

MARCH 1991

THE ROCKFINDER



Margaret Heinek
Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
7091 E. East Park Ln.
New Carlisle, IN 46552



FIRST CLASS MAIL

LARSON, JOYCE
144 Spruce Drive
Westville, IN 46391

Midwest Federation
Convention
Hosted by The Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
August 30-31-Sept. 1, 1991
South Bend, IN



MICHIANA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

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Sunshine.....Kathy Miller	1106 Clayton Dr., South Bend, IN 46614
Scholarship	
Display.....Mary Miller	451 S. Illinois, South Bend, IN 46619
Publicity....Dawn Cytacki	1606 East Madison St., South Bend, IN 46617
Membership...Members and Board of Directors	

The MICHIANA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, a non-profit organization, is affiliated with the MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES and with the AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES.

Regular meetings

Time: 2: PM EST	Place: Westminster Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of each month	1501 W. Cleveland Road
June- Field trip meeting	South Bend, Indiana
July- No meeting	West of St. Joseph River
August- Annual club picnic	
December- Date to be announced- Christmas party	

Dues

Individual	\$ 6.50 per year
Family	10.00 per year
Junior	2.00 per year

Rockfinder Staff

Editor and Co-Editor...	
Joyce Larson	144 Spruce Drive, Westville, IN 46351
Margaret Heinek	7091 E. East Park Ln, New Carlisle
Staff.....Bob Heinek	
Club Members	

All contributions for publication should be in the hands of the editor by the 10th of each month.

Permission is hereby granted to reprint, at any time, items published in the ROCKFINDER, provided due recognition is given.

THE ROCKFINDER

VOLUME 31

NUMBER 3

MARCH 1991

PUBLISHED BY: MICHIANA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

SOUTH BEND, IN

Spring

IS HERE!

REGULAR MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 24th.

TIME: DOORS OPEN 1:30 WST
MEETING 2:00

PLACE: WESTMINISTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1501 W. CLEVELAND RD
WEST OF THE ST. JOSEPH RIVER
SOUTH BEND, IN

PROGRAM: Catherine McHugh will present a
slide program on her European trip to
Hungary and Yugoslavia.

HOSPITALITY: Sister Georgia
Sister Jeanne Finske
Joe Kossack

A special thank you to Paul Godollei
for his informative talk on Trilobites.

DOOR PRIZES FOR THE FEB. MEETING WERE

JUNIOR MEMBERS- B J Burkart, Kenny Zieger
Derek Stodden, Kevin Klodzinski. Adults-
Joe Fashbaugh, Janet Landato, Marion Fiege
and Jessie Zeiger.

FRIENDLY CLUB RECIPE

The following prescription for a friendly club started out as a "friendly church" recipe, but it seems applicable to clubs, too.

- 1) Speak to people (even if you do not know their names)
 - 2) Smile at people
 - 3) Call people by name
 - 4) Be friendly & helpful (if you have friends, be one)
 - 5) Be generous with praise (cautious with criticism)
 - 6) Be considerate of the feelings of others
 - 7) Be alert to give service (what we do for others counts most in life)
 - 8) Add to this a good sense of humor, a generous dose of patience.
- via Chiasto, Hi-Lites, LapHound News

HOPPY EASTER



MARGARET'S COLUMN

Don't know where the month has gone!
Guess when everyone is busy, it goes fast.

The packets for our big show in August were sent out last week. The Chamber of Commerce is sending them out for us, at our expense, but much cheaper than regular mail.

Dr Benjamin Moulton called and asked if we needed display cases for the MWF show, needless to say, I replied "YES". He will bring 16 of them in his van on April 19th and we will store them until the set-up of the show. Catherine McHugh said she has room in her garage. THANK YOU, CATHERINE. It is so good to have members like ours that make a persons job easier.

Had a card from Joan Sherer while she was in Arizona. She may see us at the March meeting. Lets have her tell about the GIA classes she took.

We have several new members- Please add them to your roster:

- ✓ Tom Nace, Jr- 20398 Miller Rd, S.B. 20398
- ✓ Don Erb, 2006 Ontario Rd, Niles, MI 49120
- ✓ Gladys Pacholski- 612 N. Hill, SB 46617
- ✓ Debra Lynn Willsey, 3113 Boynton AV. SB 46615
- ✓ B J Burkhardt, (Jr member), 17321 Parker Ave, SB, 46635.

We still need help with the show in Aug, so if you feel you want to do a particular job, let me know so we can plan on you. There are many things that must be taken care of soon.

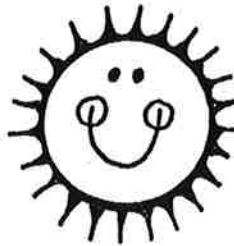
See you at the meeting.

Margaret

* * * * *

FIELD TRIP LOCATIONS-

Maumee Stone Co., Lime City Plant, Box 369 Maumee, Ohio. Must have 1 week notice- plan visit for Sat. morning. Must sign liability waiver before entering quarry. Hard hat required, and must be worn at all times. Send request to Randy Baumert- plant superintendent, (419) 874-4592. Celestite, strontianite with minor fluorite, calcite and strontianite after celestite.

SUNSHINE REPORT

HAPPY EASTER!
HAPPY SPRING!

We have all been waiting for longer and warmer days. The first sighting of the first robin or violet is such a pleasure. (Of course, we do have society member, Robin Miller with us year 'round!)

Are you anticipating the March meeting? Snow-birds should be back and have wonderful stories of where they have been and what they did or saw over the winter.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the MIDWEST FEDERATION spring meeting hosted by our Society here in South Bend on April 20th.

My "Sunshine" article had to be turned in early for The Rockfinder, since Bob and I will be on vacation for a portion of March. At this time, I have not heard any news glad or sad from our members. If you have anything you wish to share with other members, please bring it to the March meeting.

ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:
23 - Dave and Joyce Darrow

BIRTHDAYS

Best wishes to;
3 - Stuart Biek
8 - Joyce Larson
11 - Marie Crull
15 - Jane Kile
22 - Gloria Merrill
24 - Joe Kosack
30 - Margaret Heinek

For all our men and women overseas and their families here at home let us keep them in our thoughts and prayers.



Keep Smilin'!

Bathy

LIFE HISTORY OF A KEOKUK GEODE-----

My present owner must think that I am a very nice geode for he displays me in the place of prominence on a shelf with his choice crystals and minerals. It was in the geological formation known today as the "lower Warsaw", located adjacent to an Iowa creek bed, where he found and dug me out. He worked hard to free me from the grip of that tough limestone bedrock laminae that had held me in tight embrace for a million or so years.

He shook me to hear the water gurgle in my interior cavity, then opened me gently with a hammer and a chisel. His exclamation of "Beautiful", "Lovely", and finally "Terrific"! let me know that I was truly appreciated. His careful handling and placement of me in an honored position in his collection for his friends to see, had made me feel as though the millions of years that I was in the process of formation were really worthwhile.

And how did I happen to be? To start at the beginning, I was born during the geological period known as "Mississippian", some 250 million years ago. My parent was one of a large number of invertebrate shell life inhabiting the deep part of a sea which covered the central section of what is now North America. My particular "ancestor", along with many others, burrowed into the bottom ooze at the termination of his life cycle.

A process called "anerobic decay" took place as decomposition of the organic material of the shellfish was in the water so deep that no oxygen was present. Calcite, present there in a saturated condition, was strongly attracted to this area of highly alkaline, decaying organic matter and precipitated, thus forming a ball of calcite or what is called -"concretion". This was the first step in the metamorphosis resulting in my creation.

A very important step in my life cycle happened next when silicification of my outside area occurred giving me an almost insoluble chalcedony shell, formed around the calcite ball destined to be me.

Then came a warping of the earth crust due to geological phenomena which lifted the sea floor in my area, causing the sea to retreat and leaving me in a location where I was exposed to the leaching of acidic ground water. This water penetrated but did not affect my chalcedony shell. It did, however, dissolve and remove the calcite ball from within, leaving me a large hollow center.

This hollow interior enabled me to take advantage of the changing water solutions in which I was immersed during the next few million years. This was when uncounted minerals in solution came and went in different concentrations as the earth went through the agonies of continual upheaval and transformation. These cataclysmic changes produced an environment that enabled me to put on a rainment of beautiful crystals (in my interior, of course).

Such minerals as calcite, quartz, pyrite, and sphalerite were in the abundance in solutions around me and, penetrating my shell, found the cavity within ideal for the crystalization of myriads of beautiful crystals.

SHOW SCHEDULE:

March 23 - 24, Elmhurst, Ill. - West Suburban Lapidary Club, "Gems on Parade" Show. York Community High School, 355 W. St. Charles Rd., Elmhurst, Ill. Hours: 23rd, 10 A.M. - 8 P.M.; 24th, 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.

April 6 - 7, Canton, Ill. - Fulton County Rockhounds, 31st Annual Gem and Mineral Show. Wallace Park Recreation Bldg., 250 S. Ave. D, Canton, Ill. Hours: 6th, 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.; 7th, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

April 6 - 7, DesPlaines, Ill. - DesPlaines Valley Geological Society, 26th Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show. Rand Park Field House, 2025 Miner St., DesPlaines, Ill. Hours: 6th, 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.; 7th, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

April 19 - 21, Macomb, Ill. - Mid America Paleontology Society, National Fossil Exposition XIII. Western Illinois Student Union, Macomb, Ill. Hours: 19th, 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.; 20th, 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.; 21st, 8 A.M. - 3 P.M.

April 20 - 21, Highland, Ind. - Calumet Gem and Mineral Society, 18th Annual Extravaganza Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, Highland High School, 9135 Erie St., Highland, Ind. Hours: 20th, 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.; 21st, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

April 26 - 28, Rockford, Ill. - Blackhawk Rock Club, "Prospectors Dream Show" Show. North Towne Mall, 3600 N. Main St., Rockford, Ill. Hours: 26th, 10 A.M. - 9 P.M.; 27th, 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.; 28th, Noon - 5 P.M.

May 3 - 5, Chicago, Ill. - International Gem and Jewelry Show, Inc., Show. O'Hare Expo Center, Chicago, Ill.

May 3 - 5, Decatur, Ill. - Central Illinois Gem and Mineral Club, 39th Annual Show. Macon County Fairgrounds, Decatur, Ill. Hours: 3rd, 5 P.M. - 7 P.M.; 4th, 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.; 5th, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

May 4 - 5, Lafayette, Ind. - Wabash Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Inc., 32nd Annual Show. Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds, Teal Rd., Lafayette, Ind. Hours: 4th, 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.; 5th, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

May 4 - 5, Kalamazoo, Mich. - Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society, Annual Gem and Jewelry Show. Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo, Mich. No hours listed. For further information, call Kitty Starbuck, (616) 649-1991.

May 25 - 27, Wheaton, Ill. - Chicagoland Gems and Minerals Association, 15th Annual Show. DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Rd., Wheaton, Ill. Hours: 25th & 26th, 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.; 27th, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

August 30 - Sept. 1, South Bend, Ind. - Michiana Gem and Mineral Society, 1991 Midwest Federation Convention Gem & Jewelry Exposition, Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St., South Bend, Ind. Hours: 30th & 31st, 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.; 1st, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Oct. 12 - 13, Joliet, Ill. - Joliet Gem Club, Show., Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Ill.

* * * * *

POLISHING A STONE: One reason for polishing a stone all over, front, back and edges is that the polish acts as a sealer. It seals and keeps the water in opal; it prevents natural corrosion in rhodonite, that corrodes to a black ore called wad and it helps stop the absorption of harmful substances such as perspiration, etc.

(Mendo Coast Gems, via Gulfport Gems, Jim Fowler, Editor)

KEOKUK GEODE-continued-

Subsequent changes during the geological period known as "Pennsylvanian" brought to me and my brother geodes a "frosting on the cake", so to speak, as again deeply buried in the sea, we captured from the depths crystals and coatings of rarer minerals such as barite, dolomite, aragonite, marcasite, goethite, and chalcopyrite.

A few of my lucky brothers, in the years of hectic weathering and erosion subsequent to the Pennsylvanian period, had alteration of minerals occur, resulting in such rarities as smithsonite, malachite, hematite, pyrolusite, and selenite being added to their store of crystal treasures.

For myself, I did not go in for all of those exotic variations. I am simply but beautifully dressed in a brilliant quartz foundation, set with sparkling pyrite. This, with a very impressive, large barrel calcite, makes a stunning outfit--so my master thinks.

Really though, I am quite common in the world of geodes, but don't tell my owner as I am the apple of his eye and I really hope he doesn't go digging again and find one of my "far-out" brothers because I know that as much as he admires me now, his affection is fickle and I will be replaced in a hurry.

But until then, here I sit in my best sparkling dress, showing my owner's friends what "Mother Nature" can do in a mere 250 million years.

Via THE BEACHCOMBER & THE GEODE AND CEDAR VALLEY GEMS

COLLECTING ROCKS

I think that there shall never be
An ignoramus such as me,
Who roams the hills throughout the day,
To pick up Rocks that do not pay,
For there is one thing that I've been told
I took the Rock and left the gold.
Over deserts wild or mountains blue
I search for Rock of varied hue.
A hundred pounds or more I pack,
With blistered feet and aching back,
And after this is said and done
I cannot name a single one.
I pick up Rock wherever I go
The reason why I do not know,
For Rocks are found by fools like me
Where God intended them to be..

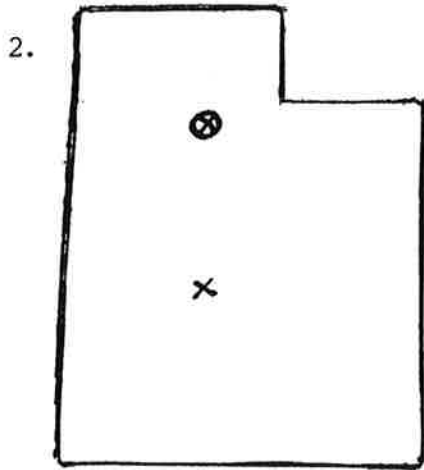
Anonymous



LOVE THAT
CHIORESTERAL!



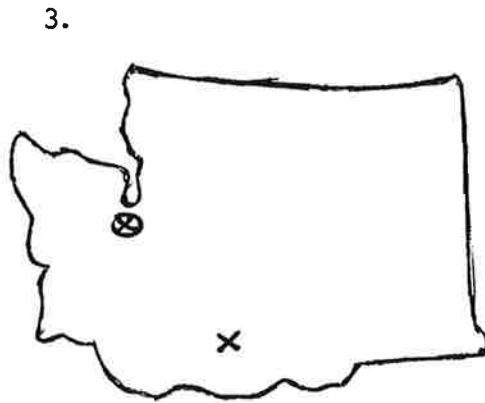
ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS: Here we go with 2, 3 and 4. Let's speed up a bit so that you young "rockhounds" will have a poster to display at our fall rock and gem show.



State _____

Capital _____

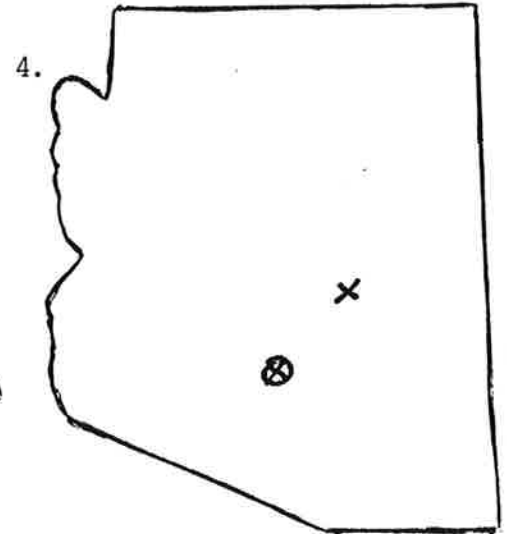
Specimen _____



State _____

Capital _____

Specimen _____



State _____

Capital _____

Specimen _____

Keep in mind that just because I have chosen only one rock from a state, there are many different kinds of rocks in that same state. I'm not altogether certain that I should use the name "rock". I'll call them "specimens" from now on. To make your identification a little easier - unscramble the name and you will have your specimen id.

2 INDOSUAR EBON

3 ECUPIM

4 SUOITQURE

I wasn't really into rocks when I first started picking them up from different areas of the country. A rock became a remembrance of the places I had been - an inexpensive way to bring home a souvenir. If I saw something that looked different or was pretty, it came home with me. I couldn't identify one from the other. As my rock collection grew, so did the rock gardens in my yard and for some reason, the "remembrances" I continued to bring home kept growing in size. I had trouble lifting some of them. Most of what I have picked up have come from the West - most from mountain areas. It's a neat thing to look out of the kitchen window and see that big rock from Laramie, Wyoming, or the one sitting next to it from Washington, California. I can walk around the yard and think to myself "I remember when I picked that up".

Even though I'm in Indiana I can think back to the time that rock ended up in my car. Best of all at that time, they were all free. What I didn't realize was how much of a hobby I was getting into. Then I joined our group - found that the rock and mineral shows were a great way to see what people were doing with the rocks I had just taken for granted. It was at one of these shows that I BOUGHT A ROCK! Since that first show, I've purchased more. Mostly small ones that I would not have found in my trips. I have a lot to learn about this collection of mine as I can't yet identify a lot of them.

How about letting me know from you Juniors - what started your interest in rocks. Let me have a handwritten story - we'll print it next month.

Fossil Collecting in Maryland : by Paul Godollei, club member.

While visiting my sister in Washington, D.C. she asked me if I knew about the famous Calvert Cliffs that were renowned for fabulous Miocene fossil deposits. I had never heard of them, so she and her husband took me and my wife and children to a place called Governor Run on Chesapeake bay, a couple of miles East of Prince Frederick, off highway 235. The cliffs were over 100 ft. high and consisted of dark sandy clay light brown sand clay just full of brachiopods, pelecypods, sharks teeth and barnacles.

I soon discovered that the brachiopods and pelecypods consisted of soft chalk that disintegrated when touched, so I decided that if I wanted any whole pieces they would have to be dried out and hardened at home. I had some large brown paper bags, newspapers and plastic sacks with me, so we cut out chunks of the sandy clay about four to six inches square and wrapped them in newspaper and string to safely transport home. When I got home I dried some of them out in an oven and let the other specimens just set in my dry basement for several months to dry out naturally. I unwrapped the chunks of sandy clay carefully on a large table and with a magnifying glass examined the pieces. Wherever the edge of a white chalk fossil showed, I carefully scraped away the sand with an awl or needle set in a handle and exposed the specimens. After extracting them from the sandy clay and brushing them with a soft artist brush I sprayed them with Krylon spray fixatif. Although many of the specimens disintegrated when exposed to the air, I was able to collect over seventy fine complete specimens and many partial fossils.

I wrote to the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources in Baltimore and they sent me a fine booklet-Bulletin 20- Miocene Fossils of Maryland that helped me identify all of my specimens. It also explained the formations of the Calvert Cliffs as consisting of the Calvert, Choptank and St. Marys formations with the identification of the fossils in each layer.

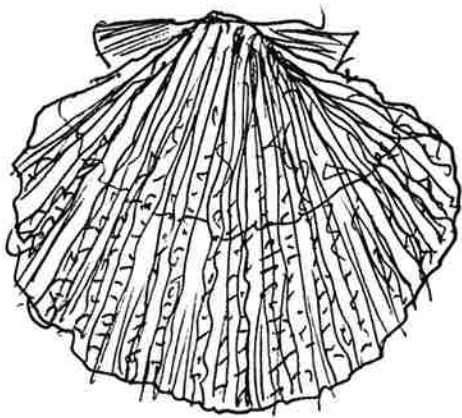
I had collected several large pelecypods shaped like the Shell Oil Co. logo and found they were named *Chlamys (Lyropecten) madisonius* Say of the Miocene Choptank Formation.. I was also able to identify several nice pelecypods as *Anadara subrostrata* (Conrad) of the Calvert Formation.. Other specimens included *Anomia*, *Astarte*, *Cardita*, *Isocardia* and *Mercenaria*. Also included was the gastropod (snail), *Turritella plebia* (Say) and *Calliostoma*. The *Mercenaria mercenaria* (Linnaeus) was over 3 inches across and in fine condition.. My children also found some sharks teeth and barnacles on the beach which were also of Miocene age.

Some collectors have found whale vertebrae, corals, worms and sea turtle plates and crocodile teeth there also.

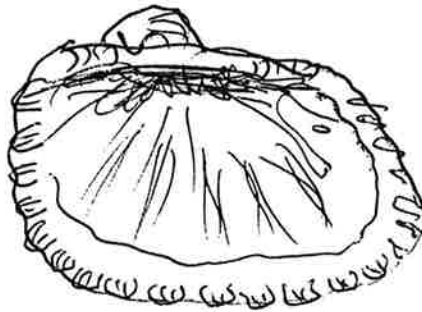
I highly recommend this place for collectors.

MIOCENE FOSSILS OF MARYLAND

Pelecypod



Pelecypod



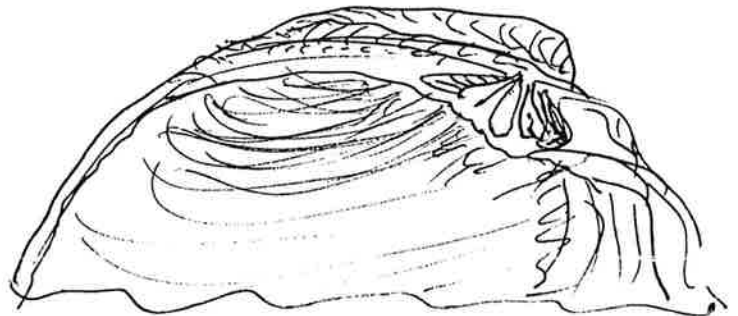
Chlamys (Lyropeta) madisonius (Szy)

Anadara subrostrata (Conrad)

Pelecypod



Pelecypod



Astarte thispilis Glau

Mercezaris

Gastropod



Gastropod

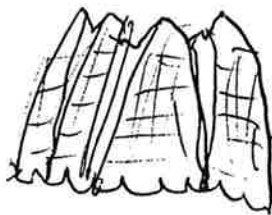


Calliostoma epkelium Dall

Turritella plebis Say



shank tooth



Barnacle



Barnacle plate

MINUTES OF MEETING JANUARY 1991

The regular meeting was called to order on Feb. 24, 1991 at 2 PM by Pres. Heinek, followed by a silent prayer for those overseas, their families and our country at large.

Speaker Dave Darrow chose for his program "Illinois Fluorite". Dave presented his program and explained the colors of the mineral, before the business meeting.

The treasurer's report was not given due to the absence of Sister Jeanne. A motion by Mary Miller, seconded by Bob Miller was made to accept the minutes of the Jan. meeting, as printed in the ROCK-FINDER, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Historian- Bess Wise suggested we place a memoriam in the Society's library for Dorothy Riordan, past member and 1st Editor of the ROCKFINDER. Also in memory of Clifford Fowler, a member until his death last month. Marion Fiege made a motion, seconded by Catherine McHugh, that 2 books, with a \$25.00 purchase price, be selected. Gordon Dobecke inquired if there was a possibility of purchasing videos, since so many members have VCRs at home. Discussion followed, Marion amended her motion and it was passed. Paul Godollei, librarian will see to the purchase of either books or videos.

Display- Paul Godollei exhibited a wide variety of trilobites in all shapes and sizes. An extensive selection of books accompanied his display. Paul gave an interesting lecture on how he acquired his material and how to tell their differences. Mary Miller brought her album of pictures taken on our field trip to the Cleveland Museum last Nov. The Heinek's and Mary displayed fluorite in many colors. Bob & Kathy Miller displayed their collection of southern Ill. fluorite.

Field Trip- Think June, this is field trip month, more to come.

Editor- Joyce Larson, editor, was delighted to see 5 junior members present. Kevin Klodzinski had the answers to all

the questions for juniors from this month's ROCKFINDER. Joyce will continue to have a junior section each month. She has many new good ideas for juniors to keep them active in the Society and earning specimens for their display at the MG&MS/MWF show this year

Communications- Fred and Addie Niebauer, Sno-Birds, sent their regards from Texas.

Old Business- Raffle items are needed for the MWF Convention this year. If you have an item to donate, please contact a board member AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, as the tickets have to be printed soon. The show packets are ready for shipping and will be sent bulk mail.

New Business- New logos patches for the club vests were discussed. Bob Miller made the motion to purchase new updated logos for club members at a possible price of \$2.95 each for the 4½ in size. Seconded by Mary Miller and carried. Pins were discussed, these to be worn by the members and sold at the MWF show. A catalog on various patterns was shown. Mary Miller motioned we select a cloisonne pin with a pin back, to relate strictly to our 1991 show, seconded by Dawn Cytacki, motion carried.

Bob Heinek suggested our club purchase a paper cutter for the Editor and for any business/office work that our club has to do. As of this time all major cutting has to be done with scissors. Phyllis Smallwood said before a purchase, she would check on one she has.

1991 SHOW FLIERS are ready. Please pick some up for distribution.

For the benefit of new members and our guests, Patt McLaughlin asked Margaret to give a brief review of our annual show, how it is involved with the Midwest Federation and how the members are involved. The Heineks also commented they are making the centerpieces for the MWF Awards Banquet to be held Sat. Aug. 31, 1991 at the Century Center. If you have ability in sewing, please contact Margaret, she needs your help!!!

Meeting adjourned at 3:20.

Submitted , Kathy Miller Pro-tem

DISCOVERIES

NEW VOLCANOES FOUND OFF OREGON

Portland, Ore. - A 10-mile string of about 10 new volcanoes has been discovered on the ocean floor about 300 miles off the Oregon coast, scientists said.

The volcanoes, some more than 100 feet high and a half-mile wide, were spotted by scientists studying maps and photographs of the sea floor along the Juan de Fuca Ridge.

They were formed within the past decade, said Robert Embley, a marine geologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Newport.

- from Traverse City Record-Eagle
10/8/90

CAVERN NEAR DENVER FOUND FORMED ALONG A FAULT ZONE

A crystal-filled cavern uncovered by a road work crew in a canyon near Denver, Colo., formed along a fault zone, apparently as a result of local land movement and of flowing ground water, according to scientists with the U.S. Geological Survey.

The narrow cavern, which is nearly 100' high and 200' long, contains delicate cave formations whose beauty rivals that of any known elsewhere in Colorado, the scientists said.

...work crews blasting a road through Clear Creek Canyon in the foothills west of Denver uncovered the spectacular cavern May 13, 1988. A team of 4 USGS geologists...inspected the cavern and said the cave was decorated with snowy-white calcite and aragonite growing as slender, twisted tentacles (called helictites) and stalactites upon its walls. ...aragonite crystals and hydromagnesite "moonmilk" also are present.

What makes the Clear Creek discovery so unusual, they said, is that the cave is in a fault zone that cuts the Precambrian metamorphic rocks (about 1.7 billion years of age) of the core of the Rocky Mountains, not in limestone as in most caves.

The 4 USGS scientists said the cavern formed within a segment of a 25 mile long fault zone...this fault zone, which is highly fractured and permeated by narrow fissures, has been strongly altered by prolonged flow of ground water through the fault-created openings. Breakdown of the original rock to clay, and flushing by ground water of the clay through the open fissure system widened the original openings farther to create the Clear Creek cave...

Three other USGS geologists in Denver ...speculated that local landsliding may have been responsible for pulling apart the fractured rock within the fault zone to open the fissures.

-from Gem City Rock News & Rock Pickings via Diggin's from Dakota. Public Affairs Office, USGS (Excerpts from article).

DIVERS FIND LAKE-BOTTOM FOREST

That is the headline for the summer issue of Illinois State Geological Survey's "GEONEWS"...The GEONEWS story starts when divers hunting shipwrecks found a grove of 16 4' stumps. Most people would dismiss the stumps as wet firewood, but someone said, "100' down?". So the wood was dated by radiocarbon analysis and found to be a little over 8000 years old.

What the ISGS likes about the find is that it helps confirm the history of Lake Michigan. The forest was on the shore when the lake was shallower, and has been submerged ever since. Evidently this section of the earth is rising and some day the upper lakes will drain down the Illinois River instead of the Detroit River.

-Excerpt from Fox Rox News via Template Newsletter.