

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

THE ROCKFINDER

JAN - 1978



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.
1978 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President....	James F. Russell	27911 North St., No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Vice Pres....	Merl Lechlitner	1433 L.W.E., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Secretary....	Betty Jordan	16705 Eisenhower St., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
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Liaison.....	Molly Elwell	105 No. Ironwood Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46615
Past Pres....	George E. Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637

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Program.....	Merl Lechlitner	1433 L.W.E., Michawaka, Ind.	46544
Hospitality..	Kathy Miller	1106 Clayton Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46614
	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 Drive, So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Historian....	Bess Wise	1513 Clarendon Ave., Niles, Mich.	49120
Field Trips..	Dewey Hassler	R. R. #3, Plymouth, Ind.	46563
Safety.....	Clifford Schryver	201 Indiana Ave., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Sunshine....	Pauline Kelsheimer	19137 Dresden Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46637
Scholarship..	Catherine Grayckowski	1111 No. Huey St., So. Bend, Ind.	46628
Displays.....	Bob Miller	1106 Clayton Dr., So. Bend, Ind.	46614
Publicity....	Sherry Russell	27911 North Street, No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Membership...	Jesse Jordan	16705 Eisenhower St., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544
Junior Activities...			
	Joe Charles	26863 New Road, North Liberty, Ind.	46554
	Germaine Lifke	620 E. Marion St., Mishawaka, Ind.	46544

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 Street, No. Liberty, Ind.	46554
Staff Members...	Club Members		

All contributions for publication should be in the hands of the editor by the 5th of each month of publication.
Permission is hereby granted to reprint, at any time, items published in the ROCKFINDER, provided due recognition is given.

THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 18 Number 1 January 1978
Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc. South Bend, Indiana

Regular Meeting:

January 22, 1978

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

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

Program:

Business Meeting

"Indian Artifacts" by
Bill Mangold of Three Oakes,
Michigan

Hospitality:

Pauline & George Kelsheimer
Doris & Carlton Pletcher
Rene & Jeanette Blondia

Educational Meetings:

Time: 7:30 PM, EST

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

Program: Friday, January 27, 1978
Pot-ology - Bring a small
or medium clay pot, a
spatula, an old coffee can
or something to turn your
pot upside down on, tumbled
stones or shells to cover
your clay pot. Adhesive
will be furnished.

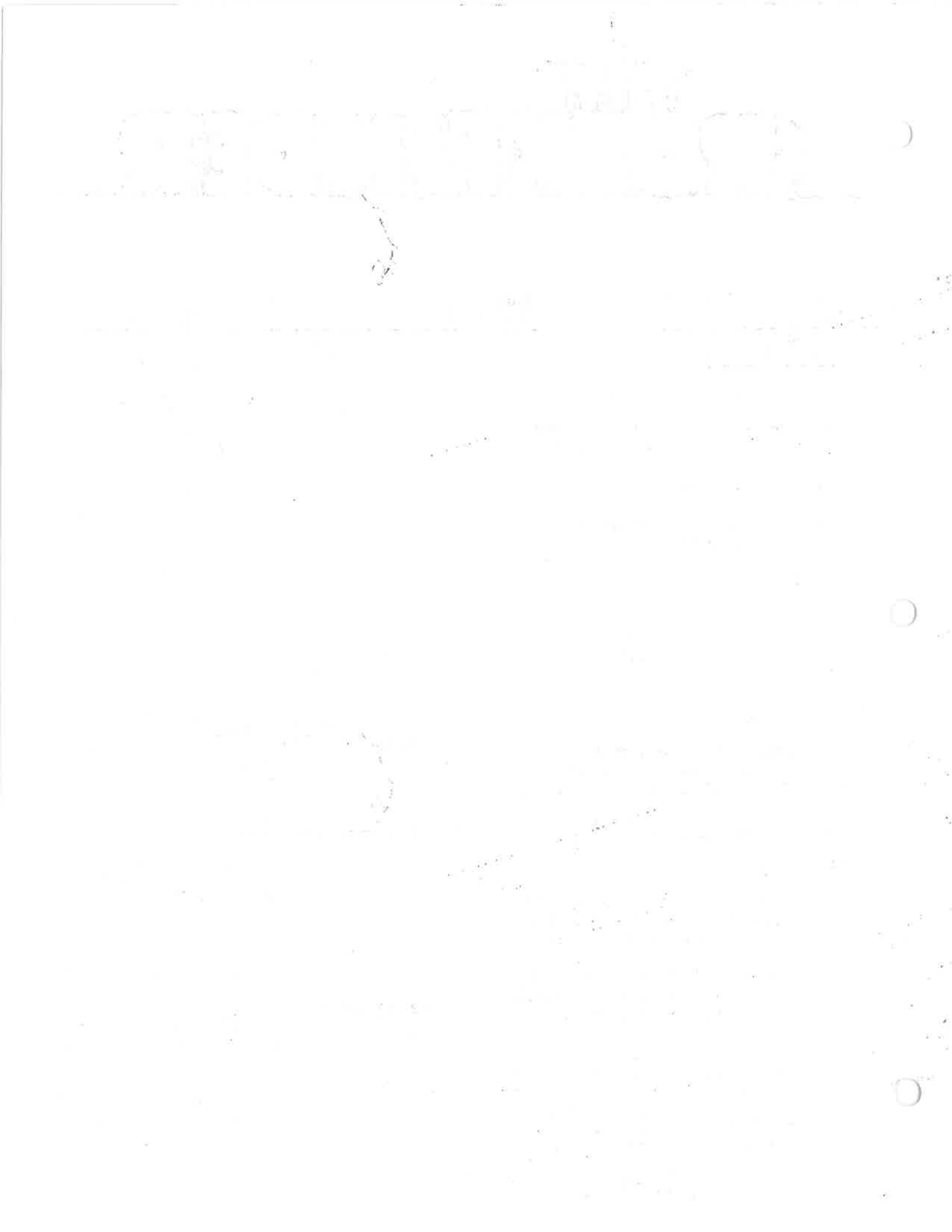


Educational Meetings (Continued)

Program: Friday, February 10, 1978
Copper Enameling - materials to be furnished.

Calendar of Events:

- March 10-12 Beacon Rock & Fossil Club Show, Grand Haven, Michigan.
- March 11-12 Blossomland Gem & Mineral Society Show, Stevensville, Michigan
- March 29 - Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club Show, Grand Rapids, Michigan
April 1
- Sept. 9-10 Michiana Rock & Gem Club Annual Show, 4-H Fairgrounds, South Bend, Indiana.



FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER,

Hello, Fellow Rockhounds!
Trust that all of you had a great
Christmas and a joyous New Year.

What a great Christmas Party!
Thanks to all of you who worked so
hard to make it a success.

I would like to say thank you
to the membership for giving me the
opportunity to be your president in
1978. I enjoyed the opportunity you
gave me in 1977, and will try to do
a good job in 1978. I feel that the
Board that has been selected by you
to work with me will do a great job
as will the committee people the
Board has selected. The Club itself
has continued to grow and make pro-
gress in the Michiana area. This
type of growth and progress can only
be accomplished by the membership.

As you know, the Board has
created a new Committee for 1978,
this being a Junior Activities Com-
mittee. The purpose of this Committee
will be to assist and teach our Jun-
ior Members about rocks, gems and
minerals and how to work with them.
I feel that it will be most helpful
to our Junior Members.

The Russell family had a wonder-
ful time on our recent trip to the
sunshine state of Florida. It was a
welcome sight to see fresh oranges and
grapefruit hanging on the trees. If
you've never been there, try it some-
time. We'll tell you more about it at
the 4th Sunday meeting. See all of
you then.

Your Rocky Leader,
Jim

H E L P

Your President needs help. As
you know, each year we enter the All
American Federation Club Awards con-
test. What I need from you Club
Members is to know what you've done
along the lines of displaying at
other shows, demonstrations and talks
to groups and schools, etc. Please
tell me about it at our meeting or

H E L P (Continued)

call me at home (289-7446). This
information is to be for your
activities for 1977.

Jim

Granite Pillars Support History

The ROCKPILLARS at Valley Un-
ited Presbyterian Church in Paradise
Valley, Arizona, bear 21 plaques
that tell the history of Christian-
ity. One of the plaques is blank,
the 21st Centurys. That part of
history is just now being written
and will be put in 100 or 125 years
from now. Carved into the granite
plaques are symbols of Christian
history of each century. They were
drawn by Mrs. Marlene Linderman, an
art instructor at Arizona State Uni-
versity at Tempe.

ROOTS are important in the per-
sonal life and also in faith. We
need something here to remind us
who and what we were.

Submitted by Lucy Miller
From Grit

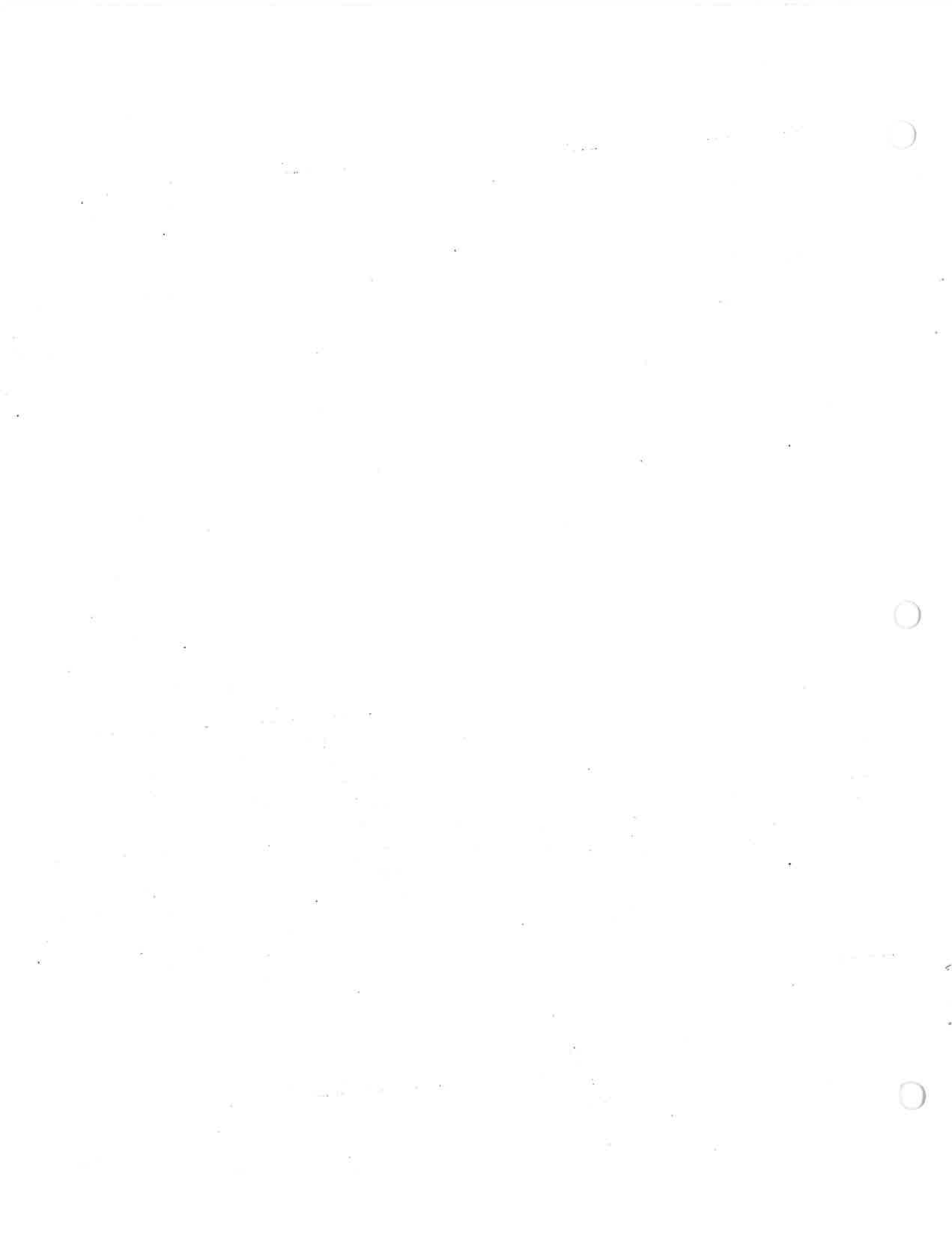
One Mans Work Pleases Millions

An unusual but very beautiful
ROCK GARDEN, in central Oregon be-
tween Bend and Redmond, is open to
the public without charge. It was
constructed as a hobby by Rasmus
Petersen (1883-1952). He was a Dan-
ish immigrant farmer, using many
thousands of rocks from his vast
collection. He built miniature re-
productions of historic structures,
bridges, towers, waterways, lagoons.
He added lovely floral displays to
add to the beauty of Peterson Rock
Gardens.

Submitted by Lucy Miller
From Grit

Dues are Due

Remember dues are due for 1978
and must be paid by the end of Feb-
ruary or that will be your last
Rockfinder.



MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING

The Michiana Rock and Gem Club held their annual Christmas dinner December 18, 1977, at Pinhook Park Pavilion, South Bend, Ind. President Jim Russell awarded the outgoing officers, Vice President Joe Charles and Treasurer Merl Lechlitner, trophies for their year of service of 1977. The President introduced the new officers for 1978, Christine Shoemaker, Treasurer and Merl Lechlitner, Vice President. Also introduced were the Committee Chairmen for 1978:

Program.....Merl Lechlitner
Hospitality..Kathy Miller
 Catherine & Larry
 Mchugh
Education....Margaret & Bob Heinek
Librarian....George Kelsheimer
Historian....Bess Wise
Field Trips..Dewey Hassler
Safety.....Clifford Schryver
Sunshine....Pauline Kelsheimer
Scholarship..Catherine Grayckowski
Displays....Bob Miller
Publicity....Sherry Russell
Membership...Jesse Jordan
Junior
Activities...Joe Charles
 Germaine Lifke

Special certificates were presented to all the 1977 Committee Chairmen for doing a great job serving our club.

State Director Charles Walker advised the Club that a problem had come up with the Evansville Club not being able to host the 1980 AFMS and Midwest Show and Convention. At that time a discussion was held with the club members. After the discussion, a motion was made by Jerry Shoemaker, seconded by Margaret Heinek, for Charles Walker to submit a bid for the Michiana Rock and Gem Club to be the host for the 1980 Show. Motion carried.

Catherine Grayckowski reported our scholarship fund reached 140% 1400% this year. The members thank you, Katie, for all your hard work.

In 1978 Joe Charles and Jerry Lifke will be forming a new committee

MINUTES (Continued)

for the Junior Members. Joe and Jerry will have more to tell the Junior Members soon.

Attendance 69 members, 6 guests. Special guests were Charles Walker, State Director and Fern Penner from the Peru Club. A game of Rocko was enjoyed by all after dinner.

Secretary,
Betty Jordan

Larry's Christmas Vacation

It all started the morning of the 24th after a hectic week of getting ready for The Big Night.

Larry was helping me in the kitchen, (he always does), in drying a water glass. It broke and what a cut he had on his index finger!

He was bleeding badly and pressure and elevation didn't seem to help.

I called my son-in-law (the doctor) who was staying with Kathy and Bob. He and Bob stopped at St. Joseph's hospital, picked up an emergency kit and we had surgery amidst the pots and pans (7 stitches).

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was simply beautiful. Much love and giving, so much giving that our dear grandson gave half of us Strep throat. Thanks a lot Tommy!

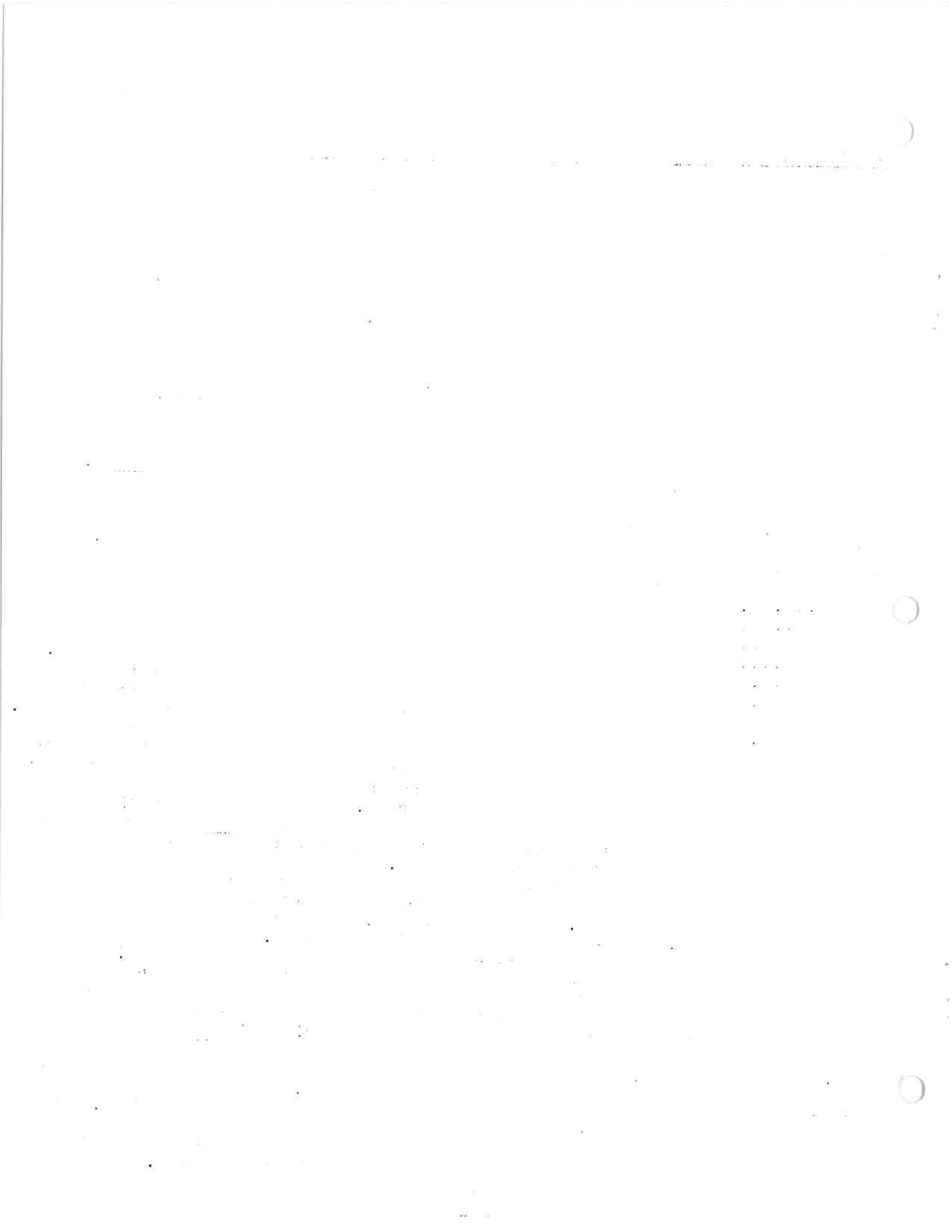
Larry had it bad. High fever, coughing day and night - the whole bit.

He got up during the night during a coughing spell and slammed into a sharp corner of the chest and fell in a heap.

I panicked - he's dead! Oh, God - His face had blood all over it and I tried to raise his head - then he let out a yell - I was standing on his hair! He's not dead, thank God.

He did get better with penicillin, T.L.C. and I took out his stitches and he feels like 39. He is sporting the most colorful shiner you ever saw and looks like he's been in a bar room brawl.

Catherine McHugh



SILENT AUCTION FOR A.F.M.S.
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Dear Midwest Federation Club Members,
At the 1978 Midwest Federation Show to be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, all clubs in the MWF will be able to build their percentages of contributions in the AFMS Scholarship Fund. We hope that this new opportunity will be an annual affair at our future MWF Convention/Shows.

We need the help of each club in the MWF. A Silent Auction will be offered by the Federation during the show. All auction material should be donated by the member clubs. All monies will go to the AFMS Scholarship Fund and credit will be given to the donating Club.

All material MUST be labeled as to what the material is, where it was found (if possible), and which club it is being donated by.

The materials should be anything relating to the Rock Hobby: rocks, minerals, fossils, books, etc. Finished jewelry usually brings the highest prices.

The materials will be brought to Cedar Rapids by the club delegates or some other representative. Individual donations will be accepted and credited to that person's club or if they are not members of a club, it will go to the club of that person's choice and thirdly, if no choice is made, the host club will receive the credit.

The auction will run for four to six hours for two or three days depending upon the amount of material received. The chairman will need some help to run the auction. A schedule will be made up of workers to help with the auction. They will be working probably two hour shifts.

All clubs donating will be notified by the Federation of the percentage points being credited to the Scholarship Fund account a few weeks following the show.

May I encourage all Federation Clubs to begin NOW to gather materials and put the NAME OF THE CLUB

SILENT AUCTION FOR A.F.M.S.
SCHOLARSHIP FUND (CONTINUED)

that is donating. It will be very important for this to be done.

Good luck to each club. May your percentage donated to the Scholarship Fund GROW and GROW and GROW.

From Your President,

Paul W. Good,
Midwest Federation

What Christmas Means To Me

Christmas is a hassle! of wonderment and awe.

What to get Jim? and who needs WHAT!
Who wants what? Do you think he'd like a saw?

Clothes to wash, cookies to bake and shopping yet to do!

And time is of the essence - trying to make things perfect for them and you.

But that's what Christmas is all about.

Making someone happy - putting yourself out.

Racking your brain because someone requests a poem the very last minute.

And yet I want to do so much! What everyone expects of me -

And if it hadn't been for Merl,
There wouldn't have been a decorated tree, two glowing wreaths and a lighted porch,

Like the Star of Bethlehem, lit up like a torch.

I've loved every Christmas - the old ones and this one too,

Even tho' I'm older and slower, but yet not 93

I wish you ALL God's blessings -
The best in years to come

Your hopes and desires, your wants and your needs,

But the best part is sharing and giving your ALL

No matter HOW tired you may be
"That's what Christmas means to me!"

By Rosaline Lechlitner

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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

January 1978 - Issue No. 181

All America time is here again

Has your club started to get its All American entry done in time to be in the mail by March 15??? Note the earlier date this year. Your club received an entry blank included in the November AFMS Newsletter. Another entry blank is enclosed with this January newsletter.

Last year the "club-of-the-year" was Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society of Lansing. There were also five more AFMS Trophies for Midwest clubs and several Midwest Merit Awards as well. Your club may win this year.

Send your entry to June Zeitner as soon as ready. Midwest participation has been outstanding in this program, because it all started here. Each of our states has had one or more winners in the close competition. This is your chance to brag about your club's accomplishments. We are proud of all of our winners, and of all of our club's which enter. Thanks for your participation.

Howard and Marie Taylor of Lincoln, Nebraska have been selected as Chairmen of the judges committee for the All American Merit Awards program in the Midwest Federation this year. Howard is a Past President and Marie is Nebraska Director for the Federation. Their committee has been chosen from the award winning Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, which was host for the last combined Midwest-AFMS show. The committee members are Mr. and Mrs. Ewald (Luella) Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn (Vera) Lyman and Mr. and Mrs. Jim (Phyllis) Parks.

Judging of the many entries for the AFMS and Midwest trophies is a difficult and import job, and the Federation is fortunate to have this team of qualified and well liked members.

If you can't find your entry blank or have any questions about the awards, please write to June Zeitner at once. Her address is Mission, South Dakota 57555

Betty Myers of Park Forest would like to see Illinois have a State Fossil . . . she suggests the mysterious beastie "The Tully Monster." A good suggestion, but there are bound to be more since there are so many unique fossils in the coal beds of Northern Illinois.

Repeat of an important announcement

The 1978 Directory forms should be in your hands by this time. Please note that the absolute deadline for returning these forms completed with check for dues will be January 10, 1978. There will be no grace period. If you want your latest club information in the Directory it must be in Jean Reynold's hands by January 10, 1978. This was the decision of the Council at their meeting in Dayton this year.

Have you found a Meteorite?

Mr. Paul P. Sipiera of William Rainey Harper College recently sent the following letter to many Midwest Clubs.

"We would like to enlist your help and support for our Meteorite Recovery Project. In this effort, our College, in cooperation with the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, is seeking to make the public aware of the scientific importance of Meteorites and to educate individuals on meteorite recognition. In dealing with meteorite recovery most specimens are discovered by individuals who have no scientific training but do possess a scientific curiosity. It is just this type of individual we wish to reach.

We hope that your organization would encourage its members to be aware of the fact that meteorites can be found almost anywhere and that they should be looking for them when in the field. We have free descriptive literature available and also offer a \$100.00 incentive for the finder of a previously unreported meteorite. We ask that those who are interested send in a stamped self-addressed, business-size envelope when requesting the pamphlet."

Please forward all information or inquiries about meteorites to Mr. Paul P. Sipiera, William Rainey Harper College, Geology and Physical Science, Palatine, Illinois, 60067

GROWING PEARLS

A Wisconsin farmer planted 3000 seeds and is waiting for his harvest . . . pearls. He is growing the pearl bearing mussels in tanks. James Horpol has pointed out that Wisconsin has a past reputation for good pearls, and he hopes to expand his operation, to make pearl farming a successful endeavor.

Franklin Mineral Museum excellent place to visit

One of the great mineral localities in America and the world is Franklin, New Jersey. There is a great new Museum and Mine Replica now at Franklin, and the Franklin Mineral Museum, Incorporated has just published its first newsletter, 'Franklin Museum Messenger' superbly edited by Frederick Fraissel, Jr. Annual memberships to the museum which includes the bulletin, are \$5.00.

The Franklin Mineral Museum contains a comprehensive display of the approximately 200 species of minerals from the Franklin-Ogdensburg, New Jersey area, site of the remarkable zinc mines of the New Jersey Company. Few minerals from elsewhere are on display, yet the visitor will see polished and set gemstones, colorful crystals, and specimens of great rarity, as well as artifacts and curios connected with the past of this unusual area.

The wealth of mineral specimens at Franklin owes its abundance to a sequence of geological events never duplicated elsewhere. A billion years ago an ocean covered the area, and in quiet deep spots, iron, zinc, and manganese accumulated and were incorporated into a thickening sequence of sediments and submarine lavas. Over 800 million years ago, depth of burial and folding transformed the rocks and their enclosed minerals into the layered materials we see today. Many of the rare minerals were formed during the first period of mountain building.

Subsequently, weathering of the new land down to sea level developed a beach at Franklin some 550 million years ago, and fragments of the newly exposed mineral deposit or ore body were incorporated in the beach sands. Again the land sank in the classic geologic pattern of submergence, deposition, uplift, and erosion. Perhaps four periods of mountain building took place during repetitions of the sequence, each with an opportunity for deep fractures to allow introduction of new solutions and vapors to add to and alter the earlier minerals.

For the last 100 million years, the Franklin area has been undergoing erosion as the high ground of New Jersey has washed down the rivers and the coast to form Southern New Jersey and fairly recently, a million to 10,000 years ago, glaciation has aided the process exposing the ore bodies for discovery and mining. Meanwhile, minerals continue to form where weathering can alter the older minerals. The story is far from completed, and new minerals are being discovered continually.

The Franklin Mineral Museum contains permanent and loaned collections of unusual interest. It also houses a spectacular display of fluorescent minerals whose brilliant colors may be viewed under ultra-violet light. The Replica Mine, located in the original engine house which was used to hoist ore from the open cut, simulates actual mining operations full scale in the Franklin mine.

The town of Franklin turned over to the Museum the administration of the historic Buckwheat Dump. Admittance to the Dump is now from the upper museum level, and the Franklin Mineral Museum, Inc. is privileged to offer collecting in such a richly mineralized area. The Museum is continually acquiring new specimens of superior grade so that visitors will always be able to study the best in Franklin minerals. The Museum has its own laboratory for the identification and preparation of minerals for display.

Straight collection in new location

The Halver R. Straight mineral and gem collection, given to the Central Iowa Mineral Society of which Mr. Straight was a member upon his death in 1958, has been housed in Old Main on the campus of Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa. The collection was opened to public showing during the National Gem and Mineral Show held in Des Moines in 1962.

The collection has now been moved to larger and more spacious quarters in Drake University's Harvey Ingman Hall of Science. Central Iowa Mineral Society is planning a special open house to commemorate the occasion on Sunday, January 15, and all members, past members and friends and general public are invited to attend.

The collection, one of the finest in the country, can be viewed during regular visiting hours of Harvey Ingman Hall.

About Mr. Straight:

Halver Straight was born in El Paso, Illinois in 1882 and attended Grinnell College and the University of Illinois where he received his degree in Mechanical Engineering. He married in 1909 and had two daughters and a son.

He moved to Adel, Iowa upon his graduation where he managed the Dallas Clay Products Co. for his father. He invented and manufactured pugmill knives and other devices used in the making of brick and tile. He invented and held patents on 87 tools and instruments used in the manufacturing of clay products.

He established the Iowa Soya Bean Plant at Adel, Iowa and the Clay Products Co. at Redfield, Iowa. He developed the Sequensomatic car dumper, a device designed to unload a rail car of grain in a matter of minutes by raising and tilting it.

MINERAL CHANGES DUE TO WEATHERING

The surface changes that affect ores are very important. Most minerals will change when left to the action of weather. Pyrite changes slowly to limonite, and chalcopyrite changes to limonite and malachite. Sometimes the variable minerals are entirely dissolved at the surface and the rock is left barren. This is particularly true of copper ores, though usually some traces of copper will be left at the surface. Here is a list of some of the weathering changes of most common occurrence and of greatest interest.

Feldspar changes to clay.

Olivine and hornblende change to serpentine or chlorite rocks.

Impure limestone may dissolve and leave clay.

Pyrite changes to limonite and hematite.

Copper-sulphide minerals change to malachite, azurite, cuprite, or metallic copper, or may be dissolved entirely. Some copper minerals become partly limonite.

Silver minerals change to horn silver (cerargyrite or dissolve.

Rhodochrosite and rhodonite change to psilomelane or pyrolusite (manganese minerals.)

Calcite dissolves.

Gold may dissolve if manganese is in the rock.

Quartz, fluorite, apatite, barite, and tourmaline are not likely to change. *from Rochester News, Rochester, N. Y.*

**DON'T LITTER.....
HELP KEEP AMERICA CLEAN!**