meetings

Time: 7:30 PM, EST

Place: Newman Recreational Center
727 South Eddy Street
South Bend, Indiana

Program: Friday, Jan. 11, 1980
Friday, Jan. 25, 1980
No definite program - just come and join in the polishing and grinding.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!! HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



Merry Christmas

Board Meeting

On January 4th, the Board will meet at Jim & Sherry Russell's home at 7:30 pm.

Dues are Due

If you have not paid your dues, send your check to Christine Shoemaker, 17650 Briarcliff Court, South Bend, Ind. 46635.

Our Guests

At the November meeting of our club we had -
Pat Mc Laughlin
Marilyn Meier
as our guests. We hope that they enjoyed our meeting and will return again.

FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER,

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone. The year of 1979 went by quickly and was a good year for the Club in many ways. I'm sure that 1980 will be even better.

I would like to thank the Club for giving me another year as President. It is a real honor to have been elected President of the Club for a fourth term. With the reelection of the other Board Members it will give us an opportunity to continue to make improvements, as I feel that we have been able to work as a team and not as individuals.

To those wonderful club members who have headed up all our committees throughout the year, the Board and I say thank you! We will be making some changes for 1980.

The biggest thank you that can be given is to the club members. Your support, cooperation and fellowship has made the Michiana Rock and Gem Club what it really is, and that is the Best Club anywhere! To all of you we say thank you.

See all of you at our regular meeting in January. I'm also hoping to see many of you at our Friday night Educational meetings.

Your Rocky Leader,
Jim

So Long Until April

Adeline & I will be heading for Texas right after Christmas. The Russells have again kindly consented to publish the Rockfinder while we are away. They did an excellent job last year and I hope that all those who helped them will again give them a hand this year.

So, we will see all you snow shovelers in April - have a nice winter.

Fred & Adeline Niebauer

Popular New Stones

Royal blue lapis is now being mined in the San Gabriel mountains of California. With an absence of calcite inclusions, and evenly distributed brilliant pyrite, the California lapis lazuli from Bighorn Mine, promises to be a popular hit with American lapidaries. Two new picture jaspers from the west are Owyhee Junction Jasper and Spring Mountain Jasper. Both take an excellent polish.

Another currently desirable American gem is Mojave stone, a vivid blue and green combination of copper minerals...also mined in California.

By June Zeitner
From Dec. 1979 AFMS Newsletter

Birth Stone for December

Turquoise is a phosphate of aluminum. The color, sky-blue to light greenish blue, is due to the presence of copper. The most prized color is the robin egg blue. It has a porcelaneous luster.

It is used extensively by the American Indians in making turquoise and silver jewelry.

The stone is usually of secondary origin developed by surface water in the upper portions of copper deposits, forming veins in alumina rich rocks in desert regions. Crystals are found in Virginia and they are very small.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING

The meeting was called to order November 25, 1979, by President Russell. New members and guests were introduced. A motion was made by Doris Pletcher to accept the minutes as found in the Rockfinder, seconded by Margaret Heinek, motion carried. The treasurer's report was read and approved for audit.

Program - Carlton Pletcher and Jess Wise will give a talk on how to build lapidary equipment at January's meeting.

Education - Wire wrapped trees will be done at the next educational meeting. Margaret Heinek will supply the wire and asked members to bring a rock base, blue and small stones. She suggested a tree as a Christmas Gift.

Librarian - George Kelsheimer said he only has two books yet to be turned in. Also he expressed appreciation to Jess Wise for making a new bookcase for the library. Applause and thank you, Jess.

Publicity - Sherry Russell said the club report didn't make Michiana Magazine or the Club Highlights even though she sent the information in on time.

Sunshine - Pauline Kelsheimer sent a plant to the Carol Lacy family and a plant to Catherine Grayckowski. Pauline also thanked members for all the cards she received while she was ill.

Displays - Bill Crull brought in some catalogues he thought members might find interesting on tools and findings.

Historian - We received a 1978 American Federation Award certificate.

Scholarship - Money has been sent to bring our scholarship fund up to 1700%.

Communications - A thank you note was received from Carol Lacy for the plant she received. The club was informed the Lapidary Journal price has gone up. The Midwest Federation sent out their annual council report. A write up for our 1981 show was in it. To receive an American Federation Club Award, Jim Russell would like to have any information a member has taken part in -3-

MINUTES (CON'T)

that pertains to something educational. Suggested are talks with schools or senior citizen groups, demonstrations and written articles, etc. sent to him.

Old Business - President Russell talked to Mr. Paul Goodrich and took care of the Newman Center situation so our club could use the equipment. A letter has been sent to Mr. Goodrich stating our terms for the Board of Recreation.

New Business - This is election time and Bill Crull, one of the nomination committee, asked from the floor three times, are there any other nominees, having none, the officers for the year of 1980 are:

President - Jim Russell
Vice President - Frank Elwell
Secretary - Kathleen Miller
Treasurer - Christine Shoemaker

Liaison - Margaret Heinek
After the officers accepted, Sherry Russell made a motion, seconded by Mary Miller that the secretary cast one unanimous vote. I, the secretary, Kathleen Miller, cast one unanimous vote for the above nominated officers. President Russell will be calling on people to work on committees for the year 1980. The idea was again brought up to have a photographer take slides of club members collections for a slide program.

Program - Bess and Jess Wise, Joe Charles and Jerry Shoemaker helped present a slide program on Beginning Lapidary.

Birthdays - Best wishes and acknowledgements to Bess Wise and Bob Miller.

Door Prizes - Todd Miller, Curt Anders and Donald Cope won door prizes.

Motion to adjourn by Lori Russell, seconded by Carlton Pletcher. Attendance 46 members
2 guests

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Miller, Secretary

ROCK CRYSTALS, MOZARKITE & 95°F

We left South Bend headed for Cave In Rock, Ill. to look for fluorite. The dumps are all closed to collecting, so we kept traveling towards our destination, Hot Springs Ark.

It was the middle of August, high humidity and in the mid 90's. There was lots to see, Bath House Row, offering hot mineral baths fed from the hot springs, Drydens Pottery, and a host of tourist attractions well worth seeing. But of course the main attraction was Wright's Rock Shop which required parts of two days.

Three walls are lined with a super collection of minerals, all for sale, plus show cases on the floor. The most spectacular of all was an elbow macaroni shaped piece with a cavity running thru it almost as large as a foot ball. This specimen was about 32" long and lined with amethyst. When we left we were loaded with black opal, Victoria Stone, novaculite, black agate and lots of slabs.

We inquired about the best crystal mine in the area and was referred to Colemans. This like most mines that are operated commercially left very little for the collector. Everything is pretty well picked over before it gets to the dump. Marie found the best find of the day which was a nice cluster of quartz crystals about 3 x 4 inches.

We stayed overnight in Rogers to visit friends from South Bend and the Daisy Air Rifle Museum.

On our way up to the Ozarks we stopped at the Silver City Amusement Park, an all day experience centered around Ozark folk lore. The next highlight of the trip was a great live Country & Western Show at Branson, Mo. Branson has at least 6 theaters featuring big name people in show biz. I also had another stroke of luck on our way out of town. Marie got a fleeting glimpse of a fabric remnant shop, so had to turn around and go back. There were lots of other guys just

ROCK CRYSTALS (CONTINUED)

waiting around like myself, so I decided I wasn't a minority.

On our way up to Lincoln we stopped at a new road cut and found some nice pieces of light cream color with black bands of mozarkite, another road cut produced about 100 lbs. of drusy quartz. At Lincoln I dug about 35 lbs. of multi colored mozarkite. It was too hot to do much digging so the mine owner told me to help myself to his stock pile.

From here we went to Hannibal to take in the sights from Mark Twain days of Tom Sawyer and Huckelberry Finn. Lady Luck seemed to be with us most of the way for here we missed Jimmy Carter by just one day.

The next day we were up in Alexandria looking for geodes. We found 3 enhydros in the river plus a lot of small ones. We dug at a fee area but the clay and shale was so hard it was almost impossible to dig plus 95°F. and himid weather.

After a long lecture and dissertation I succumbed to the pressure and cut my vacation a day short for a prearranged hair appointment back in South Bend. Oh well, that wasn't bad, Lady Luck rode with me right up till the end so I guess all in all I didn't come out too bad for a two week vacation.

Bill Crull

P.S. It was 95° in more ways than one after the fore mentioned lecture.

Thanks Bill for sharing with us your very interesting trip. I was right with you in some of those spots. Maybe it helped some of our new members in planning their next vacation.

Editor

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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December 1979 - Issue No. 199

FALL EXECUTIVE MEETING REPORT AND MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

Dear Friends: This is being written immediately after the fall meeting in Milwaukee on Saturday, Nov. 3, where Larry Nawojski, Bill Parch, Jean Reynolds and I together with Executive members from Nebraska, Ohio, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Wisconsin spent the weekend working on Federation business.

We thank the members of the Kettle Moraine Geological Society and the Wisconsin Geological Society for their hospitality and also Dr. Katherine Nelson, Curator of the Greena Geological Museum at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, for opening the museum to us Saturday evening.

Get well wishes were sent to First Vice President, Mel Sharp, who is recovering from a hip replacement operation. Seems Mel will do anything to get back on the rock piles.

Your club will receive complete copies of the minutes as soon as they are printed. In the meantime you will be happy to hear that we hope to revive "BEN", the Bulletin Editors News. This will be sent to your editor about four times per year.

Programs are being updated and we are getting close to the 100 mark. Don Stinnett will continue as chairman. Remember to get requests for programs in early, order only what you need, and return them promptly. Comments are appreciated.

Art Millard, Special Displays Chairman, plans a new Special Display Manual which should be of value to your show chairman. Your help is needed to make this a complete and helpful booklet. Watch your mail for information.

The combined AFMS and Midwest show in Lincoln, Nebraska, June 12-15, 1980, will again feature a silent auction for the bene-

fit of the Scholarship Fund. Money received from this sale of donated material will be credited to your club as a Scholarship donation. Start getting your material ready now. Chairman Norman Brown, Hiawatha, Iowa, will have additional information in the Newsletter.

1980 membership cards were given to State Directors and assistants for distribution. Information forms which you will also receive are to be completed and returned immediately. Please don't take a chance on misplacing or delaying information which is necessary to keep Midwest records up-to-date and avenues of communications open. Mail is sent to the person you name to receive it and this is designated each year in the Midwest Federation Directory.

One of the nicest part of being President is working with those serving on the Executive Committee. In addition to being active in their own clubs many took time off from their jobs, came to Milwaukee by car, or plane and paid their own expenses during the weekend. Most arrived on Friday and left on Sunday. They spent a solid day of work on Saturday discussing Midwest activities throughout their stay, and all seemed to enjoy every minute. A big THANK YOU to all. As most of you already know there is a spirit of closeness and congeniality among rockhounds everywhere which makes our hobby a really special pleasure.

My very best wishes to every Midwest Federation member for a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year. May you continue to enjoy your hobby, gaining knowledge and sharing this knowledge and enjoyment with others.
Bernice McCloskey

GET READY FOR THE AFMS/MIDWEST SHOW
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA...JUNE 12-15, 1980

MORE NEW PROGRAMS NEEDED

Our Library Program Chairman, Donald Stinnett, is again asking our clubs to supply more new slide programs. Stinnett says our need never ends for new programs. Many of our current programs are becoming faded and worn. Supplying the Midwest with a program would be an excellent project for this coming year.

Be sure to wrap and tape the box when you return a program and return it promptly following your clubs use so that others who have the program booked will not miss out. Since programs are shipped by UPS, if you live on a rural rote please include your telephone number when you order so that UPS may contact you to be sure delivery can be made.

Always give second and third choices when you order a program so that if your first choice is not available we can ship your second or third coice and you will be sure to have a program for your meeting. And order as far in advance as possible and in this way, in most cases, your first choice can be booked to you for your club date.

There is no charge for use of the programs by Midwest clubs. Send your requests to Donald Stinnett, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, MI 48134.

AFMS CABS ON DISPLAY

62 of the cabs presented to the Smithsonian by AFMS on the occasion of its 25th anniversary are currently on display in the Hall of Gems. The beautiful display of cabochons of American gem materials cut by members of clubs belonging to the Federations, is well arranged and attractively labeled, giving names of clubs and individuals who sent the cabs.

Paul Desautels, Curator of the Hall of Gems, recently told June Zeitner that the initial AFMS gift of 1309 cabochons has inspired many others to send cabs to the Smithsonian. He feels the National Museum now has an enviable collection of native gems. Cabochons which are not on display are in the study and research area, and are arranged by species in large (and heavy) books, with each cab in an individual plastic envelope.

The cabochons on display this fall in-

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

MOPAINE VALLEY LAPIDARY CLUB

Dan King, President
3211 Vernon Avenue
Brookfield, IL 60513
Joined June 18, 1979

Individual Members

Louis Shy
545 City View Avenue
West Portsmouth, OH 45662
Joined October 15, 1979

SOUTH DAKOTA CLUBS PRESENT CHECK TO STATE LIBRARY

The South Dakota host clubs for the Midwest Field Convention of 1969 recently presented \$870 to the South Dakota State Library of Pierre for books and visual education programs in the field of minerals, gems, fossils and other earth sciences. Maybelle Wilcox, Winner, former Midwest State Director for South Dakota, presenting the check on behalf of clubs at Murdo, Mission, Martin and Winner, explained that the clubs had previously purchased 10 large showcases with profits from the convention, which are available to clubs throughout the state for their shows.

The books and movies which will be acquired by the State Library can also be used by any club in the state, and will also be available to schools and others interested in learning about earth science. State Librarian Vince Anderson, Pierre, accepting for the library, complimented the clubs for their generosity and for their enthusiastic promotion of the advancement of earth science. He commented that with the help of the clubs this library section would be greatly enriched.

cluded plume agate, domeykite, Bruneau Canyon jasper, variscite, tremolite, nephrite, lazulite, dinosaur bone, gem chrysocolla, prehnite, rhodonite, turquoise, obsidian, Petoskey stone, williamsite, petrified wood limestone, unakite, breccia, colite, shattuckite, banded agate, gold in quartz, and more.