

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

# THE ROCKFINDER

NOV 1977



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.  
1977 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President....	James F. Russell	27911 North St., No. Liberty, Ind.	46551
Vice Pres....	Joseph Charles	26863 New Rd., No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Secretary....	Betty Jordan	16705 Eisenhower Dr., Mish., Ind.	46544
Treasurer....	Merl Lechlitner	1409 Penn Ave., Mish., Ind.	46544
Liaison.....	Molly Elwell	105 N. Ironwood Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46615
Past Pres....	George E. Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Program.....	Joe Charles	26863 New Rd., No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Hospitality..	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 Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Historian....	Bess Wise	1513 Clarendon Ave., Niles, Mich.	49120
Field Trips..	Bill Crull	728 Broadway, Apt. 2A, Niles, Mich.	49120
Safety.....	Joe Coyner	4124 Cottage St., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Sunshine.....	Pauline Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Scholarship..	Catherine Grayckowski	1111 No. Huey St., So. Bend, Ind.	46628
Display.....	Jess Wise	1513 Clarendon Ave., Niles, Mich.	49120
Publicity....	Sherry Russell	27911 North St., No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Membership...	Russ Randolph	19797 Detroit St., So. Bend, Ind.	46614

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

# THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 17  
Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc.

Number 9

November 1977  
South Bend, Indiana

## Regular Meeting:

November 27, 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

Sand Art and Sand Painting  
Demonstration.

## Hospitality:

Mary Miller  
Victor & Avanelle Reamer  
Gerald & Christine Shoemaker

## Educational Meetings:

Time: 7:00 PM, EST

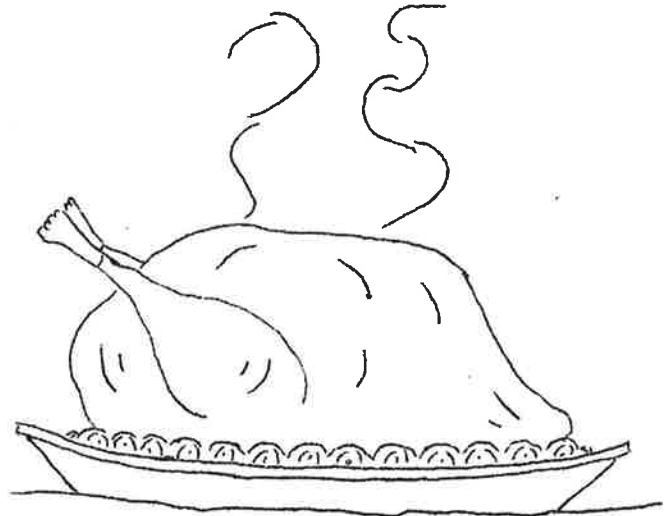
Place: First Bank Basement, corner  
U.S. 31 North & Cleveland  
Road, South Bend, Indiana

## Program:

Friday, November 25, 1977  
Trip to Alaska by  
Lucy Miller

## Program:

Friday, December 9, 1977  
Zipology  
Bring old steel zippers,  
flat polished stones,  
Elmers glue & scissors.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Christmas Party - Dec. 18, 1977

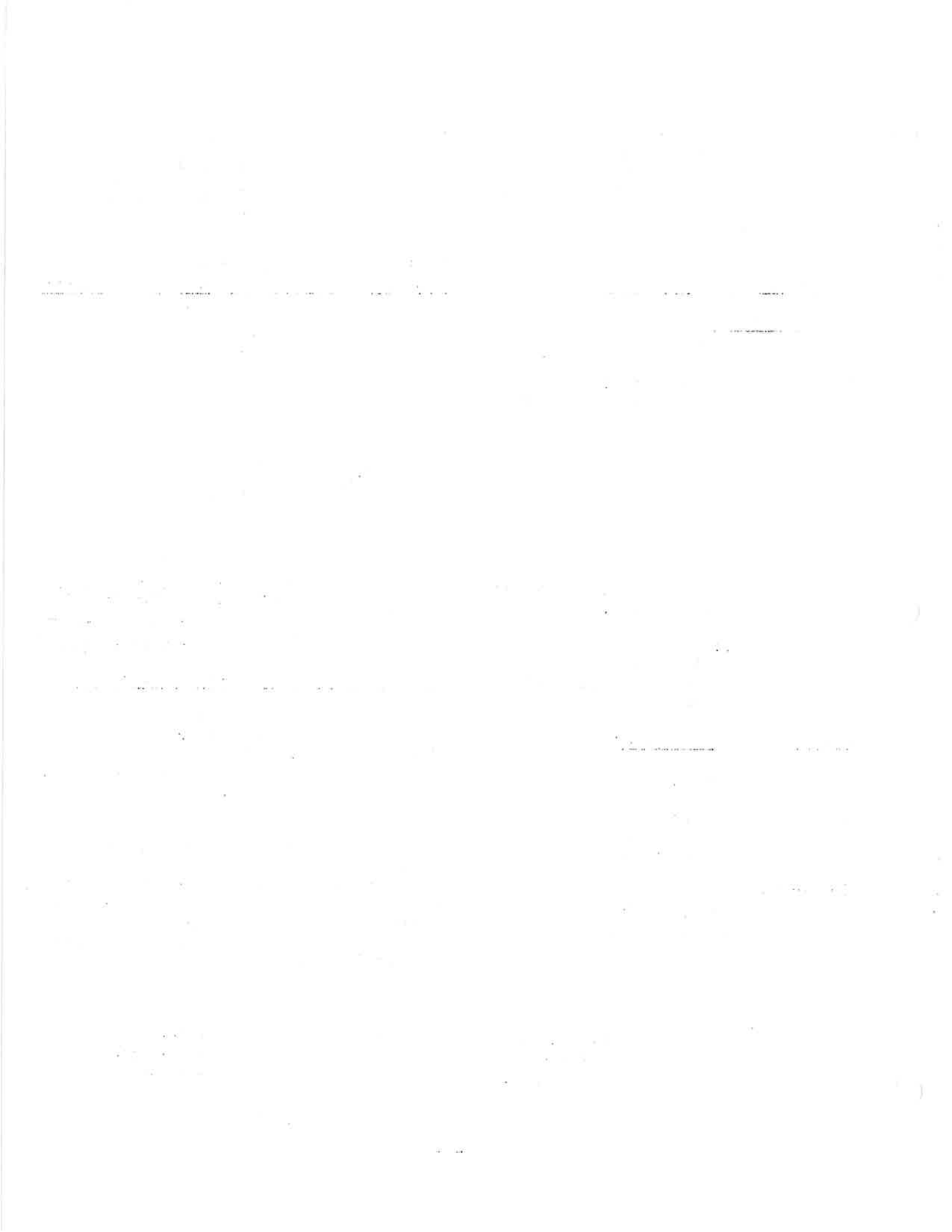
Our Christmas Party and meeting  
is at Pin Hook Park Pavilion in  
South Bend.

Social Hour from 12:30 to 1:30  
Dinner at 1:30 PM, EST

The meat, drink, rolls and  
butter will be furnished by the  
club. Each family is to bring one  
dish for each two persons and their  
own table service. Also bring a  
wrapped gift for each member of  
your family and guest to be used  
for Rocko prizes.

For reservations call:

289-7446	255-6153
256-0704	232-6849
272-4834	656-8260



FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER

HI there all you Turkey-eating Rockhounds. Happy Thanksgiving to one and all. Don't over eat on that big day.

Looking back over the year we have a lot to be thankful for as a Club and as individuals. We have had good field trips, a great show, good attendance at our meetings, and most of all a lot of fun seeing, visiting and helping one another. The one thing that I am most thankful for is the 100% cooperation that I have received from the Board Members and all of you Club Members.

Plans are being made for our annual Christmas Party. As always the Club will furnish the meat, being Beef and Ham, drinks, rolls and butter. We will be playing our favorite game of Rocko, with a few surprises tossed in. At our meeting we will have a sign-up sheet for you to make reservations. We will need to know how many members and guests will be attending. The Board is asking that for every two people attending that you bring either a vegetable dish, salad dish or a dessert dish. Also you must bring your own table service. If you cannot attend the meeting, Board Members will be contacting you or call one of the phone numbers listed on Page I. Also we request that you bring one nice wrapped gift, something that you would like to receive, for our Rocko Game, per person attending. Almost forgot we will have our Social Hour from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM and start eating at 1:30 PM. A short meeting will be held after we eat.

Plans are getting under way for our 1978 Rock and Gem Show. The date has been selected for September 9 & 10. We have also started planning the 1979 Show.

Speaking of plans, I know many of our club members will be heading out for the winter months. We hope that you enjoy yourselves, have successful rock hunting trips, but please drop us a card so that we know what's going on where you're at.

FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER (CONTINUED)

Remember November is election time. Let's have a 100% turn out this month.

See you the 4th Sunday and December 18th for the Christmas Party.

Your Rocky Leader,  
Jim

LARGEST GRANITE QUARRY IN U.S.  
OPEN TO PUBLIC

Rock of Ages Granite Quarry at Barre, Vt., is the nation's largest. It is 350 feet deep and one of a number of quarries in Millstone Hill

Visitors, always welcome, can see huge blocks of granite being quarried there. They can also watch skilled workmen at Barre saw, polish and carve granite in the largest stone-finishing plant in the world. Vermont granite is widely used in making tombstones and monuments. It is also a durable building material.

Map-reading armchair tourists can find Barre on the Winooski River six miles southeast of Montpelier, the state capital, in Central Vermont. From Grit  
Submitted by Lucy Miller

Patching Pits & Cracks

Some soft stones such as malachite, azurite, etc. can be patched to fill small pits & cracks by taking a scrap of the material to be patched, crushing it and mixing with epoxy. Clean stone thoroughly with alcohol, warm and coat pits or cracks with epoxy, then fill pit with the mixture of epoxy and the powdered stone, working it in well with a toothpick or pin leaving it a little above the surface of the stone. Let it cure completely, sand wet and polish, using care not to get the stone hot in sanding or polishing.

Jack West Via The Rockytier

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Hong Kong jewel dealers have been selling American tourists "Korean Emeralds" for \$100.00 a carat and up. It turns out that the emeralds are not beryl but quartz, and the green color is a dye job. From AFMS Newsletter





Minutes of the October Meeting

The Michiana Rock and Gem Club met October 23, 1977 at the Rum Village Nature Center, South Bend, Ind. President Jim Russell called the meeting to order. Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved. Treasurers report was read and approved for audit.

Fred Niebauer made a report for the committee in finding a place for us to have our Show in 1979. After Fred named three different places, Irene Ungurait made a motion, seconded by Frank Elwell to have our show at the Notre Dame A.C.C. There will be plenty of camping and parking space.

New Business - Motion was made to make a donation again this year to the Nature Center. Fran thanked the club for last year's donation. The Center bought 19 new books to place in their library. Fran will let members know what the Center can use this year at our November meeting. Merl Lechlitner volunteered to take charge of seeing that cases will be built for the rock show in 1978. Merl will be asking for volunteers to help out at a later date.

Nominating committee Max Cripe, Catherine and Larry McHugh announced the officers running for office for 1978. Nominees are:

President	James Russell
Vice President	Merl Lechlitner
Secretary	Betty Jordan
Treasurer	Christine Shoemaker
Liaison	Molly Elwell

President Russell asked the club members how they felt about making a bid to have the Midwest Federation Show here. After discussion, the members were in agreement that we could do it. Motion was made by Frank Elwell, seconded by Dewey Hassler, motion was carried. A bid will be made for the year of 1981 or 1982.

Door prizes were won by Jerry Shoemaker, Bruce Cogswell, Helene Cripe.

Minutes (Continued)

Attendance - 46 members. Motion was made to adjourn by Sherry Russell, seconded by Kathy Miller.  
Secretary,  
Betty Jordan

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Of all the jobs a club has, perhaps the most difficult, for many at least is how to get good publicity.

The club wants to promote a good image, to attract bigger crowds to its shows, to achieve community recognition. Many times this is indeed difficult. But it is not impossible. Each club should have a publicity/public relations chairman without a "can't" in his or her vocabulary, and these chairmen should get together and exchange ideas.

From AFMS Newsletter

Types of Opal

**HARLEQUIN** - Looks like the costume of a clown. One of the rarest and most valuable of all precious opals.

**BROADFLASH** - Pattern with a flash of color that is small or covers the whole face of the stone. Very valuable.

**PINFIRE** - Looks like the head or point of a pin. Common.

**CLOUDY** - Like a mist of clouds which has fire permeating the clouds.

Spencer, Idaho, opal is the only known variety with this effect.

**JELLY** - Transparent with any of the descriptions of fire. Very valuable.

**TURTLE** - Irregular shapes arranged like the pattern of a turtle's back.

Usually blue and orange in color. Spencer opal the only known occurrence of this opal.

**PINK BASE** - Pink bodied opal occurs in the upper part of the mine, contains all the descriptions of fire.

From "Opal Land USA", via Little Gem and Crystal Gazette





Curse of The Hope Diamond, Blamed  
For 13 Deaths, Is Just "Bunk"

By John Blackburn

The fabled curse of the fabulous Hope Diamond is just "bunk" declares a writer who for the past 18 years has traced the precious gem's bloody, 300-year trail.

"Legends about its incredible bad luck were fabricated for publicity purposes," claimed Susanne Steinem Patch, whose detailed history of the  $44\frac{1}{2}$ -carat blue diamond will soon be published by the prestigious Smithsonian Institution.

The dazzling stone has been blamed for at least 13 deaths since it was supposedly stolen from an idol in a Burmese temple.

And one of the first owners, Parisian gem merchant Jean Baptiste Tavernier, is said to have been torn apart by vicious dogs shortly after he sold the diamond to French King Louis XIV in 1668.

"Actually, he died a natural death at the ripe old age of 83", Mrs. Patch said.

"It's also been claimed that a court official under Louis XIV was executed after wearing the Hope Diamond to a ball in 1661. But Louis didn't own it until 7 years later!"

Mrs. Patch said the gem - one of the largest and most beautiful in the world, valued at \$3 million today - was "just another expensive bauble until Jacques Cartier, a famous Paris jeweler, wanted to sell it in 1911 to a wealthy Washington, D.C., socialite, Evalyn McLean.

"Knowing that Mrs. McLean believed that what was bad luck for others was good luck for her, he told her - and the press - a lot of romantic tales about the diamond.

"It worked - she bought the stone for \$154,000, an astronomical sum in those days. But Cartier's stories were just a lot of bunk."

After Mrs. McLean died in 1947, the glittering gem was bought by a New York jeweler, Harry Winston.

Curse of the Hope Diamond (Con't)

"During the nine years he owned it," Mrs. Patch observed, "the Hope Diamond was used to raise millions of dollars for charity. How can a jewel be evil when it's done so much good?"

For the last 18 years, the Smithsonian has owned the Hope Diamond.

From The National Enquirer  
Submitted by Bill Crull

1978 DUES

1978 Dues are coming due. Please pay the Treasurer at the Christmas Party, or he will take your money before that if you wish.

Also we will be handling the subscriptions the same as we have in the past.

Make A Funnel

If you don't like to use your kitchen funnel for "basement" work, make your own by cutting plastic jugs in half. The top may be used for a funnel (with a handle!) and the bottom for washing rocks, storing rocks, and for washing paint brushes.

The Pterodactyl via Elkrock News

Instinct

Watching a television program on baboons, it showed that they hunted for insects under rocks, and that they instinctively lifted or rolled the rocks toward them, just in case there were snakes under the rock.

Maybe rockhounds could take the hint from the experienced.

From Gem City Rock News

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# 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

November 1977 - Issue No. 179

*Here are your 1978 Midwest Federation Officers*

## ***Your new Midwest President is Paul Good***

The advancement program that the Midwest Federation promotes will enable the Midwest to again in 1978 to be lead by an experienced set of offic

The advancement program that the Midwest Federation promotes will enable the Midwest to again in 1978 to be lead by an experienced set of officers. This program moves the second vice president into the first vice president position and then to president.

The 1978 president is Paul Good, Griffith, Indiana. Paul is well qualified for the position of Midwest president. He has served on the Bulletin Editors committee and showed outstanding leadership in this field. He served as president of his local club and as show chairman for local shows. Paul is an expeditor for a large manufacturing plant.

First vice president of the Midwest for 1978 is Mrs. Betty Crawford, Mansfield, Ohio. Betty has had experience in Midwest procedures and is very well qualified for the position of first vice president. She was Uniform Rules Committee chairman during 1976.

Second vice president is Mrs. Bernice McCloskey, Elm Grove, Wisconsin. Bernice was Treasurer of the Midwest for four years and has served as State Director for Wisconsin. She is a member and past President of the Kettle Moraine Geological Society.

Miss Jean Reynolds continues as secretary of the Midwest for 1978. She has served the Midwest in this capacity for eleven years. Jean lives with her mother in Clarendon Hills, Illinois and has been with the Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago for 32 years. She is a senior cost accountant, and is a graduate of Northwestern University.

A new treasurer for the Midwest for 1978 is Otto Ensminger, Lombard, Illinois. Otto is a member of ESCONI and is the current president of the club. He has served his club at all levels and is always a willing worker. He is presently treasurer of the Chicagoland Gem and Mineral group. Otto is a retired junior high school teacher and a retired naval officer.



*Paul Good*

### **CB CHANNEL 7 FOR ROCKHOUNDS**

Rockhounds in the west have been using CB Channel 7 for quite some time to keep in touch with each other. At the National show in Ogden, Utah last August Mrs. Henry Bonar, Odessa, Florida, past president of the Eastern Federation suggested that rockhounds in other parts of the country use Channel 7 much as the truckers now use Channel 19.

The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) does not make official exclusive designation to groups for use of any of the 40 channels, but any group is free to use a chan-

nel in this manner if desired. Only exception is the emergency Channel 9.

### **FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION SEEKS CHANGE**

The Federal Trade Commission is seeking to change the customary standards and nomenclature of gold and silver jewelry. One amendment would allow manufacturers to use the term "gold" in describing any gold alloy which has at least 1k or 4% gold. The other proposal would allow anything with silver in it to be called "silver" if the percentage is stamped on each item.

1978 MWF SHOW AND CONVENTION - CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA - AUGUST 10-13, 1978

# Your 1978 Regional Show Schedule

Here are the dates and locations of the six Regional Shows in 1978. Note that the National Show and Convention will be held in Pleasanton, California in conjunction with the California Federation.

CALIFORNIA <i>National Show</i>	EASTERN	MIDWEST	NORTHWEST	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	SOUTH CENTRAL
Pleasanton, Ca. July 27-30	Newcastle, Pa. July 7-9	Cedar Rapids, Iowa August 10-13	Monroe, Wa. July 14-16	Colorado Springs, Colorado June 9-11	New Orleans, La. March 31, April 1-2

## COMPLETE LIST OF ALL AMERICAN AWARD WINNERS FOR 1977

Here is a complete list of the Midwest clubs participating in the AFMS All American Awards for 1977. The Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society, Lansing, Mich. was the First Place winner in the Midwest.

**MICHIGAN:** Cass River Gem & Mineral Society, Caro; Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club, Holland; Roamin Club, Detroit; Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society, Dearborn; Michigan Gem & Mineral Society, Jackson; Waterford Gem & Mineral Society, Pontiac; Copper Country Rock & Mineral Club, Calumet; Clare Rock & Mineral Club, Mt. Pleasant; Blue Water Lapidary Society, Pt. Huron; Muskegon County Rock & Mineral Association, Muskegon; C.A.I. Family Lapidary Club, Drayton Plains; Flint Rock & Gem Club, Flint; Livingston Gem & Mineral Society, Howell; Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society, Kalamazoo; Rock Exchange Club, Garden City; Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society, Lansing; Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society, St. Joseph; Grand Rapids Mineral Society, Grand Rapids.

**OHIO:** Euclid Lapidary & Mineral Society, Euclid; Boehm Geology Club, Berea; Stonelick Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Loveland; Parma Lapidary Club, Parma; Brunswick High School Geology Club, Brunswick; Cincinnati Mineral Society, Cincinnati; Lake Erie Gem & Geological Society, Oberlin; Fairview Park Lapidary Society, Fairview Park; Ft. Hamilton Gem and Mineral Society, Hamilton; Heights Gem & Mineral Society, Shaker Heights; West Central Ohio Rock Club, Lima.

**IOWA:** Cedar Valley Rock & Mineral Society, Cedar Rapids; Madison County Rockhounds, Winterset; Blackhawk Gem & Mineral Society, Waterloo; North Iowa Rock & Gem Club, Mason City; Storm Lake Area Rockhounds, Storm Lake; Des Moines Lapidary Society, Des Moines; Mid Iowa Rock Club, Marshalltown; Nishna Valley Rock Club, Atlantic; Dallas County Rock Club, Adel; Old Capitol Geological Society, Iowa City.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Sioux Falls Gem & Mineral Society, Sioux Falls; Badlands Sandhills Earth Science Society, Mission; Corn Palace Rock Club, Mitchell; Missouri Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Platte; Lakota Glacier Rock Club, Aberdeen; Rosebud Geological Society, Wintter; Chamberlain Gem & Mineral Society, Chamberlain; Coteau Des Plaines Gem & Mineral Society, Watertown; Randall Rockhounds, Pickstown; Coyote Rock & Lapidary Society, Vermillion.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Lake Agassiz Rock Club, Fargo.

**MISSOURI:** Pike County Mineral & Gem Society, Bowling Green; Earth Science Club of Missouri, Independence; Blue Ridge Gem & Mineral Society, Raytown; McDonnell Douglas Gem & Mineral Society, St. Louis; Clark Mountain Gem & Mineral Society, Springfield; Central Missouri Rock & Lapidary Club, Columbia; Independence Gem & Mineral Club, Independence.

**ARKANSAS:** Spring River Gem & Mineral Club, Cherokee Village; Ft. Smith Gem & Mineral Society, Ft. Smith; Ozark Earth Science Club, Mountain Home.

**MINNESOTA:** Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club, Moose Lake; Austin Gem & Mineral Society, Austin; Chicago County Gem & Mineral Club, Lindstrom; Lake Superior Gem & Mineral Club, Duluth;

Minnesota Mineral Club, Minneapolis.

**ILLINOIS:** Park Forest Earth Science Club, Park Forest; Lake County Gem & Mineral Society, Lake Forest; Chicago Lapidary Club, Evergreen Park; Gem City Rock Club, Quincy; Siloam Springs Earth Science Club, Mt. Sterling; Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society, Chicago; Earth Science Club of Northern Illinois, Downers Grove; Des Plaines Valley Geological Society, Des Plaines; Northern Earth Searchers, Carthage; West Suburban Lapidary Club, Glen Ellyn.

**WISCONSIN:** Kettle Moraine Geological Society, Hartland; Kenosha Gem & Mineral Society, Kenosha; Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society, Wisconsin Rapids; Oshkosh Earth Science Club, Oshkosh; Wisconsin Geological Society, Milwaukee; Neville Public Museum Geology Club, Green Bay.

**INDIANA:** East Indiana Gem & Geology Society, Richmond; Michiana Rock & Gem Club, South Bend; White River Gem Society, Anderson; Muncie Rock & Gem Club, Muncie; Evansville Lapidary Society, Evansville; Indiana Geology & Gem Society, Indianapolis; Vigo Rock & Gem Club, Terre Haute; Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society, Ft. Wayne; Lawrence County Rock Club, Bedford; Dune-land Rock Club, Gary; Peru Rock & Minerals Club, Peru.

**NEBRASKA:** Grand Island Earth Science Society, Grand Island; Loup Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Monroe; Lincoln Gem & Mineral Society, Lincoln; Central Nebraska Rock & Mineral Society, Lincoln.

## Welcome new clubs

**JACK PINE ROCK & GEM CLUB**  
Victor W. Frandsen — President  
R. #3 — Box 3140  
Hale, Michigan 48739

**THE CHIPPEWAGEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**  
Terry Copeland — President  
749 College St.  
Wadsworth, Ohio 44281

**MINNOWA ROCK & GEM CLUB**  
Robert Siems — President  
Box 654  
Fairmont, Minnesota 56031

**ITASCA ROCK & MINERAL CLUB**  
Ben Toven — President  
Box 18  
Hill City, Minnesota 55748

please...

HELP KEEP AMERICA CLEAN.  
DON'T LITTER.