

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



# THE ROCKFINDER

SEP 1976

1509

Mr & Mrs. Jess Wise  
1513 Clarendon Ave  
Niles, Mich. 49120



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.  
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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 the month, of publication.  
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# THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 16

Number 7

September 1976

Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc.

South Bend, Indiana

## Regular Meeting:

September 26, 1976

Time: Doors Open 1:30 P.M., EST  
Meeting 2:00 P.M., EST

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

## Program:

Business Meeting

You and your vacation.  
Tell about your rockhounding  
this summer.  
Bring your specimens to  
show the club.

## Hospitality:

Jessee & Betty Jordan  
Pauline & George Kelsheimer  
Clyde & Alice Ellis

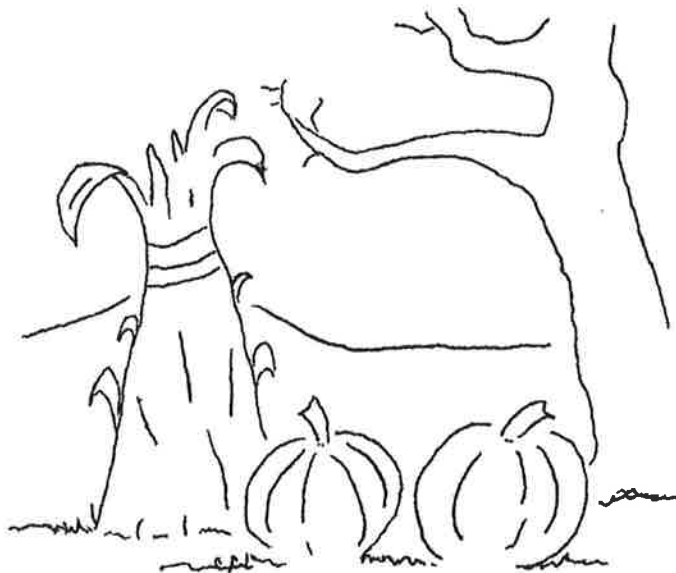
## Educational Meetings:

Time: 7:00 PM, EST

Place: First Bank Basement  
Corner of U.S. 31 North  
and Cleveland Road  
South Bend, Indiana

Program: Friday, September 24, 1976  
Jessee Jordan will give  
demonstration of  
wire wrapping.

Program: Friday, October 8, 1976  
Friday, October 22, 1976  
To be announced.



AUTUM

## Calendar:

- Sept. 24-25 Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Show, Holland, Michigan
- Oct. 1-3 Elkhart Mineral Society Show, Goshen, Indiana
- Oct. 1-3 Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society Show, Fort Wayne, Indiana
- Oct. 15-17 The Michigan Mineralogical Society Show, Detroit, Michigan
- Oct. 16-17 Joliet Gem Club Show, Joliet, Illinois
- Oct. 22-24 Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society Show, Lansing, Mich.



President's Message

Greetings,  
Paraphrasing the United Fund  
Drive:

THANKS TO

YOU

and

YOU

and

YOU

it WORKED

What worked? Why! the "Michiana Rock and Gem Show of '76" of course! Thanks to all of you who participated in any manner and thanks to a lot of work the '76 show is successfully behind us. As of this time I have not personally received one complaint from anyone regarding the running of the show, the dealers, or the exhibits.

I also want to thank the membership at this time for sending me to the Midwest Federation Convention in St. Louis this year. A full report on the convention and the '76 Michiana Rock and Gem Show will be made during our meeting on September 26th at the Nature Center in Rum Village Park. Note, that this is the first time in recent years that our September meeting has been held at a time other than during the show. This is due to changing our meeting date from the second to the fourth Sunday of the month.

I would like to ask the entire membership to express their appreciation to Fred Niebauer for the fine job that he has done as editor of the "Rockfinder". Did you know that the "Rockfinder" took first place for all bulletins at the Midwest Federation Convention and received Honorable Mention at the American Federation level? Fred is to be congratulated for this achievement.

President's Message (continued)

Now, I would like to make another request to the club members. By default I have become librarian for the remainder of this year and have volunteered to continue over in '77. I would like to know what type of books the membership would like to see added to our library. If you have a suggestion, please let me know.

Once again my thanks to all of you for your work in making our show this year a success.

George E. Kelsheimer

Minutes of June Meeting

On June 13th approximately 15 members and guests assembled at the Cheney Stone Quarry, Bellevue, Mich.

Due to the small attendance the president, George Kelsheimer, brought the meeting to order and requested that a motion be made to forego the business portion of the meeting and get on with the looking for specimens.

Motion was made by Molly Elwell and seconded by Pauline Kelsheimer. Motion passed.

An enjoyable time was had by all in attendance and some very nice pyrite samples were taken home.

Betty Jordan  
Secretary

New Members

We welcome the following new members who joined the club during our show.

Mr. & Mrs. Earl Schatte

Mr. John Nimtze

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Richards

Mr. Ed Kidder



Fire From The Sky

A piece of solid material colliding with the earth is a "meteoroid". It heats to incandescence during the passage through the earth's atmosphere, and the streak of light denotes the passage of a "Meteor". If it reaches the ground, it is a "meteorite". If these are observed and found, they are referred to as "falls". If they just happen to be found, they are "finds".

Meteorites are classified in three broad groups, the irons, the stony irons, and stones based on the amounts of metal to silicates. Details of the classifications becomes involved.

Meteorites range in size from microscopic to several yards in diameter. The most obvious feature is usually that they are much heavier for size than our normal rocks. The surface may be fairly smooth, sometimes with "flow lines", furrows, shallow depressions, and deep cavities.

The following is a checklist for a meteorite:

1. Is the specimen heavy?
2. If the specimen heavy and compact?
3. Is the specimen attracted by a magnet?
4. Is the specimen black or brown and rather smooth on the outside?
5. Does the specimen show metallic iron specks on a cut surface?

If all the answers are checked "yes", the object is very likely a meteorite. Some answers can be "no" and the object could still be a meteorite. If all answers are "no", the object is probably not a meteorite.

Since meteorites are at random, they may be found any place. Often, where one is found, others may be also, as the meteoroid may break up during passage through the atmosphere. A suggested search area would be a relatively flat place free from rocks, such as an agricultural field, dry lake bed, sand dune region. Metal

Fire From The Sky (continued)

detectors are helpful in locating buried meteorites.

"It should be remembered that a meteorite is a rare and scientifically valuable object. When a meteorite is found, it should be forwarded to an institution specializing in meteorite research for positive identification and analysis. The arrival of a previously unknown type can happen at any time, and all specimens found should be reported..."

If anyone finds or has what they suspect is a meteorite, they should write whatever details are available to:

Dr. Carleton B. Moore, Director Center for Meteorite Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, 85282

From Gem City Rock News

The Rockfinder is No. 1

George Kelsheimer and I attended the editor's breakfast at the Midwest Federation Convention in St. Louis.

We knew that the Rockfinder was in the top three, but never expected to get first place.

At the meeting, the bulletins were all mounted on a board and each was covered by a sheet of paper indicating the award rank. They pulled off the number 3 sheet first - it was not the Rockfinder. We hoped that the Rockfinder would rank second. When number two was removed we knew that the Rockfinder was number one.

This is your news letter and while the credit goes to the editor, it was the people in the club that made it possible. So, we should be proud of our award.

Fred Niebauer, Editor





Moon Rocks Rival Glory of Diamond

The largest blue diamond in the world has rivals in some other rare and priceless rocks in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

The rocks aren't so pretty as the Hope Diamond, but they do tell a 4,600,000,000 - year story. They indicate the moon probably was formed by the smashing together of hundreds of smaller bodies.

Apollo astronauts brought back the rocks with them from the lunar surface. The Smithsonian calls its exhibit "the largest and most comprehensive selection of lunar material ever placed on display in any museum."

The moon rocks are in a room adjoining the Hope Diamond. All are protected by ultrasonic devices and other burglar-foiling equipment.

The oldest rock, brought back by Apollo 16 from the lunar highlands, is black and white. It probably crystallized 4,600,000,000 to 4,400,000,000 years ago, soon after the moon formed. The earth was formed about the same time.

The biggest moon rock on display is three inches long. It is part of a larger rock, but the National Aeronautics and Space Administration always keeps part of each rock for future study.

From Grit

Submitted by Lucy Miller

In Memorium

We all regret the passing of Marie Niebauer on June 21st. We will all miss her a lot.

We offer our sympathy to Lucy Miller on the passing of her husband on July 16th.

On May 30th Ruby Walker, our Midwest Federation state director passed away.

Mining & Mineral Leasing Laws

A bill to reform the mining and mineral laws was introduced in the House of Representatives by Patsy T. Mink (D-Hawaii), John F. Seiberling (D-Ohio) and Joseph P. Vigorito (D-Pennsylvania). It would require an immediate cessation of exploration activity on public lands for 5 years. Any mineral deposits discovered by a small miner would automatically be thrown into a competitive bidding situation under which he could not compete with the large mining companies.

The penalties of up to \$1,000 for prospecting with a license would apply even to weekend prospectors, rockhounds and gold panners. We should all make our views known to our members of the House Interior Committee and the House Interior Sub-committee on Public Lands. Also our representatives and senators in Washington. (H.R. 8435)

A Method of Lapidary Treatment of Turquoise

The harder, more compact types of turquoise will take a good polish and usually can be handled without difficulty by the gem cutter.

Remember that turquoise is porous and will absorb oil, so if any sawing is to be done, water should be used as a coolant.

Turquoise is less likely to break when sawing if it is soaked in water over night. Always use a thin saw blade to prevent waste.

Grinding should be done with a 220 grit wheel that is smoothly dressed. Turquoise is soft, so grind with care and use plenty of water.

From The Geode  
Via Serendipity Gems



# Midwest Federation's 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

Issue No. 167 - September 1976

## MIDWEST FEDERATION BULLETIN EDITORS 1976 CONTEST WINNERS

*(Large -- 8 pages or more)*

1st, THE OPAL, Rudy Loeffler, Editor, West Suburan Lapidary Club, Melrose Park, Ill.; 2nd, THE GLACIAL DRIFTER, Arthur Ferguson, Editor, Grand Rapids Lapidary Society, Grand Rapids, Mich.; 3rd, THE PICK AND SHOVEL, Evelyn M. Ulrich, Editor, Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Lincoln, Neb.; 4th, PEB-BLE PUSHER, Mary Boland, Editor, Coulee Rock Club, Inc., LaCrosse, Wisc.; 5th, THE PYRITER, Lyle Voas, Editor, Dallas County Rock Club, Inc., Adel, Iowa; 6th, THE GEODE, Willis Smith, Editor, McDonnell Douglas Gem & Mineral Society, St. Louis, Mo.; 7th, THE SANDSCRIPT, Marilyn McFadden, Editor, Duneland Rock Club, Merrillville, Ind.; 8th, THE EX-CHANGITE, Leona Vojcek, Editor, The Rock Exchange Club, Garden City, Mich.; 9th, THE BEACHCOMBER, Jan Huff, Editor, Lake County Gem & Mineral Society, Waukegan, Ill.; 10th, ELROCK NEWS, Dee Sigsbee, Editor, Elkhart Mineral Society, Elkhart, Ind.; and, NISHNA VALLEY GRINDSTONE, Pearl Campbell, Editor, Nishna Valley Rock Club, Atlantic, Iowa.

*(Small -- 7 pages or less)*

1st, THE ROCKFINDER, Fred Niebauer, Editor, Michiana Rock & Gem Club, South Bend, Ind.; 2nd, ROCK EXPRESS, Maida McGrew, Editor, Ft. Butler Rock & Gem Club, Hebron, Neb.; 3rd, WORTHEN WORTHY NOTES, Irma W. Bradley, Editor, Worthen Earth Searchers of Hancock County; Honorable Mention, AGATYPE, Jeannine Miller, Editor, Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society, St. Joseph, Mich.; ROCK TALK, Tanis Diedrichs, Editor, Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Society, Waterloo, Iowa; THE GEMROCK, Sharon Harp, Editor, Independence Gem & Mineral Society, Independence, Mo.

### JUDGES' AWARD

POINTS OF INTEREST, Mary Anderson and Maybell Wilcox, Co-Editors, THE FOUR-CLUB BULLETIN for Badlands Sandhills Earth Science, Mission; Missouri Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Platte; Western Fairburn Geological Society, Martin; and West River Science Society, Murdo, all in S. Dak.

### OUTSTANDING ARTICLE

ROCKS, CHILDREN AND FUN, Viola Debout, in May 1975 Rock Talk, of Black Hawk Gem & Mineral Society, Waterloo, Iowa; FOUR KEYS TO RECOGNIZING ROCKS, Doris & Francis Wood, in April 1975, The Rocky Reader, Toledo (Ohio) Gem & Rockhound Club.

### MOST FITTING ROCKHOUND NAME

Pauline Stone

## NEW MEMBERS

St. Joe Valley Rockhounds, Inc.  
Paul Wesley Van Dyke, President  
323 S. St.  
Goshen, Indiana 46525  
joined 6-16-76

### Individual Membership

Mr. Mark Alan Vinson  
2011 Gatesborough Circle  
Murray, Kentucky 42071  
joined 7-1-76

## ST. LOUIS SHOW TERMED "SUCCESS"

Garald Hook, General Show Chairman for the MWF show and convention in St. Louis, July 22-25, termed it a "success" and reports attendance at "10,000" for the four days. Even as the temperature soared to an official 99 degrees on Friday, July 23, and to an unofficial 103 degrees in parts of St. Louis the show at the Show Center, on St. Charles Rock Road, was filled with enthusiastic rock and mineral fans.

The show building was air conditioned and the large amount of floor space made placement of dealers, displays, swap area and program room easy, and allowed ample space for those attending to move about easily.

The Executive meeting on Friday and the Council meeting on Saturday at the Ramada Inn West were well attended. Bulletin editors' awards were made at the Editors Breakfast and All American and MWF Merit Awards were presented at the banquet on Saturday evening at the Stegton Restaurant in St. Charles.

New officers elected to head the MWF beginning November 1, include Miss Hazel Kuntz, Quincy, Ill., President; Paul Good, Griffith, Ind., First Vice President; Mrs. Betty Crawford, Mansfield, Ohio, Second Vice President; Miss Jean Reynolds, Clarendor Hills, Ill., Secretary; and Milford J. Sharp, Fairview Park, Ohio, Treasurer.

A complete report of the meetings will be sent to all clubs by the Secretary, Jean Reynolds, as soon as possible.

**THIS IS YOUR LAND! KEEP IT CLEAN!**

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

MIDWEST SCHEDULES  
SHOWS THROUGH 1980

The MWF has now completed the schedule of cities hosting its annual shows and conventions through 1980 according to Convention and Show chairman Leo Yanasak.

Next year, 1977, the show will be held in Dayton, Ohio followed in 1978 with a show in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Then in 1979 a return to Ohio with a show in Columbus. The 1980 show and convention will be the combined Midwest and American Federation show and will be held in Evansville, Indiana.

THE UNIFORM RULES CHANGES listed below on the bottom of this page are now in effect. This portion may be cut off and placed in your Uniform Rules Booklet. Additional copies of this page are available from the Director of Supplies, Clinton Heckert, 725 Stewart St., Elgin, Ill. 60120.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

P.O. Box 1130, used for many years as the mailing address for the Newsletter has been discontinued. Please send all news, articles, subscription orders and request for information concerning publication to Haydon Peterson, c/o Parrot Printing Service, 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines, Ia. 50311.

DETROIT SHOW IN 1975  
NETS OVER \$6,000 FOR MWF

The MWF share of the proceeds of the Detroit show in 1975 was \$6,210.14.

FALL EXECUTIVE MEETING DATE SET

The Executive Committee will have its fall meeting on Saturday, Oct. 31 at Bloomington, Ill. New officers will be installed at that time.

CORRECTIONS FOR SUPPLEMENTAL EDITION (1975) OF THE AFMS UNIFORM RULES

SUPPLEMENTAL  
PAGE NO.

CORRECTION

- 2 Add to point category N-R-5
- 2 Rule 7.1 change work to word
- 3 4th paragraph should read 7.1 (3). 5th paragraph should read 7.1 (3) (b)
- 4 BS-5X should read all lead minerals
- 5 Line 3, a comma is missing between calcite and wulfenite
- 6 Next to bottom line 'i.e.' for 'e.g.'
- 7 Add: 11.1 (C) (4) Fluorescent response (color). Color name shall not be judged.
- 9 12.1 (a) (2) insert 'Cabochons and' at the beginning of sentence
- 10 5th line from bottom of page 'i.e.' for 'e.g.'
- 11 Rule 0.3 remove comma after matte
- 11 Rule 0.5 correct spelling of exhibitor
- 11 CA-1, Small c should be (C) for category
- 12 Rule 13.2 correct number to (40)
- 12 Rule 17.4 add s to technique
- 14 Rule 19.a Example should read "Phacops rana or Phacops Rana." (Underlined separately or italicized.)
- 17 Next Example should be 'Achistrum sp. or Achistrum sp.'
- 21 Class F-5 change scoring class from (D) to (K)
- Trophy XI FOSSILS should read Classes F-1 through F-10; FC-1 through FC-2

RULINGS BY AFMS URC CHAIRMAN — MAY 1976

Class D-4 'Jewelry without stones.' (Page 26 in rules book)

Points for judging this class

- Showmanship . . . . . 15
- Variety of Work . . . . . 20
- Workmanship . . . . . 40
- Originality of Design . . . . . 25

Permanent change would require this new scoring category to be added on page 11 and 26 and change the scoring category reference in description of Class D-4 S-15; VW-20; W-40; OD-25

Class CA-4 Diorama-a three dimensional scene using a carved object.

Points for judging this class should be (c) when showing one piece or object

- Labeling . . . . . 5
- Showmanship . . . . . 15
- Quality . . . . . 15
- Workmanship . . . . . 65

Use O Category for points as stated in the supplement (page 11) for CA-4 when using a Diorama-a three dimensional scene using carved objects.