

JUNE 1992

THE ROCKFINDER



Joyce Larson, Editor
Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
144 Spruce Drive
Westville, IN 46391

FIRST CLASS MAIL

1992 Combined
AFMS & MWF Show
July 23, 24, 25 & 26, 1992
Brunswick High School
Brunswick, Ohio



MICHIANA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

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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 p.m. EST	Place: Westminster Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of each month	1501 W. Cleveland Road
June - Field Trip meeting	South Bend, IN
July - No meeting	West of the St. Joseph River
August - Annual Club Picnic	
December - Date to be announced	
Christmas Party	

Dues

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

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THE ROCKFINDER

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JUNE 1992

PUBLISHED BY: MICHIANA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

SOUTH BEND, IN

REGULAR MEETINGS: Westminster Presbyterian Church
1501 W. Cleveland Road
South Bend, IN
West of the St. Joseph River

JUNE - FIELD TRIP: Chaney Quarry
Olivette, MI
Sat. - June 27th
Meet at the church at 10:00 a.m.
Pack your lunches
Prepare to have a "Good Time"

JULY - NO MEETING

AUGUST - PICNIC: August 2nd - About Noon
Lakeville Conservation Club.



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!!

THE BEST DAY

Whether you are giving or receiving,
No matter what the toil or strife,
Everyday that you are living,
Is the best day of your life.

You can make plans for the future
You can wish for yesterday,
But the only thing that matters,
Is the use of your today.

Neither last week or tomorrow,
Can be here to pass the test.
This is the day that you are living
That's what makes this day the best.

No one ever lives tomorrow.
Yesterday has flown away.
But the things that are accomplished,
Are the things you do today.

(-via Diggin's from Dakota, Beehive Buzzer
and The Rocky Reader)

J&L

or all of you vacationers - have some great trips and bring back some good stories, photos, rocks and minerals, etc. Look forward to seeing you all again in the fall when our meetings start up again. In the meantime - HAPPY DAYS AND KEEP SMILING!

Joyce

MINUTES OF MAY 1992 MEETING
MICHIANA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

President Heinek opened our regular meeting. New members Jim and Jean Matzke were introduced and welcomed. There were no minutes from the last meeting, as it was held at Notre Dame where we were shown the University's collection. The treasurer's report was read and approved for audit.

Committee Reports -

Display - Paul Godollei brought in a nice display of fossils and several library books on jewelry making.

New Business -

Field Trip - We will go on a field trip to Chaney Limestone Quarry just north of Battle Creek, Michigan on June 27th. If you want to go caravan style, meet at the church at 10:00. Bring a sack lunch and your rock-hunting tools. The quarry is not oily, but may be muddy.

It was moved, seconded, and passed that Bill Crull be our delegate at the MWF meeting.

Program -

Paul Godollei showed us several cases of fossils and presented a slide show. Thanks, Paul!

33 members, 4 junior members and one guest attended.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Rubenstein

.....
MARGARET'S COLUMN - JUNE 1992

Spring is busting out all over, and the summer looks like it will be a busy one for us. There will not be a meeting in June, but there will be a field trip to Chaney Quarry, Olivette, MI on Sat., June 27th. It was decided to meet at the church at 10:00 a.m. & proceed from there. If you live in Michigan, it would be out of your way to meet at the church, so I suggest you proceed on your own. But if you go to the church, there might be someone who would like to take a passenger.

Take plenty of water or liquid, something to eat and make sure you wear comfortable clothes and heavy shoes. I understand it is not a dirty/oily quarry, so I don't think you will ruin your clothes.

I just received word that charter member, Jess Wise, passed away on Thursday, June 4th. Jess was a past Michiana Society president and secretary. Bess, his wife, has been Historian for many years. He has been ill and has not been able to attend meetings for about 2 years. Our sincere sympathy to Bess and their son, Keith and daughter, Karen.

We plan on having a work session sometime in the near future. I have gotten the agates, beads and wire to make necklaces or bolas. We can use the church hall any Monday, Wednesday or Thursday evening in early July. Are you interested in a special meeting on a week night? Week of July 6th, or the 13th? We would meet at 7:00 p.m. and plan on a 2-hour session. Or, we can have a Sunday session. Let me know which you prefer.

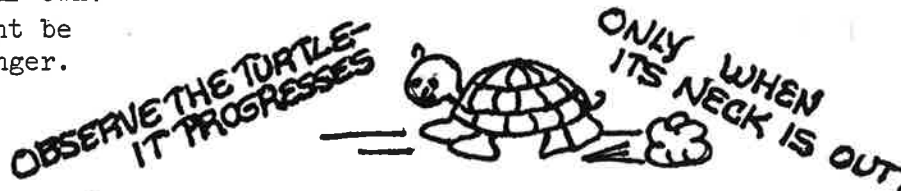
The Bloomington, IL Corn Belt Lapidary Club will hold a swap at Funk's Grove in the State Park on Sat., Aug. 15th. There will be a pot luck lunch, then the swap, then a tour of museum. The Peoria show will be held on Sun. August 16th, and it is only 50 miles away. So, if you are interested this should be a weekend trip.

This year the AFMS and MWF Convention/Show will be held in Brunswick, OH. So, if you would like to attend a national show, this is the year. The show will be held on July 24th through the 26th. There is camping nearby, and plenty of motels. Most of the motels are in Strongsville, but this is only a short distance away. If you would like information on any of the activities, field trips, banquets, programs or motels, let me know; we have extra fliers.

Also remember our August picnic on the 2nd at the Lakeville Conservation Club.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW !!!!!!

Margaret



FIELD TRIP - CHENEY LIMESTONE QUARRY

Directions - by Gordon Dobecki.....

The easiest, but not the shortest way of getting to Bellevue, MI is by taking the Indiana Toll Road (80-90) east to the Interstate 69 exit north. Go until Exit 48 to the west of Bellevue (it may not say Bellevue). On the west side of the town there was (17 years ago) a sign directing you north to the Cheney Limestone Quarry. Pam Rubenstein who went with Alec a few months ago did not find a sign but talked to people who operated a quarry by the name of Cheney, on the phone. They found marcasite and pyrite. As I recall there were two parts to the quarry on either side of the road.

The way I went which has more traffic, was by way of Michigan Route 12 east to 131, then north to Interstate 94 East, then taking the exit to Battle Creek marked Route 66 North. When it splits off to Route 78 follow it to west side of Bellevue. Then take the side road north when you see the (sign?) or ask directions.

I think if we all meet at 10:00 a.m. on the date chosen at the church, those who wish may double up in cars to caravan with as few cars as possible.

Those who haven't collected in a long time will find taking old beer cases from bottles with plenty of newspaper to wrap specimens usefull. Specimens which you'll find on the ground have oxidized and turned yellow. Those you'll split from limestone with chisel and hammer will be of far better quality and brighter. No cleaning should be necessary - unlike specimens at Rensselaer.

See ya! Gordon

.....
Could anyone use plastic containers that 35 mm film comes in? Would make good storage containers for small specimens.. I have a desk drawer full of them. let me know....

Joyce

ACROSS THE BACK FENCE (-via The Trilobite)

VOLCANIC NECKS - When a volcano dies, lava hardens in its throat as a plug of massive rock. The cone surrounding it, being composed mainly of loose material, crumbles and wears away. Meanwhile, the plug resists weathering. When the cone has dwindled to a formless hill, the plug remains standing like a monument. Devil's Tower in northeastern Wyoming is just such a volcanic neck, marking a spot where a volcano, after its rage was spent, died, and crumbled away as erosion took place. The neck is made of igneous rock called basalt. While the melted basalt was cooling and shrinking, its long vertical joints formed.

SURE ACUPUNCTURE WORKS - Ever see a sick porcupine?

HELPFUL HINTS - To avoid spilling small stones on a field trip, have a can with a plastic lid handy. Cut a plus sign in the lid (+) and simply push the stones through the +. This greatly reduces the chance of spilling or losing the stones. A cloth or paper cushion at the bottom will protect delicates. Use a coffee or baking powder can, or any other of the size that best fits your collecting needs.

SOME PEOPLE - are like buttons - always popping off at the wrong time. SOME MINDS - are like concrete - mixed up and permanently set. SOME PEOPLE - are like blotters - they soak it all in, but get it backwards.

ESCOMO - argues that if there was ANY justice in this world, people would occasionally be permitted to fly over pigeons.

CABS - To be sure your cab isn't flat in the middle, mark an X there before you start. If it all disappears, you've probably got a nicely curved dome.

ALGAE & LICHEN - may be removed by soaking in a solution of ammonia and water.

LAZY? - Smile a lot. Takes only 17 muscles. Frowning uses 47!

..... EVERY DAY IS EARTH DAY!!!!

HOW DUMB IS DUMB? "DUMB AS A BOX OF ROCKS"

I heard this remark this morning on a TV program, made by a supposedly intelligent person - and I was offended. In a general sense, I realize what the speaker meant, and I was sorry for him. Probably, that a box of nondescript rocks would just sit there and not say a thing or even look bright, colorful, or even interesting. In short, that a box of rocks, in appearing dumb to him, would actually be dumb.

Things like that happen all the time, and to many people. So, it is understandable - at least for certain uninformed individuals. But, I have a box of rocks, a small box, and the rocks are, I will admit, dumb-looking. However, I have heard some of the stories they tell and I hereby state that they are not gossip, fabrication, hearsay, egocentric mutterings, sick verbiage, political gibberish, innuendo, or the like. The stories are truthful, respectful, law abiding, and scientifically sound and have been in a composing mode for many, many centuries. There are, of course, many boxes of other rocks other than mine - all with stories to tell. Here are some of the stories that my few "dumb" rocks have told me.

One of the larger pieces is a flat, dull gray chunk of rock one might look at and discard without a further thought. Throw it out because it has several ugly scratches on its otherwise smooth surface. The story it tells is that thousands of years ago this was the top surface of some limestone bedrock. A huge mass of ice, maybe more than a mile high, and gripping some hard rocks in its lower surface, very slowly scrubbed over the surface of the bedrock. Something had to give and so the harder pebbles and rocks of the ice mass smoothed and grooved the limestone bedrock surface. How slowly? How great was the pressure? Was heat produced? Did the pressure change the melting point of the ice? Did melt-water lubricate the grinding action and flush away the debris and detritus? What happened to the abraders? What happened to the particles resulting from the grinding action? How about the differential in hardness/abrasion resistance of the "abraders" and the "abradee"? Obviously, there are even more stories that could be told here. I will listen again.

But, what about the bedrock itself? If you listen closely to a broken, vertical surface, you will hear a story that took many centuries to compose, of life on a warm, placid sea bottom, and after. Slowly, much more slowly even than the slow movement of the ice mass, tiny particles of lime, mud, sand, and silt floated out from a shore, and down through the sea, and collected on the sea bottom. Depending upon just which species of rock and which minerals were being eroded from a distant mountain range, or from glacial actions, or from an eroding coastline, sometimes the particles were light colored, or dark colored, fine, very fine, and thus the thickness of the forming varves varied, as did their topography. The resulting rock strata, after eons of pressure, dehydration, compression, chemical interactions, and possibly even considerable thermal exposure, became that which I see today. This "dumb" rock storyteller could be relating about environmental changes miles away on land surfaces, about marine animal life, chemical and pH variations, and other things and events related to this rock over several ages. What a story!

Next an octahedron of lodestone, badly bruised, scarred, and chipped, but still maintaining its integrity. It is heavy. Why? It is black. Why? It is magnetic. Why? What is magnetism? How does it, or how could it possibly work? Many questions - but this rather nondescript rock will be able to tell much about itself and to answer most of the questions asked of it. It is a different type of rock and its story is almost unique and very interesting. I will listen to this rock again sometime.

This one is a different kind of rock. It is red-brown in color, sort of oval in shape, slightly gritty, not very heavy, very dull looking and not pretty at all. Another one that should have been thrown out long ago. Oops. Dropped it. Sorry. Broke into two pieces.

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HOW DUMB IS DUMB? ... cont'd.

Wait, I hear and see something. Yes, it's different inside. Looks as if there was a piece of fern leaf inside, or at least that a piece of fern was pressed between the two halves. A fern inside of a rock, a dumb rock! Looks like a fern leaf from the woods out in back. Although it is just a fern leaf impression, it says that it has been there for some 300 million years before I dropped it. How long is 300 million years? What were the land, the air, and the climate like back then? And the animals and insects? And its floral neighbors? How and why did the fern leaf get into the nodule? Why is the rock a nodule and how did it form? I must listen to its wonderful story, for it relates to many things and events.

What about that rock with all those wavy layers? Looks like a sandwich of many layers that has been mushed down and then mushed from side to side. What are the layers? What were they before the mushing took place? What happened to produce this rock? Was it pressure, extreme heat, chemical interactions, or "all of the above"? Did it happen overnight? It really looks as if this rock has been through an awful lot and possibly over a long period of time. Maybe it's too tired and worn out to tell much of its great story right now.

And here is a piece of glass-like stuff. Or, it looks like a piece of plastic with something enclosed in it. One end is pointed and it has six sides, although the end and sides are chipped and scratched. But, you can see that the inside form looks a lot like the outside form with a pointed end and all. It even looks as if a gray ghost form was imbedded in the more clear outside form. If it is a rock or a crystal, though, how did that thing form inside a solid crystal? Why did it form? Did it take a long time? Maybe conditions around it changed at some time, thus they might be different forms of the same basic stuff. If the whole thing "grew" somehow, how could the shapes, the sides, and the pointed ends have formed as they did? When this "rock" decides to talk, it is going to be very interesting but probably quite complicated to understand.

Another rock, a nearly round, bumpy, dull, gray-tan one - not a pretty sight. About as big as a small fist. Oops. I did it again. Dropped it, but it was really an interesting rock. But, oh, am I glad I did drop it! It's all hollow inside. Well, not quite, because it has thousands of pointed sparkling little things coating several thin layers of blue-gray stuff around the interior wall of the shell. This is absolutely beautiful, fantastic. But, how could all of those little point-like diamonds get in there? Or did they somehow form right inside where they are? Then how did the shell get to be hollow? I don't see any opening. I wonder why there are two different kinds of crystals and other lining stuff inside this one hollow shell? It will be more than just a plain story that this rock will tell some-time - it's a mystery story. I wonder if it will have a surprise ending.

I've dropped two of the rocks of this dumb box. I guess I'll have to be much more careful if I ever get a box of real smart rocks!

Here is the last piece, a smaller one, but with something on its surface. No, it's in the surface. It looks like the limestone of a previous rock. Could it be a piece of a comb imbedded in the rock? No, it couldn't be that, the rock is too old. Although it is small, it now looks like a section of ribs - maybe the rib cage of a small animal. If so, I wonder what the two end pieces looked like? They might have been a head and a tail piece. What did the whole animal look like? Did it have "cousins" that were a bit different? If this was a little animal that lived, say 350 million years ago, imagine what it could tell us about how and where it lived, what it ate, was it warm or cool, could it see and feel things, and so on. Surely, another great story and a very different one from the other stories.

Obviously, something is a bit odd. Here is a box of several dull, nondescript rocks -- probably appearing very much as the "dumb box of rocks" I hear about on the TV. And, to

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HOW DUMB IS DUMB? ... cont'd.

many individuals they may, indeed, appear dumb. However, when you get to know and understand those "dumb" rocks, and listen to their stories, you can't help but develop a different attitude toward even the dumbest-looking rocks, for they all have very interesting, even fantastic, stories to tell - if you listen to them.

(-by Don Armistead, The Glacial Drifter, written for and printed in the Triassic Valley Bulletin 11-91)

MURPHYS LAW FOR ROCKHOUNDS

When using a stone as an anvil, the rock underneath will ALWAYS be softer than the one being smitten and will break first.

The value of a mineral specimen seems to be always in inverse proportion to its looks.

Rock projecting from the ground is like an iceberg - 1/10th above, 9/10th beneath.

The rock that looks easy to break will smash your hammer.

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than to descent a slag pile with dignity.

The best rock is the one just out of reach.

(the above was taken from the newsletter of the British Lapidary & Mineral Dealers Association and submitted by Paul Stone, Club Member)

ROCKHOGS?? CARELESS?? US??

Are we as rockhounds, losing our image to "special interest" groups? Some people, by being rockhogs, instead of rockhounds, are causing these special interest groups to focus in on some points. It seems environmental concerns are increasing more and more, reminding us of problems of carelessness, such as leaving holes, uprooting trees, etc. and illegal collecting activities. These are getting more publicity and creates greater concerns. Public land managers are looking at our activities and trying to understand if we are really collecting for our own use or if it is a

"commercial activity--offering specimens for sale or trade at rockhound functions such as tailgating events, when the "rockhound(s) KNOW the material came from public land. It is a concern to think about!

It is your fight - not just the officials and public land representatives in each club - to save the public land from becoming "wilderness"! If you allow Congress to vote for bills like HR 2929 and S 21, it will not only affect your access and others in the future, but the GEM AND MINERAL SHOWS all over the United States will be affected in years to come due to lack of lapidary and (other) show case material!

Here is a suggestion to all Federations club members: If each club in the United States would buy enough post cards for their members, one per each Senator; have the secretary and a helper address and type a message on the back such as, "I OPPOSE HR 2929 and 21". Let them write in a few sentences and sign their name, collect the cards and mail them. We could start winning some of these "wilderness battles"! The bills in Congress now that involve the State of California is a mere beginning -- it will "snowball" into every state that has BLM and Forest Service public lands.

(-by G. Arthur Pavin, RMFMS President via The Rocky Mountain Digest & The Glacial Drifter)

Man does not live by bread alone - he needs buttering up once in a while!

(-via Strata Gems, Rockhound Gazette & The Glacial Drifter)

AMBER - GOLDEN WINDOW ON THE PAST

(-via Grit & Sand 3/92 and The Rocky Reader)

One day, some 40 million years ago, when dense forests covered the northern continents and mammals were just beginning to flourish, a young grasshopper landed in a coniferous tree. Shortly, the insect found itself mired in soft, gluey resin. Unable to escape, the grasshopper died, and the resin enveloped its body as if a lid had been placed over a grave.

And what a wondrous tomb this resin proved to be. Hardened, it dropped to the ground and eventually became buried. Finally unearthed on the shores of the Baltic Sea, the rocklike bit of resin still guarded a treasure for all to see. The fabulous species of insects and plants have been found perfectly preserved within its depths. Gemlike in its rich shades of yellow, orange and even blue, and found across the world, amber has been used for decoration since the Stone Age. Yet perhaps its greatest value has surfaced only in the past century. With the study of amber inclusions, scientists can now learn about the flora and fauna of an ancient forest, a realm once largely known only in the imagination.

It is not surprising that early man regarded amber as something extraordinary. This lustrous fossil resin is warm to the touch, not cool like a mineral. It is often transparent and resembles a gem, yet it burns like wood, frequently giving off a piney scent. When rubbed against woolen or silk, amber becomes charged with electricity. Captivated by its beauty, and its seemingly magical properties, the ancients developed romantic theories of its origin. Some thought it solidified sunshine, others believed it was the petrified tears of gods. Not until A.D. 77, when the Roman author Pliny made public his Historia Naturalis, was amber scientifically described as a product of the plant world.

Stone age graves in Europe indicate that numerous tribes wore pieces of amber as amulets to ward off evil spirits. At the Colosseum in Rome, superstitious gladiators fought in clothing studded with amber. In the Roman Empire, amber was also valued for alleged medicinal qualities. It was hung around the neck to prevent tonsillitis, fever and other ailments. Ground up with honey and rose oil, it was said to combat ear infections and poor eyesight. Even as late as the 19th century, European doctors prescribed ointment made from amber as a salve for wounds.

Yet the most celebrated quality of amber has been its beauty. Beads, pendants and figurines carved from amber have turned up in graves dating from 8000 B.C. in northern Europe --- placing amber among the early substances used by man for ornamentation. The ancient trade routes of Europe carried large amounts of this unusual commodity, which was esteemed to be as precious as gold and was bartered extensively for iron, copper and bronze. Pliny reports that a small carved figure of amber was worth more in the marketplace than a slave. During the middle ages guilds of amber artisans sprang up in Europe supplying finely crafted rosaries, chalices and crucifixes of Baltic amber.

Amber deposits occur wherever resin-producing trees grew. Much of the amber found thus far dates from the Oligocene Epoch of the Tertiary Period, some 40 million years ago. Baltic amber is found in easily mined shoreline deposits and sometimes even washes up on beaches. In the Dominican Republic, the amber must be mined. The bright translucent fossil resin lies embedded in sandstone. In chunks ranging from an inch across to a size larger than a man's fist. Because of the brittle nature of amber, miners work cautiously with shovel and pick, avoiding dynamite or bulldozers.

"A drop of amber, from the weeping plant, fell unexpected, and embalmed an ant.
The little insect we so much condemn is, from a worthless ant, became a gem."

(From the Roman poet Martial in his Epigrams.)

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THE WORD IS OUT - LOBBYING BY THE AMATEUR COLLECTOR (-by John Boland E/L Committee via the Midwest Federation Newsletter, 5/92)

The Midwest Federation and the other five federations like the AFMS, are 501(C)3 non-profit organizations and cannot lobby their legislators or their staff. It is not permissible to conduct grass roots (public) campaigns to influence lawmakers. It is permissible to write articles in club publications that explain both sides of the issue, i.e., Cranston S-21 wants 8.9 million acres with the remainder in multiple-use. Club members must decide their preference and personal letters must be written to their U.S. Senator on this issue.

Articles appear in the MWF Newsletter and AFMS Newsletter which the club president and bulletin editor read. Frequently these articles are not brought to the attention of the club at meetings or in bulletins due to time and space. However, with the increasing efforts to put additional land into wilderness, or restrict the hobbyist from collecting on federal and state lands, better communications with concerned individual members are needed.

The AFMS Select Committee recommended a separate 501(C)4 organization in which concerned members could join and express their beliefs as a group, to national and state legislators and their staff. As you know, staffs make up position papers for their bosses based on letters and phone calls from the constituents. In past conferences with the BLM and Forest Service, and state land managers, federations representatives have always promoted "permit-free and open" for the casual collector in accordance with our Code of Ethics, and current federal and state collecting rules. Many new legislative proposals must be communicated quickly with the members and a 501(C)4 group is needed to express their opinions with committee legislators, and members with their individual area lawmakers.

The Midwest Federation and its clubs will not lose their current 501(C)3 status. Members will continue with all of the benefits of the MWF and AFMS as currently provided; those who do not wish to belong to the 501(C)4 organization are not obliged. Since all monies of '501(C)4 organization must be kept separate for IRS purposes, the dues for this group will be determined for individual membership.

The ten proposals listed in the February AFMS Newsletter will be voted on by the AFMS Board of Directors in Brunswick. The MWF members are Margaret Heinek, Glenn Hanning, and Cathy Miller.

Good News

Good News: For your information - THERE WILL BE A LAPIDARY BOOTH available at the AFMS/MWF show/convention this year in Ohio. The Lapidary Committee invites ALL members of the Midwest Federation to participate in this booth by

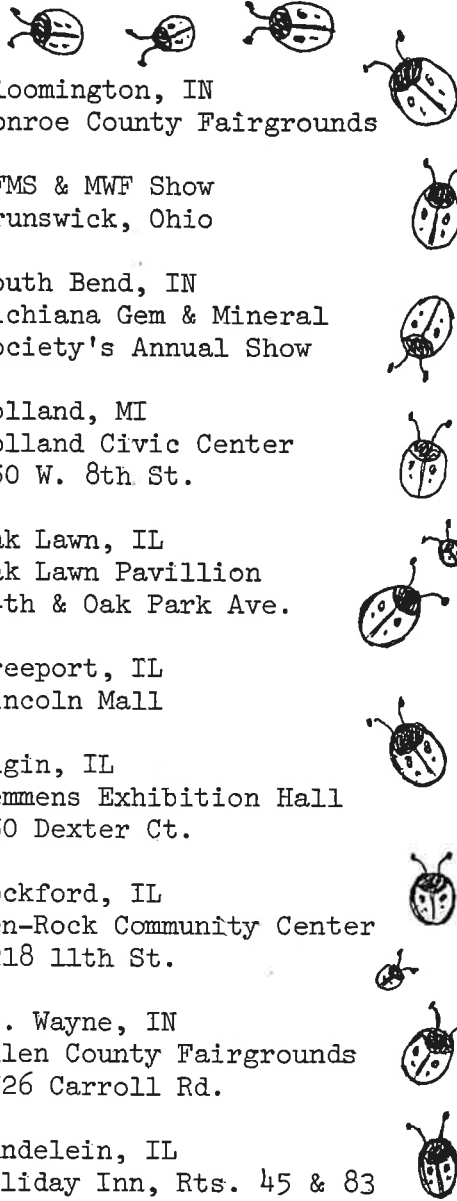
sharing any lapidary information they wish to pass on. This can be in the form of pamphlets, booklets, fliers, catalogues, membership forms, newsletters, magazines, etc. If you have techniques or tips, put them on paper...share your experience and knowledge.

Items advertising your club or an up-coming show such as: key rings, rulers, pencils, pens, litter bags, buttons, patches, bumper stickers, etc., are also acceptable. The public (and our people in the hobby), all love the give-aways.

PLEASE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN & SPECIALIZED CLUBS put together a half or full page information flier of what your committee/club does for the hobby AND WHO they may contact for more information. Allow enough copies for the Lapidary Booth to last the days of the show. ADVERTISING OUR HOBBY/CRAFT IS THE KEY TO NEW MEMBERSHIPS. Perhaps your flier will be the key to someone joining our interesting and diverse hobby.

(LAPIDARY COMMITTEE: Robert Miller, Chairman, Doris Kemp, Assistant, Catherine McHugh, Asst.

SHOW SCHEDULES



YOU'RE A ROCKHOUND!!

JUNE 19/21 Bloomington, IN
Monroe County Fairgrounds

If you hit the road from ten to four and
drive a hundred miles or more...
Then look for rocks till your eyes are sore,
You're a Rockhound!

JULY 23/26 AFMS & MWF Show
Brunswick, Ohio

If you dig all day in the broiling sun,
pack a sackful home when day is done,
And still insist you're having fun,
You're a Rockhound!

SEPT. 4/6 South Bend, IN
Michiana Gem & Mineral
Society's Annual Show

SEPT. 18/19 Holland, MI
Holland Civic Center
150 W. 8th St.

If you camp at night where the rattlers
crawl-where coyotes howl and doggies bawl,
And dreams are not disturbed at all,
You're a Rockhound!

SEPT 20 Oak Lawn, IL
Oak Lawn Pavillion
94th & Oak Park Ave.

If you head for home with an overload, down
a rutted, rocky mountain road,
And break a spring and don't explode,
You're a Rockhound!

SEPT. 20/21 Freeport, IL
Lincoln Mall

SEPT. 26/27 Elgin, IL
Hemmens Exhibition Hall
150 Dexter Ct.

But when your Club puts on a show, to strut
their stuff and raise some dough,
If your "Braggin Rocks" aren't there, ya know,
You're NO Rockhound!

OCT. 17/18 Rockford, IL
Ken-Rock Community Center
3218 11th St.

(-via Gem Time)

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS - all you PEARLS!

OCT. 17/18 Ft. Wayne, IN
Allen County Fairgrounds
2726 Carroll Rd.

9th - Catherine McHugh
12th - Jessie Zeiger
14th - Brian Hess
19th - Jerry Shoemaker

OCT. 23/25 Mundelein, IL
Holiday Inn, Rts. 45 & 83

28th - Mary Millerand.....
Tom & Sue Fields - Happy Anniversary, 6-6.

ONLY IN AMERICA: He drove his German made car, with Swedish steel and Argentine leather into a gasoline station where he filled it with Arab oil shipped in a Liberian tanker, and bought two French tires made of rubber from Sri Lanka. At home, he dropped his Moroccan briefcase, hung up his Scottish tweed coat, removed his Italian shoes and Egyptian cotton shirt, then donned a Hong Kong robe and Taiwan slippers. More comfortable now, he poured a cup of hot, Brazilian coffee into his English coffee mug, set a Mexican place mat on an Irish tablecloth atop a Danish table finished with linseed oil from India. He filled his Austrian pipe with Turkish tobacco and picked up a Japanese ballpoint pen with which he wrote a letter to his Congressman asking support for measures to protect American industries from imports.

(via Gems of the Foothills, Breccia and CFMS Newsletter)

DID YOU KNOW.....The fastest moving thing on earth is a tidal wave? It can encircle the earth in a day, traveling at a rate of 1,000 miles per hour. (-via Glacial Drifter)

THOUGHTS FOR TODAY.....Scandal - a breeze worked into a storm by windbags.

Speak when you are angry, and you'll make the best speech you'll ever regret.

Be not simply good, but good for something.

(-club members - Tom and Pat McLaughlin)

FOSSILS OF THE POST-PLIOCENE AGE IN INDIANA-
 by Paul Godollet, Club member

June 1992

As the ice advanced and retreated during the many periods of the Ice Age it took some time for the plants and animals to return and flourish.. Many died out and whole species became extinct. throughout the Earth.

Fossils of the Post-Pliocene Age have been found in the glacial drift and peat bogs in Indiana..

Large numbers of mastodons and mammoths lived in Europe, Asia and North America during the Ice Age. They became extinct around the end of the last big glacial advance. The fossilized skeletons have been found in Indiana, and frozen animals with the flesh and skin intact have been found in the frozen ice in Siberia. Incomplete skeletons of several mammoths were found in St. Joseph County on the Futa farm about 30 years ago.

The Mastodon had a straight back and the mammoth had a high dome on its skull. The teeth were very different, too. The mastodons had molars with high separate cusps showing that it browsed on leaves and twigs and lived in woodland areas. The mammoth molars had many ridges like a washboard, suited for chewing grass, which made it suited for living in grasslands.

Mastodons tended to be smaller but more heavily built than mammoths.

Mammoth bones have been found in the remains of Indian hunting camps on the plains of Oklahoma and Arizona dating back 11000 years.

Skeletons of giant beavers, peccary or wild hog, bison, deer, elk, giant ground sloths, bears, tapirs, saber-tooths, horses, bears and wolves have also been found in Indiana. Some are on display in local museums.

They can also be seen at the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis. Tusks and teeth of mastodons and mammoths and remains of other mammals are also in the Northern Indiana Historical Society's collections.

Bibliography: Indiana Department of Geology and Natural Resources, 15 th Annual Report 1886, by Maurice Thompson, State Geologist-p 283-Fossil Mammals of the Post-Pliocene Age in Indiana

Carnegie Museum of Natural History-Museum Highlights Bulletin, 1992 Mastodons and Mammoths.

The Fossil Book, by Carroll and Mildred Fenton, 1958, Doubleday & Co., N.Y.

MASTODON

MAMMOTH



TOOTH



TOOTH

Which is which?