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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

THE ROCKFINDER

APR 1977

MICHIANA ROCK & GEM CLUB, INC.

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.
Fourth Sunday of Each Month
June - Field Trip Meeting
July - No Meeting
August - Annual Picnic

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

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.

THE ROCKFINDER

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 4 APRIL 1977
Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc. South Bend, Indiana

Regular Meeting:

April 24, 1977

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

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

Program: Business Meeting
Program by Mr. Larry Wright on Rock Painting and Sand Painting

Hospitality:
John & Juanita Tetzlaff
Leota & Joe Joachim
Olive & Alby Sammons

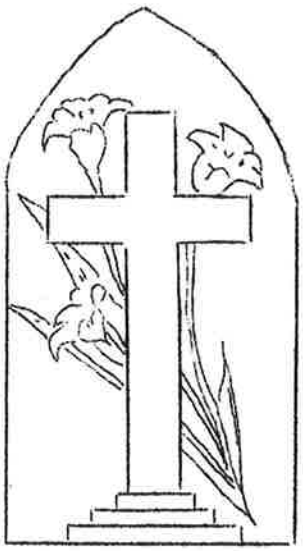
Educational Meetings:

Time: 7:00 PM, EST

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

Program: Friday, April 22, 1977
How to make a cabochon. There will be demonstrations and discussions.

Program: Friday, May 13, 1977
A class to learn to make a wire-wrapped tree by Rev. Lawrence Calhoun. He will furnish pot, wire, stones and everything necessary to complete a tree. Cost $12.00 each. Call S.Russell to sign up by May 6th (289-7446) so materials can be purchased.



HAPPY EASTER

Calendar

May 1	Bus trip to Chicago - King Tut Exhibit. Leave So.Bend at 7:30 A.M., First Bank, Cleveland Rd. & U.S.31 No. Adults $3.60 Child $2.00, bring sack lunch, evening meal at Bonanza. Mail checks to Marie Bybee, 17651 Bryan St., South Bend 46635.
April 15-17	St.Joseph Valley Rock Hounds Show, Pierre Moran Mall, Elkhart
April 16-17	Peru YMCA rocks & minerals Society Show, Peru, Indiana
May 7-8	Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society Show, Kalamazoo, Michigan

FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER

Hi to one and all. Hope all of you had a nice Easter, and that the Easter Bunny was good to all.

Boy, it sure was great to see so many members at our Friday night Education Meeting. Margaret deserves a lot of credit for doing a great job on the fossil program. All who were there learned something about fossils that they did not know before.

Talking about a great turnout, how about the Sunday Meeting, 66 Club Members and 10 visitors. It was sure great. A wonderful sight to see so many members we haven't seen for a while. It sure would be nice to double that this month.

SPECIAL ATTENTION EDITOR FRED: ON BEHALF OF ALL THE CLUB MEMBERS, WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND YOUR BRIDE TO BE ON APRIL 16th, AND BEST WISHES FROM US ALL.

Elza, I say Thank You. All of the Club Members will support and help you with our show theme, so please let us know what you need. I'm working on the Donkey for you. Say, Doris, your suggestion for dressing in the Western style for our show was great. If we all check around the house, we can find something Western-looking to wear. The fliers for our Show are ready and we'll have them at our April meeting. It just came to me that time is getting short. Do you know that counting the month of April, our Show is only 5 months away! You know we need to start planning our displays for this years' Show, if we start now, we'll be ready for the big days in September. The Heineks have agreed to handle the special displays for our Show. If you have any suggestions for special displays, please let them know.

A special thanks to Marie and Bill for a job well done in getting the Bus Trip going so well. It's true that Bill started it, but he got Marie to be his secretary. If you haven't paid for your seat on the bus, hurry up or you might miss

From Your Rocky Leader (Con't)

the bus. All payments for the bus trip must be in by the 22nd of April.

Don't forget about the request for the materials we need for the silent auction, grab bags, and kiddies games. The sooner we get this material in the better off we'll be and the less we will have to do later.

Ah yes, it's out to the shop and start sorting for the Show. You never know what little "GEM" hides here and there in your shop.

Hope to see all of you on the 4th Friday and the 4th Sunday. A bit of advise, easy on the Easter goodies, and once again HAPPY EASTER guys and gals.

Your Rocky Leader,

Jim

Directory Corrections

Some how we always come up with corrections to the directory each year. This year is no exception. Please make the following changes in your copy of the club directory:

1. Bybee, Marie
   Change name of street from Byron to BRYAN

2. Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Delton
   Cross out the second line reading R. #7 Box 422 and insert 57021 R. 7 CR 13 SOUTH.

3. Shoemaker, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald
   Cross out 1833 Winston Drive & insert 17650 Briarcliff Ct.
   Change phone number to 277-3227

4. Add the following:
   Stemm, Mr. & Mrs. Wayne (Betty)
   221 E. Irvington Street
   South Bend, Indiana 46614
   288-1566

Editor

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Minutes of The March Meeting

The Michiana Rock and Gem Club met on March 27, 1977, at the Rum Village Nature Center. The meeting was called to order by President Jim Russell. Minutes of the February meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read and filed for audit.

Sunshine - Pauline sent cards to Jimmy Russell, Fred Niebauer and Elza Brockenhamer.

Safety - Joe showed a safety shield that could be used instead of safety glasses. It is very light in weight. Joe got his at Sear's for about $5.00.

Business - Congratulations to the winner for the show theme "Rockhound Roundup" who was Sherry Russell. The President thanked everyone who helped with the bank display. It was a big success and we plan on doing it again next year. Fred and Elza worked very hard putting it together. We have our new directory thanks to Fred again. The Board has agreed to leave the price of the Show donation the same this year as it was last year. The only change this year is Senior Citizens will get in free to the Show. Also we are working on a way to try to get some of the patients who can get from nursing homes to the Show. These people don't get out very often and everyone at the meeting was in agreement. Several people volunteered to help.

Carlton Pletcher, seconded by Fred Niebauer, made a motion for the Club to increase from $100.00 to $125.00 for the delegate to represent us at the Midwest Federation Show. Motion carried.

Anyone who wishes to attend this year, Jim has a lot of information on the campgrounds and motels. He'll be glad to pass it on. See him or give him a call.

Program - Thanks to Clarence Finley for his demonstration on wire wrapping.

A nice display of wire wrapped trees was shown by Rev. Lawrence Calhoun.

Minutes (continued)

Prizes were won by Germaine Lifke, Wayne Stemm and Joe Kytta.

The meeting was adjourned after the program and refreshments were served.

Attendance: Members 66
Visitors 10

Betty Jordan, Secretary

Our Visitors

At our March meeting we were pleased to have with us as visitors the following:

Cora Belle McConnell
G. Robert McConnell
Mildred Williams
Frank Griffin
Leo Gilligan
Wayne Stemm
Betty Stemm
Todd Lacy
Vivian Finley

Clarence Finley, who presented a very fine program on wire wrapping

We also welcomed back as members Betty and Wayne Stemm who were former members.

The Mystery Rock

It all started about 35 to 40 years ago, as told to me by Catherine Grayckowski. She and Frank had a relative living in Michigan and he worked for the Milwaukee Railroad (in the yards). One day he was shoveling coal into the coal tender when he picked up in his shovel a 6" square piece, that was very heavy, too heavy for it's size. It was a slate grey color. So he set it aside to take home. It made a good rock to hold the chicken coop door shut with. (The rock weighed 40 pounds) Twelve years ago Katie and Frank told him that they sure would like to have that rock. He gave it to them and they brought it to Indiana.

For 12 years we would look at it and wonder what it was. Why was it so heavy? How did it get so square? You could see that at one time it had been very hot and in a

(Continued on Page 4)

The Mystery Rock (Con't. from Page 3)

molten state. Could it be a meteorite? No--no meteorite would be square. It never rusted in all these years. It just stayed slate grey in color never changing.

One day Katie, a guest from California and I were in Katie's garage cutting stone and looking at Katie's many rocks. The conversation turned to that rock again, we hauled it out and looked it over running our hands over it's smooth surface - turning it over and lifting it looking for some clue to it's identity. Then -- I saw the sledge hammer, I picked it up and said "Well here goes". Poor Katie - she almost had heart failure! But I chipped off a corner in small pieces - that was one tough rock. We all took a piece. It was shiny and silvery looking on the inside. In a week it turned gold color like pyrite.

When I got home I ran some tests and I still didn't know what it was. I decided to take it to Bloomington with me.

Gigi (my granddaughter) and I headed for the Geology Department at Indiana University to see Mr. Rarick (one of our fine State Geologists). He looked at it and talked about it for a while. Then he said the boys are still upstairs in the lab and he took it up there to see what they had to say about it. They asked me to leave the piece so they could run some tests. I left the piece and came home.

A few weeks went by and it was time for me to return to Bloomington. I hoped that I could get over to the Geology Department and find out about that rock. Although I stayed a month, I just couldn't get over there. I had to return home and I still didn't know about that rock.

I gathered up my mail as soon as I got home and - joy of joy - there was a letter from Mr. Rarick. I dumped the rest of the mail on the

The Mystery Rock (Continued)

table and opened that letter. The mystery was solved. The letter said, --

The report on the specimen you brought in for identification aroused quite a bit of curiosity among several people in our analytical labs.

Its appearance was one that seemed that it should be one of the sulfides -- copper, iron and sulfur-like chalcopyrite, for example. In fact, one of the graduate students working in the lab thought it might be a copper arsenite. They finally ran it through optical emission spectroscopy and found it to be merely a ferromanganese, a material used in steel alloying. Not knowing where your friend found it doesn't help. (I really should have told him more about the rock.) The letter continued - If it was along a highway or railroad, it might have been lost off a truck or railroad car during shipment.

In combining the iron and manganese, some of the physical properties of both are changed. The iron is no longer magnetic, for example.

Thanks to Mr. Rarick and the people at Indiana University Office of Educational Services the mystery of the Mystery rock has been solved.

That rock has given us many years of pleasure trying to guess what it was.

In the past we have found fluorite, agate, silicon carbide and colorful slag glass (from the fireboxes of the old steam engines) and of course coal along the railroad tracks.

Katie is going to bring the Mystery Rock to the next meeting so we can all see it again.

Well - Let's see now - Wonder what will be next ??

Elza Brockenhammer

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

MID WEST FEDERATION

April 1977 - Issue No. 174

SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON JUNIORS AT NATIONAL SHOW

The Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society, host club to the combined American and Northwest Federation show, August 18-21 in Ogden, Utah is placing special emphasis on juniors in the rock and mineral hobby.

They have developed in conjunction with Weber State College of Ogden a special program for juniors as they feel junior members are very important to the hobby and should be encouraged to attend, exhibit and participate on a National level.

Arrangements have been made to use the Promontory Towers building on the college campus to house junior societies or junior contingents of other societies and their escorts who will attend the Ogden show in conducted groups. A package cost of $45.00 for each person has been established and this cost will include five nights lodging (August 17-21), twelve meals, three each day (August 18-21).

Junior groups interested should write Mary Bybee Junior Program Chairman, 1054 Cross Street, Ogden, Utah, 84404 for additional information and reservation forms.

MICHIGAN DIRECTORS MEET

The first Saturday of February has become the permanent date for the MWF Michigan Directors to hold their annual meeting. In spite of the severe winter, sixteen people gathered at the home of Harold and Arline Buehler in Saginaw on Saturday, February 5th.

Continuing a precedent established several years ago, the discussion proved to both educational and satisfying to the participants, who bring together the problems, opinions, and goals from various parts of the State.

The main topic this year was the letter from Mark Harris, Chairman of the Long-Range Planning Committee, asking for advice on several subjects. Thus, when the Michigan State Director replies to this important document, it will, in fact, be the combined product of the Michigan State Organization from as far as delegates were able to attend.

THREE NEW PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Three new publication are becoming available to Midwest Federation clubs and members. The 1977 Directory, the Uniform Rules book and "How to Make and Present A Slide Program."

The slide publication can be a great benefit to those who want to enter the AFMS Slide Contest, as well as to anyone who wants to put together a slide program on any subject.

The season for shows in the Midwest is getting into full swing, so that the new Uniform Rules Book is a must to help you setup an attractive, interesting and educational display for the show visitors to see, enjoy and learn from.

For everyone to get the best from their hobby the 1977 Midwest Directory can be an immense help. Use it to the fullest for new contracts, new friends and new discoveries. Copies of these publications are being sent to all clubs.

Copies of these publications are being sent to all clubs. Individuals may purchase copies for their personal use from the Midwest Director of Supplies, Clinton Heckert, 725 Stewart Ave., Elgin, Ill. 60120.

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

New programs

Film Library Chairman, Donald Stinnett, announces two new slide programs are now ready for booking by our member clubs.

Education Chairman, Roger Fabian, has provided us with a program on "Nebraska's Invertebrate Fossils." We all know Nebraska for the Mammoths and camels found there and now we can learn about the others. This program has 138 color slides and many may want to have notebooks with them to record the fascinating information the slides provide.

Those who subscribe to Lapidary Journal may have read about Maynard Green's showing of the slides on Lake Superior agates at the St. Louis show. Maynard has donated this fine program to the Midwest titled "Lake Superior Agates."

The Midwest thanks Roger Fabian and Maynard Green for these excellent additions to the Film Library .

All requests for these programs should be sent to E. Donald Stinnett, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, Michigan 48134.

Three programs have been removed from service due to their damaged condition and should not be ordered. They are No. 9, "Our Igneous Rocks," No. 10, "Our Sedimentary Rocks," and No. 11, "Our Metamorphic Rocks."

PUBLIC LAW 94-579 AND THE BLM

Your freedoms are disappearing

by Barbara Rich, Reno Gem and Mineral Society, Reno, Nevada

On October 21, 1976, Public Law 94-579, Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, was passed by Congress. The Bureau of Land Management, who under the Act has the authority to administer the Act, immediately began formulating and publishing, in the Federal Register, various rules and regulations, supposedly to enforce the Act.

One regulation proposed is the right of search and seizure of private vehicles by BLM-appointed persons of authority on public land with or without probable cause. This action may take place even without a signed judicial warrant. It should be noted even the FBI does not have this authority.

Another regulation published January 27, 1977 in the Federal Register sets out standard permits and fees for users of NATIONAL RESOURCES LANDS (Note - no longer PUBLIC LANDS.) It gives a MINIMUM charge of $1.00 for each permit, with no limit set - - next year $5.00?, the next year $10.00?, and so on - - who knows where it may end? Or, we may be deprived of access to the public lands entirely.

On January 29, 1977, several members of the Reno Gem and Mineral Society, attended a meeting held in Reno with Congressman James Santini (D-Nev.), sponsor of the Act, to voice their concern over the proposed rules and regulations. Mr. Santini emphasized most of the rules and regulations as proposed by the BLM in reality are contrary to the intent of the Act as passed. There is at this time a Senate investigation being conducted concerning the interpretation of the Act by the BLM.

All users of the public lands - - 4 - Wheelers, cattlemen, mining companies, small miners and prospectors, hunters, Audubon Societies, etc. - - must band together to limit the authority of the BLM and require justification of rules and regulations proposed prior to their enforcement. Because 86% of Nevada is public land, rockhounds living in Reno are more aware of the dangers of such creeping bureaucracy. We are losing our freedom and in losing this freedom, we are observing another irresponsible action by a constantly growing Federal Bureaucracy.

Our hobby of rockhounding and mineral collecting is in grave danger. The only way to combat this danger is to urge all members of Gem and Mineral Societies throughout the United States to write to their Senators and Congressmen -- get a copy of the Act as passed -- and contact the local BLM Office in your area for copies of all rules and regulations proposed. Let your voices be heard in protest - - attend public hearings - - find out what your government is doing TO you (not FOR you.) Without positive action on the part of rockhounds, and all outdoors people, our freedoms are infringed upon and the rockhounding hobby will be eliminated.

BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL CLUB

We have been advised that the information supplied us as to the president and sponsor of the Geology Society of Brunswick High School, Brunswick, Ohio was incorrect. The club president is Kevin DeMoss and the adult sponsor is R. W. Fabich.

AFMS SCHOLARSHIP GRANT FOR MIDWEST

by Russell P. MacFall

The Midwest Federation's Scholarship Award under the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Scholarship Foundation program is Dr. Fritiof M. Fryxell, nationally known retired professor of geology at Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill. Dr. Fryxell has been curator of the Fryxell Geology Museum at the college since his retirement.

The award winner, a native of Moline, Ill., was graduated from Augustana College in 1922 and took his master's degree at the University of Illinois and his doctorate in geology at the University of Chicago. He joined the faculty of his alma mater in 1923, and after being chairman of geology and of the division of sciences for many years he retired in 1968. More than 50 of his former students have gone on to earn the Ph.D. degree in geology.

As a summer employee of the National Park Service he was instrumental in the founding of Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming. During World War II he was assistant chief of the Military Geology Unit of the U.S. Geological Survey and was assigned in 1944 to provide terrain intelligence to General MacArthur in the Philippines.

Dr. Fryxell was first president of the National Association of Geology Teachers. He has been honored with doctorates from several colleges and is the author of a number of articles and books on the national parks and of 21 articles in the Encyclopedia Britannica. Lake Fryxell in the Antarctic was named in his honor.

As recipient of the Scholarship award, Dr. Fryxell will choose a student to do graduate work in some branch of the earth sciences under a $1,000 award from the Scholarship Foundation, an award that is renewable for a second year.

Dr. Paul B. Moore of the University of Chicago, 1976 Award winner, will select the scholar to receive the "wild card" grant provided for the Midwest Foundation by the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

COMBINED CHICAGOLAND MEMORIAL DAY SHOW PLANS PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE

In spite of subzero weather and arctic snow, preparations for the Memorial Day weekend combined show near Chicago are proceeding on schedule. Mrs. June Culp Zeitner will be there to lecture and to show her Bicentennial tiara of gemstones from all the states. The archeologists of Northwestern University will bring a comprehensive exhibit of material from the famous Koster site in central Illinois where they have dug down through 8,000 years of Indian civilization; and the Field Museum of Natural History will make one of its rare appearances at a non-professional show with displays of rare fossils from its collections, including many from New York state.

The Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Arts will show some of its recent acquisitions, and a number of special displays from the seven participating clubs and from other persons and clubs in the Midwest have been promised.

The show will be held at the DuPage County fairgrounds west of Chicago on May 28, 29 and 30. Persons interested in exhibiting or seeking information, should write or call M. C. McMahan, show chairman, at 1220 W. Henderson St., Chicago, Illinois, 60657, phone number 312-549-3612.