

FEBRUARY 1990

THE ROCKFINDER



ED MILLER, EDITOR
MICHIANA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
114 E. LOGAN ST.
ARGOS, INDIANA 46501



FIRST CLASS MAIL

LARSEN, JOYCE
144 Spruce Drive
Westville, IN 46391



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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: 2:00 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 the St. Joseph River
August-Annual club picnic	

Dues

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

Rockfinder Staff

Editor..Ed Miller	114 E. Logan Street
Staff...Club members	Argos, Indiana 46501

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 30 NUMBER 2 FEBRUARY 1990
 PUBLISHED BY: MICHIANA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY INC. SOUTH BEND, IN.

REGULAR MEETING:

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26, 1990

TIME: DOORS OPEN 1:30
 MEETING 2:00

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

PROGRAM: BUSINESS MEETING

Well, get ready for another outstanding program this month. Jessica Zeiger has returned from a trip to Egypt and she will be giving a program about some of the things she saw and did.

I know this is going to be an informative and interesting afternoon because Jessica is very knowledgeable about Egypt. She had really looked forward to the trip and study.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of "Pewter Puttering" last month. I think there were some people who went away from that meeting with a motivation to work with pewter.

HOSPITALITY:

JOAN SCHERER
 DIANE BOWMAN
 PHYLLIS SMALLWOOD

COMING EVENTS:

MAR. 9-10

Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society
 17th Annual Show



COMING EVENTS CONTINUED:

Wayne County Fairgrounds
 Richmond, Indiana

MAR. 10-11

Geodeland Earth Science Clubs Inc.
 10th Annual Mineral & Gem Show
 Western Illinois University
 Student Union Ballroom
 Murray Street
 Macomb, Illinois

MAR. 30-APR. 1

Flint Rock & Gem Club
 24th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
 Williams Community Education Center
 3501 Minnesota Avenue
 Flint, Michigan

APR. 4-7

Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club
 15th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
 Eastbrook Mall
 3655 - 28th Street S.E.
 Grand Rapids, Michigan

JULY 19-22

Midwest Federation Show
 Host: Evansville Lapidary Society Inc.
 Green Convention Center
 7th and Walnut Streets
 Evansville, Indiana

MARGARET'S COLUMN

Well we survived the "unseasonable" winter so far. The ice is going off the lake today, which means it is SPRING. I was worried in late Dec. when we had the "big snow", figuring we were in for it. Looks like we lucked out again.

HELP! HELP! Your librarian needs help in rounding up missing library books. Some were borrowed as long ago as 1988! Here are some of the titles of the missing books:

WEEKEND FOSSIL HUNTER # 73
 INDIAN JEWELRY MAKING #77
 GUIDE TO ROCKS AND MINERALS #37
 NATIONAL TROPHY RULES #95
 ILLUSTRATED ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MINERALS AND
 ROCKS #93
 JEWELRY CRAFT FOR BEGINNERS #90
 SEARCH FOR THE PAST #114
 CREATIVE GOLD AND SILVERSMITHING #66
 GEM KINGDOM #53
 AUDBON'S GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICA #70
 MINERAL, ROCKS & PRECIOUS STONES #60
 GEOLOGY OF MICHIGAN #56
 CRYSTALS #8
 CRYSTAL GROWING #75
 BURIED TREASURE OF THE UNITED STATES #91
 GEMSTONES OF N. AMERICA VOL. II #70
 GEM HUNTERS GUIDE, NCFALL #72
 MINERAL & GEM STONE IDENTIFICATION # 84

If they are not returned this month, and we know who has them, we are forced to print their names.

You must sign your name when you take them, and let Paul know when you return them, so he can clear his records.

Books should be returned at the next meeting, so if someone else wishes to use them, then it will be available. There should be a maximum limit to number of books a member can borrow. Or maybe we do need a maximum limit to value of books taken. If anyone has some good ideas on how to have better control of our library, please let us know. I realize it is inconvenient not having the case at the church, but we do the best we can. PLEASE HELP!

On April 21 and 22 the Calumet Gem Club will have their annual show and would like to have displays from our club. The 22nd is our meeting, but they are on a different

time, so you would have time after our meeting to go there and get your display. The display can be set up on Sat. morning before 9 am their time, and I am sure they will be very glad to have some of your nice rock or fossils on display.

The March meeting has been moved up one week to March 18th, due to your president and V-president both being out of town at the MWF Spring meeting.

The May meeting has also been moved up one week to May 20th, due to Memorial Day weekend.

June and July will be busy months for the Heineks and Millers, as we plan on attending the AFMS Convention in Ventura, Calif. Bob Miller plans on entering a carving in the competition and I as V-president of the MWF will attend the convention. How about you members planning on attending the MWF Convention in Evansville, IN July 19 -22. This is the 50th anniversary of the MWF, and I am sure the Evansville Club will have some special things for those attending; displays, speakers and dealers. Ed Miller announced at the last club meeting his sister is on the front desk of the headquarters motel. So talk to Ed and he will tell you how to contact the reservation desk.

Remember to look for our books, and come to a special program on Egypt. I am looking forward to the program.

Margaret

FOSSILS FOUND

Word comes from Woodburn, Oregon that some workers were digging a sewer line when they found the bones of animals that date back to the ice age.

A University of Oregon professor, William Orr, is hoping to conduct a summer dig. He said that these bones were the best representation of ice age mammals he had seen in the quarter-century that he has been teaching.

The 30,000 to 50,000 years old bones were found about 6 to 9 feet below ground. For those of you who are interested, Woodburn is about 30 miles south of Portland.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MICHIANA GEM
AND MINERAL SOCIETY.

President Heinek opened the meeting at
2:05 P.M. Sunday, January 28, 1990.

Guests introduced were Carol Amundson
and Michael Healy.

Stan Kile moved that the minutes
printed in the January ROCKFINDER be
accepted, seconded by Tom McLaughlin.

Treasurer's report given by Sister
Jeanne filed for audit.

Gordon Dobecki has been ask to audit
the treasurer's books. Chris
Shoemaker asksthat this be done since
she is moving out of town.

Hostess for January were Marian Fiege,
Molly Elwell and Gordon Dobecki.
Thank you for all the goodies everyone.

Gordon Dobecki gave up-date and showed
pictures of his students from our club
who are taking gem classes.

Sister Georgia will be doing the ALL
AMERICAN BOOK for our club. Everyone
is invited to share in this project
and help her.

Paul Godollei reported there were no
new books purchased. If you know
someone who has a book out, please
contact them and ask if you may turn
it back to our library. Everyone
check and see if you have any books
that might have been misplaced.

Several displays were brought in and
Ed Miller had pictures of the
Christmas Party.

A slide program on Pewter Puttering
was given and very enjoyable. A pewter
display from Watson's in New Carlisle
was shown. Thanks to Margaret and Bob
Heinek for getting this very nice
display.

Pat McLaughlin sent out publicity for
our club. Good job, Pat!

The MARCH MEETING will be March 18th,
one week early. Mark your calendars
now!! Also, the MAY MEETING will be
May 20th.

Board meetings are held the second
Friday of each month at the 1st Source
Bank on the corner of U. S. 31 North
and Cleveland Road for anyone that
wishes to attend.

Volunteers are needed for the 1991
show for table decorations, etc. Ed
Miller and Diane Scherer have already
volunteered to help. Sign up now!

If you have an idea for a raffle for
the 1991 show please call Margaret
Heinek.

For anyone that new him, a former
member Henry E. Larson passed away in
December.

A card from Catherine McHugh was read
by Margaret. Catherine is our world
traveler. She always has a good time
where ever she goes.

Prizes were won by:

Marie Crull
Charlotte Erickson
Derek Stodden
Michael Healy

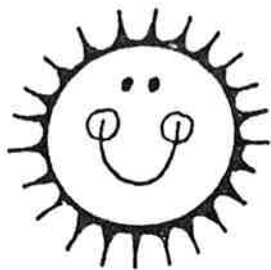
Our attendance totaled:
Adults present 29
Junior Members 1
Guests 2

Respectfully submitted
Marie Crull, Secretary



JOIN US FOR THE
FEDERATION SHOW IN
EVANSVILLE!

SUNSHINE REPORT



FEBRUARY - that quiet month -- for most of us at least. This is the time of year when many of us can work on projects we have been putting off.

If you are working in your lapidary workshop, how about throwing in some tumbling material for the 1990 KID'S KORNER, or take a moment to finish a cab you started years ago for the Club Booth. If you are handy with a needle, or even not so handy (as I am) this month might be the time to work on your club vest you started last year and never finished. **PICTURE THIS ...** at the 1990/91 shows all of our members in our snappy blue vests with the Society's logo. If you need a pattern or a patch, let a member of the board know at the February club meeting.

Have you been able to catch up on your correspondence? Remember we have people in our club that are not able to make the meetings. Keep in your hearts Vivian Finley, Chris & Jerry Shoemaker, and Nelvin Chesnut to name but a few.

NEWS FLASH!!



We have a member of our club that is willing and able to take on the joyful task of working on the ALL AMERICAN contest for next year. For


3 consecutive years our club was **FIRST** through 3rd in the nation. Wouldn't it be great to be in that rating again in 1991!! Georgia Costin our Co-Secretary will be doing all the paper work toward this **ENORMOUS** project, but it cannot be accomplished without **YOU** for our ultimate goal as the **NUMBER 1 CLUB** in the nation. **HOW** you ask? Simply by giving Georgia any information you may have on how you are involved in our hobby. Pictures, news articles such as papers, magazines, books, etc., are great. Certificates, letters of appreciation, or letting Georgia know if you gave talks, demonstrations, programs, lectures or workshops is exactly what she needs. If you helped in the community in the name of lapidary

for our club is another example. Anything you think will be useful to Georgia she will appreciate. **REMEMBER** it is a great honor to be listed as a **TOP CLUB/SOCIETY** in the United States and **YOU** are the club.

WHAT ARE MEMBERS DOING?

Marie & Bill Crull will be heading south (Florida) for 5 weeks after the February meeting, home for two weeks, then off to California to visit their newest grandchild. Marie was not kidding when she said they were going to travel after she retired. Catherine McHugh & Marilyn Meier have been in San Diego, CA (check Price is Right airing March 5), and Tuscon, AR during February, they quoted the weather at a balmy 70.



 We have received word through Ed Miller of the passing of Marsha Kreft's mother passing from life to Life this month. We would like to extend to Marsha our sympathy and condolences.

BIRTHDAYS

ONLY ONE THIS MONTH ...

FEBRUARY 5 - Jeanne Finske

My apologizes to LEO KUSH for not printing his JANUARY 13 birthday in last month's ROCKFINDER. Best wishes and happy birthday to both Jeanne and Leo.

NEXT MONTH SPRING..YEA!
Keep Smilin'

Kathy

In Memory Of

Henry E. Larson

September 26, 1907
December 9, 1989

EL CAMINO DEL DIABLO
(The Devil's Highway)

Are you ready for this? Here is another epistle from Catherine McHugh.

Marilyn and I left Yuma in a caravan of trucks early one Saturday morning about 7 A.M. Our Yuma Archaeology Society was off to view "Tenaje Alta", or High Tanks. They are natural rock tanks forming holding pools of rainwater on the mountainside. It is a historic trail starting in Mexico and first used by the Paleo Indians for bartering shells, salt, and basalt from the sea of California. The Indians were followed by the Spanish explorers and missionaries who gave it the name "The Devil's Highway". By 1849 thousands of gold seekers were using it to travel to the gold fields of California. Hundreds died of thirst or were murdered by bandits along the way. During this time, cattle drivers used the trail to sell beef in the Yuma area. After their herds were watered there was none left for the goldseekers. Over 400 graves have been counted and no doubt hundreds more died. Many aliens are still losing their lives on this route as they try to make their way from Mexico to the promised land of the United States.

The tanks are on the Lukes Airforce Base where special permission must be obtained and an officer stayed with us the whole time we were there. We headed for granitic mountains, 50 miles from Yuma, over a teeth jarring road, hanging on for dear life. It was through the desert criss crossed by heavy army vehicle tracks. Overhead, jet fighters were going through maneuvers and the roar of the planes made one shiver. It was so scary. A flight overhead of ten helicopters in formation made it clear why it is a strictly forbidden area.

The mountain where the tanks are located is granite, worn smooth from thousands of years of water cascading down the side. It is very dangerous to scale as it is so slippery and a fall would mean certain death on the rocks below.

I did climb to the first tank (very slowly) and saw a small pool of green, brackish water with animal droppings everywhere. Marilyn climbed halfway up the mountain and my heart was in my mouth as I saw her looking for footholds. I couldn't bear to watch any longer so I took out over the desert.

The sky was deep blue as the quartz and mica sparkled like diamonds. Broken glass, rusted cans from the recent past, and many pottery shards and shells discarded by the Indians, were everywhere. Mesquite, palo verde, large saquaro, cholla cactus, and ocotillo dotted the landscape.

The sun was hot, and I can't imagine what it would be like at 130 degrees in mid-summer! Marilyn had come down from the mountain and was in the desert finding sleeping and dance circles. We left at 4 P.M., not wanting to drive through the deep ruts after dark. What a day, looking back into history. What hardy souls they were to be able to endure the trials and hardships of this trail.

CATHERINE McHUGH



MAMMOTH

SKELETON

DISCOVERED

Alton, In.—A bulldozer operator was preparing the way for a resort along the Ohio River. The nearly complete mammoth skeleton he discovered was buried about 10 feet under the mud. What they came up with was the 10,000 year old remains of a shaggy, 10 foot tall, elephant like creature.

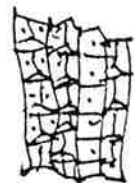
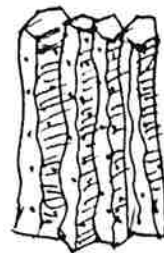
The excavating team was organized by Ron Richards who is the curator of paleobiology at the Indiana State Museum. Mr. Richards said there were a couple of different things about this dig. First, most of the time the remains have already been dug up before he gets them. Secondly, he made some rather interesting discoveries about the mammoth's environment.

Screening the soil around the mammoth revealed the teeth of a heather vole, a mouse-like creature now found in Canada. The significance of this is an indication that the environment was cooler than it is now.

Donald Cochran, a Ball State anthropologist, was looking for signs that humans might have come in contact with the mammoth. He was disappointed this time. There's been no good human association with them east of the Mississippi River.

This is the final part of Paul Godollei's article started in the January ROCKFINDER.

THIS REPORT	SHAVER AND OTHERS 1969	
SOUTHWESTERN INDIANA	CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN INDIANA	
Rockford Ls	Rockford Ls	
*Hannibal Mbr	*Hannibal Mbr	
Members not differentiated	New Albany Sh	Members not differentiated
Blocher Mbr.	Blocher Mbr	
North Vernon Ls	North Vernon Ls	
*Tioga Bentonite Bed	*Tioga Bentonite Bed	
Jeffersonville Ls	Jeffersonville Ls.	
*Dutch Creek Ss Mbr	Geneva Dol	
*Clear Creek Chert		
*Backbone Ls		
*Grassy Knob Chert		

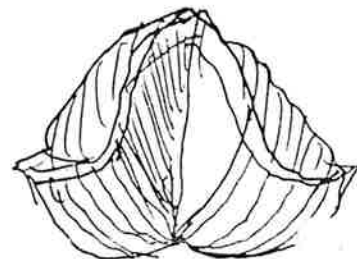
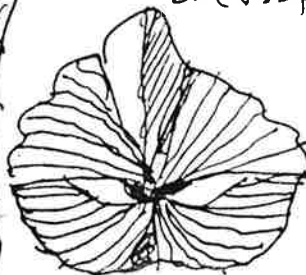


SECTION

EMMONSIA (CORAL)



BREVISPIRIFER GREGARIUS



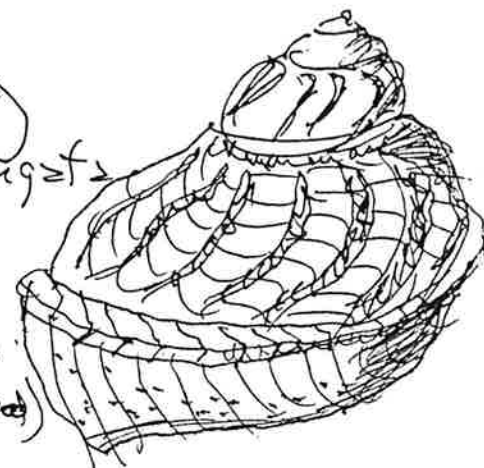
PANESPIRIFER ACCUMINATUS (BRACHIOPOD)

SIPHONOPHORANTIA ELONGATA (CUP CORAL)

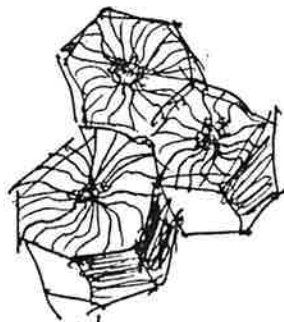


CHONETES (GASTROPOD)

TURBO (GASTROPOD)



SECTION THRU DEVONIAN FORMATIONS



HEXAGONARIA (CORAL)

FOSSIL CORALS AND BRACHIOPODS OF DEVONIAN AGE FOUND AT FALLS OF THE OHIO

-From the December/January AFMS NEWSLETTER-

Here is the information club members need for the ALL AMERICAN contest....LET'S WIN!

ALL AMERICAN CLUB PROFILE

The All American Club Awards program has been provided to encourage clubs to give service to others. We all enjoy our hobby, but most of us just let it go at that. However, that is only the beginning. If you really enjoy your hobby you want to help others enjoy it also by providing individual instruction and materials so that they may also progress. In this way we reach out to members and guests at our meetings, in the community, and people we have met from distant places. The outline that follows suggests just what is needed to meet the standards for an ALL-AMERICAN CLUB.

1. SERVICE TO MEMBERS AND VISITORS AT MEETINGS: What do you do at your club meetings? Do your programs provide an incentive for a guest to want to join your group? Do you have a Hospitality Chairman or Welcoming Committee? Do you explain your field trips and other activities at your meetings? Do some members provide a display for the benefit of other members and guests? Do you have periods of "Show & Tell"? Do you serve refreshments, have door prizes or educational activities? What reports are given? How is your club organized? (By-Laws, Executive Board, Committees, membership lists, awards programs, etc.)? Do you have club vests, pins, etc.?
2. SERVICE TO MEMBERS AWAY FROM MEETINGS: Does your club have field trips, and are they adequately announced, planned and reported on? Does your club have a bulletin; is it small, medium or large, and how is it organized? (Send a copy along with your report). How do your members learn to do things? Does your club have a shop, proper instructors and instructional programs, library, meeting room, etc.? Does your club have a club sponsored show? Where is it held and what size is it? Do you have a Telephone or Social Committee? What special activities does your club provide for the membership? (Buses to other Shows; joint field trips; workshops, special recognition, etc). Explain your other activities that are provided for your members.
3. CLUB PUBLICITY: This is often a very difficult area to explain, but it is one we must use to keep our club before the general public. Larger clubs often find it more difficult to get publicity in large towns or cities, as the media are not that interested in "Rockhounding". However, it can be done, and every opportunity should be explored. Many clubs use the newspapers, TV stations and radio. They also use billboards, libraries, banks places of business, malls, etc., to put on displays, put out posters or flyers, and provide information about the club, their show, etc. Tell about it!
4. SERVICE TO OTHER CLUBS: Most All American Club Applications and reports fall down in this category. We don't help others. We don't make an effort to see what others are doing and to join with them to enjoy our hobby. What does your club do? Do your members take exhibits or displays to other club shows; provide clerks and/or judges for their shows; have joint field trips or workshops; provide or participate in joint rock swaps? Do you make donations to other clubs, groups or individuals? Do you help promote other clubs activities with publicity in your bulletin? Do you loan these clubs some of your equipment or show paraphernalia? Do members put on programs for other clubs?
5. SERVICE TO FEDERATIONS: This is one of the most important areas for this report. Does your club help the Federations (Regional and AFMS) carry on their activities? Do you have any members who are officers, committee members, clerks, judges, etc., on the Federation level? Do you carry their reports and publicize their special programs in your club bulletin? How does your club participate in Federation workshops, seminars, shows, meetings, etc.? What projects, programs, etc., does your club help with? What contests do you enter? With what success? Does your club earn money to donate to Federation Scholarship or Endowment Funds? How is it raised? Do your members exhibit at shows, - compete? Include pictures, copies of letters certificates, etc.
6. SERVICE TO OWN COMMUNITY AND NEAR-BY AREAS: What do you do for your own Community? How do you meet the needs of schools; talks to classes or donation of educational specimens? To get involved in community affairs, you need the support of all club members. Tell what they did - in the name of our hobby. Does your club exhibit at various places or public institutions (banks, libraries, schools, museums, etc.)? Do you help community groups (service organizations, senior citizens, Boy or Girl Scouts, etc.)? What do you do that is unusual or innovative in your community?
7. SERVICE TO DISTANT COMMUNITIES OR PROJECTS: You can list here your work with colleges, universities, museums, pen pals, foreign exchanges, swaps at a distance, donations of specimens to other people or institutions. What does your club do to help others at quite some distance, or even neighboring cities? Projects could include saving stamps, labels, etc., to help others, or any service projects.
8. SERVICE TO OR INVOLVEMENT IN PUBLIC AGENCIES: This could include, BLM, the Forest Service, Nature Habitats, wilderness areas; State, National and special organizations that affect our hobby. What do your members do? Did you help create any project for State or Governmental Agencies? State rock, fossil or gemstone? Does your club correspond with these agencies to let them know when you are for or against legislation they have proposed that would affect the future of our great hobby? Include copies of letters, both to and from these agencies.
9. PARTICIPATION AND ENVOLVEMENT: Per cent of members involvement, meetings, Shows (own, Neighbors, Federation, American). Attend as spectator, judges or clerks, demonstrators, help set up show?

-From the December 1989 MWF NEWSLETTER-

-WORD PUZZLES CONTINUED-

ARCH FACTS....

It was interesting to learn that a major section of the Thirty-fourth Annual Midwest Archaeological Conference held October 13-15 was devoted to rock art. In this case, of course, they were referring to petroglyphs and pictographs. Reports were given on recent studies of rock art in Illinois, Iowa, Manitoba, and Wisconsin. The petroglyphs included "Turkey Tracks" (very seasonal), thunderbirds, the mystical feline piasa, and crescents. Pictographs included mythical figures.

In the avocational pursuit of the science, one is also caught up with the artistry of prehistoric cultures. Their perfection of stone-working and stylistic form, whether it followed function or not, as well as their selection of exotic materials, has to be considered "rock art."

This type of "rock art" is represented in all prehistoric cultural periods, but flint knapping was never better than that performed during the Paleo-Indian and Early Archaic times. A report on such art was given at the Midwest Conference about a series of specimens recovered by avocational archaeologist Gary Steele at a lithic workshop/habitation area adjacent to Silver Mound, Wisconsin. The points in this case were the exquisite Clovis, Plainview, and Agate Basins produced from the Hixton silicified sandstone, referred to locally as sugar quartz. The sites coincidentally occur near the source of the material in Jackson County. Wisconsin's Hixton silicified sandstone is one of those exotic materials traded throughout prehistoric times.

Another example of "rock Art" was also discussed at the convention. A report was given about a previously unreported Ross type obsidian point obtained from a mound near Prairie du Chien, WI, in the late 19th century. Again, an exquisite style of point expertly crafted and of yet another type of exotic material.

These are just two examples of prehistoric "Rock Art" that our current lapidarians can relate to their own experiences.

-John Washburn, Chairman
Archaeology Committee

Here are some activities for the junior or senior members with time on their hands. Mr. Scherer gave me a list of word or letter puzzles (Rebus puzzles if you will) to test your mettle (maybe with a gem and mineral group I should say "test your metal").

EXAMPLES:

ONCE LIGHTLY (ONCE OVER LIGHTLY)

DEER (DEER CROSSING)

HOLD SECOND (HOLD ON A SECOND)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. NOON GOOD
<u>Good Afternoon</u> | 6. ONCE LIGHTLY
<u>Once Over Lightly</u> |
| 2. STAND
<u>I Understand</u> | 7. DAY DAY
<u>Day By Day</u> |
| 3. ME JUST YOU
_____ | 8. DO FOOT OR
<u>Foot In The Door</u> |
| 4. WEAR LONG
<u>Long Underwear</u> | 9. LE VEL
<u>Split Level</u> |
| 5. E A P
S U A L
_____ | 10. POX
<u>Small Pox</u> |

Bring this page to the meeting with the correct answers and there will be some kind of reward.

INDIANA ROCKS, MINERALS & FOSSILS part 12

APATITE
 $Ca_5 F(PO_4)_3$

Hardness 4 (Can be scratched with a knife)... Specific gravity-medium weight..... Commonly black and rarely brown, green, blue, violet, or colorless... Streak is colorless... Luster glassy.. Crystals elongated if present... Cleavage in one direction and poor.

Collophane is probably the most common type of Apatite in Indiana. Apatite is found in upper Ordovician limestone. Collophane occurs as small pebbles or nodules associated almost invariably with glauconite and usually with pyrite, quartz, and calcite.

