



Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society
Mrs. Blossomae Campbell, Editor
1134 North 28th Street
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA

CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

- AIM:
1. The study of Mineralogy and Geology.
 2. To foster field trips to collect minerals, gems and fossils.
 3. The improvement of its members in the art of cutting, polishing and mounting gem material.
 4. To provide opportunity for the exchange, purchase and exhibition of specimens and material.

The Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society is affiliated with:
The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies
The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

MEETINGS: First Sunday of each month in the Hospitality Room of Capital Electric Co-op Building on Highway 83 north of Bismarck. Meeting time is 7:30 P. M.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

OFFICERS:

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| President..... | John Dosch..... | 1425 N. 15th St., Bismarck..... | 255-1924 |
| Vice-President..... | Earle Campbell..... | 1134 N. 28th St., Bismarck..... | 255-3658 |
| Secretary..... | Stanley Fairaizl..... | 205 6th Ave. NW, Mandan..... | 663-9712 |
| Treasurer..... | William Buresh..... | 1527 N. 19th St., Bismarck..... | 223-0611 |
| Program Chairman..... | DeLane Meier..... | 516½ Gary Ave., Bismarck..... | 223-8579 |
| Field Trip Chairman... | Ronnie Stelter..... | Wilton..... | 734-6483 |
| Librarian..... | Ewald Muggli..... | Glen Ullin..... | 348-3897 |
| Nominations..... | Vernie Peterson..... | 615 N. 12th St., Bismarck..... | 223-9179 |
| Refreshments..... | Mrs. Albert Anderson.. | RR. #2, Bismarck..... | 673-4585 |
| Annual Show..... | Gordon Bell..... | 515 N. 22nd St., Bismarck..... | 223-5146 |
| Historian..... | Mrs. Ted Giese..... | New Salem..... | 843-7005 |
| Official Greeter..... | Dick Bergantine..... | 703 12th Ave. NW, Mandan..... | 663-3419 |
| Editor..... | Mrs. Earle Campbell..... | 1134 N. 28th St., Bismarck..... | 255-3658 |
| Pebble Pup Leader..... | Harold Brady..... | 1401 Sunny Rd., Mandan..... | 663-3904 |

All contributions should be mailed to the editor, Mrs. Earle Campbell, 1134 N. 28th Bismarck. Please have them in by the tenth of each month.

Other editors may reprint any article from this Bulletin. A credit line would be appreciated.

March, 1973

From the President's Desk

We had a fruitful meeting with a lot of business being carried on, as you will note throughout the bulletin.

Thanks again to DeLane Meier, our program chairman, for the great program. Our little kitty did not grow too much but I am sure the Silent Auction was much enjoyed by the members - at least from the comments I heard after the program. I hope we try this again sometime and get a few more members to bring goodies.

We were happy to meet and welcome several new members and guests - welcome aboard.

John Dosch

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MARCH MEETING

The Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society voted to give \$10.00 to the Burleigh County Retarded Children's Association to be used for their summer camp. This money will stay in Burleigh County and not be sent to the national organization.

Tentative dates for our annual show are September 15 for Mandan and September 9 for Bismarck. Williston is having their show September 21, 22 and 23. Since so many of our members attend the Williston show it was decided to move the date for our show to any earlier time.

It was voted to charge non-members \$1.50 for a year's subscription for Diggins from Dakota. This will help pay for postage and paper.

It was also voted to give guest speakers a one year paid-up membership with all club priveleges.

The door prize was won by Gen Buresh.

Hostess for the April meeting will be Mae Fairaizl and Emma Brady.

The organizations commission from the Silent Auction was \$9.18.

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THIS 'n THAT

Linda Muggli, daughter of Clara and Ewald Muggli, became the bride of Joshua Gartner march 5. Joyce Muggli was her sister's maid of honor. The couple will make their home in Glen Ullin.

Ed and Katherine Muggli are taking a vacation to Arizona. Hope they have as nice weather as we have been having lately.

Last month we reported that our president, John Dosch, was named "Outstanding Knight of the Year" by the Bismarck Knights of Columbus. This month I am happy to report that John has been named the district winner of that award. He is now eligible for the North Dakota "Knight of the Year." The State meeting will be held in Dickinson May 18 - 20. Congratulations to a very deserving and worthy man!

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You sowers of rubbish, all over the land,
Take note of the harvest on every hand.
Say, why not reform? Don't be a "Dimwitter",
Just dig in and HELP TO ELIMINATE LIETTER! PLEASE.

Plains Rock & Mineral Club

LOCAL JEWELER TO SPEAK AT APRIL MEETING

Leroy Walker, owner of Walker's Jewelry Store, will be the guest speaker at the April meeting. Mr. Walker is a Certified Gemologist in the American Gem Society. He has an Accredited Gem Laboratory. There are only 144 of these in the United States which means that less than 1% of the jewelry stores in the U. S. have one. Mr. Walker can identify almost every gem stone. At the meeting he will bring a refractive index tool so that we can see how he identifies gems. He does not use the hardness test which rockhounds rely on, but uses instruments for identification.

Mr. Walker will display matched sets of jewelry made of Montana agate, and a set of hand carved agate animals which come from Mainland China.

A native of Bismarck, Mr. Walker is a graduate of BJC and received his B. S. from the University of Wisconsin in Chemical Engineering. His store is a family affair, with his charming wife, equally charming daughters and son helping in waiting on customers and doing the many other chores that are necessary for a family operated business.

Mr. Walker says that his speech will be very informal and he hopes that club members will interrupt him whenever they have a question instead of waiting until he is through speaking to ask questions.

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OOPS! DEPT.

Those gremlins were busy again last month. They do insist on making things come out wrong. For instance, in the Club Directory of paid-up members, the John Dosch address should be 1425 N. 15th instead of 1525 N. 15th.

The name of Walter Buck was somehow missed in compiling the directory. You will find his address elsewhere in this bulletin. Sorry about that, friend!

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PEBBLE PUPS

With a chalkboard made out of a box we learned the difference between petrified and agatized wood.

Toredo Worm: A termite lives on land and a toredo worm lives in water. A toredo worm, or toredo mollusk, is a clam in front and a worm in back. Natives eat toredo worms rare (National Geographic). Toredo worms still live. They are the size of a pencil, but sometimes the size of a quarter. The hole made by a toredo worm is filled with its own waste material. They ate wooden ships. All wood put in the ocean is treated against toredo worms. Most toredo wood is in Cannonball Formation which is approximately 80-100 million years old.

Did you know that bird bones are hollow and tortoise or turtle plates are porous?

Pebble Pups present were Kathy, Andy, Jim, Tom, Mary Ann Dosch, Kim Weiderich, Pat Brady, Lee and DeWitt Meier and Richie and Ronnie Strom.

Mary Ann Dosch

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When breaking a small rock with a hammer, to avoid hitting your thumb, either take both hands to the hammer, or let your wife hold the rock!

Tips and Trips

via Gems and Minerals

via Lake Agassiz Rockhound

PAID UP MEMBERSHIP

Please add these names to the list of members which were printed in last months bulletin.

AUNE, Edwin & Thelma
Wilton, N. D. 58579
734-6758

BUCK, Walter & Jacqueline
1807 Linda Drive
Mandan, N. D. 58554
663-8531

PETERSON, Vernie & Betty
615 N. 12th
Bismarck, N. D. 58501
223-9179

STROM, Al & Ardell
212 Ave. F West
Bismarck, N. D. 58501
258-3646

WHITE, Al & Marlene
604 10th Ave. S. W.
Mandan, N. D. 58554
663-8727

RANDALL, Robert & Sue
928 N. 16th St.
Bismarck, N. D. 58501
223-1625

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Several of our chairmen need your help. If our organization is to continue growing we should all pitch in and do our part. If you have any suggestions please contact one of these persons:

RONNIE STELTER - FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN Do you have a favorite place where the pickin's are good? Is there a rock quarry near you that would yeild some nice agate? Or perhaps a place where fossils are found? You can reach Ronnie by dialing 734-6483 (toll-free from Bismarck). Or contact John Dosch at 255-1924.

DELANE MEIER - PROGRAM CHAIRMAN Delane has done a very good job this year but he would like to have a few hints on the kind of program you would like to have. One can call him at 223-8579.

BLOSSOMAE CAMPBELL - EDITOR I just had to get my name in the paper somehow. But really, I would appreciate stories, poems, articles, cartoons (if they are easy to copy) puzzles, and jokes. Mail them to me at 1134 North 28th Street, Bismarck.

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A group of tourists were being shown over an opal digging area when a lady member of the group, somewhat "raw" to the game -- excitedly showed the guide a large piece of opal about an inch or so long. The cunning old gent looked at it for a moment and then threw it away, saying "That's no good to you. You couldn't set that in a ring, it's much too big!!!!"

GEMFORM -- Australia Gem Club
via The Flint Rock & Gem Club

Some rockhounds never exaggerate --- they just remember big.

via Rock Riva
via Tulip City Conglomerate

A DICTIONARY FOR THE OBFUSCATION OF ROCKHOUNDS
AND PEOPLE

(If you are slightly confused by rockhound terms, read these gems collected by Dave Peterson of 'The Geode', and you will no longer be slightly confused.)

AGATE - An opening in afence.

AIR POLLUTION - When our eyes smart because our heads aren't.

ALCOHOL - A polish remover that works on furniture and people.

AMPHIBOLE - Another New Year's Day football game.

APATITE - what a rockhound gets on field trips.

ARCHAEOLOGIST - a person whose career lies in ruins.

ARCHAEOLOGY - digging around to find other civilizations to blame ours on.

BARIUM - what to do with your clothes after encountering a skunk.

BERYL - semi-precious. Precious if filled with whiskey.

CARBON - a short rifle.

COMMITTEE - a bunch of people who keep minutes and waste hours. ALSO:

A group of unprepared appointed by the unwilling to do the unnecessary.

CONGLOMERATE - a typical group of rockhounds.

CORAL - a place to keep sea horses.

CRINNOID - the wrong way to pronounce crinoid.

CUBE - a square, no matter how you look at it.

DETOUR - a road opened especially for vacation driving.

DIAMOND - hardest known substance - for a man to get back. A stepping stone - to marriage. The kind of ice that keeps a girl warm.

DOP STICK - tinkertoy stick to mount gemstones on for cutting when the fingers are reduced to bloody stumps.

DUST - dehydrated mud.

EARTHQUAKE - the result of Mother Nature not taking her earth control pills.

ENVIRONMENTALIST - one who wonders why he can't buy an auto muffler that will last as long as a beer can.

ERA - a mistake

EXPERT - a word formed by combining EX, meaning unknown or has-been, with SPURT, which is a drip under pressure.

FAULT FINDER - a geologist

FAUNA - Italian word for a young deer.

FIELD TRIP - an impossible trek to an inaccessible place for a non-existent specimen.

FILING CABINET - a system for losing things alphabetically.

FORTIFICATION - two twentifications

FOSSIL - what my kids think I am.

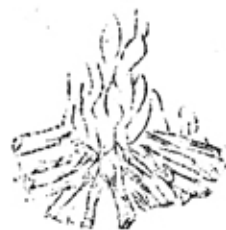
FRIEND - a person who can see the star in your sapphire.

GARNET - what you say when a rock drops on your foot.

(More of these next month.)

CAMPING

HINTS



Winter is just about over - spring is just around the corner! Now is the time to check your camping gear and your rock hunting equipment so that you will be ready to make a dash for your favorite rock hunting places. But before you head for the garage, the basement, or wherever, pour yourself another cup of coffee, relax and read the following articles. There might be one that was written just for you!!!!

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FIRST AID KITS

Before starting on spring field trips, check first aid kits and replace items that may have been used, soiled or damaged. For those that do not have a first aid kit in home and car, now is a good time to prepare one.

You can buy a first aid kit from your drug store or make your own to suit your own needs. If you should decide on the latter, here are some suggestions: A small fishing tackle box or small tool box makes an excellent kit. Paint the box white with red crosses on it for easy identification.

Supplies should include 1 or 2 triangular bandages which are easily made from an old sheet cut into a 40-inch square and then cut diagonally to make two triangles; 1 or 2 rolls of gauze or curlex bandages 1 to 1½ inches wide; ½ dozen 3x3 or 4x4 inch gauze pads, safety pins, ½ dozen tongue depressors for finger splints; ½ dozen Q tips; 2 boxes of compress bandages; bottle of disinfectant - check with your doctor as to what he recommends; pair of small scissors; pair of tweezers; roll of adhesive tape ½ inch wide; snake bite kit for snake country; and a large white bandage about 16x24 inches to 24x36 inches, several layers thick, to use to cover large burn or injured areas. A small penlight might be handy. You might want to add sunburn lotion, lip ice, headache medication, salt tablets, etc. Small pill bottles make good containers for safety pins. Tongue depressors and Q tips should be stored in a container.

Three items that should be a part of every first aid kit or box of supplies are matches, castile soap and bicarbonate of soda. Matches can be used to sterilize a needle or knife blade. Soap (and water) can be used to wash an area of body exposed to poisonous weeds or any other poisonous or irritating substances on the skin and for cleaning superficial wounds. Soda (with water) can be used for cleansing, ease pain of itching and burning of insect bites, relief of indigestion, and numerous other uses.

---Max Holliday
via AFMS NEWSLETTER
March, 1973

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When an irritated bee, wasp or hornet or similar insect drills a hole in your skin, what should you do about it? Dissolve a quarter teaspoon of meat tenderizer in two teaspoons of water and rub it into the skin around the sting. It will stop the pain of most insect stings in seconds.

--Dr. Harry Arnhold, Jr., AMA Journal
via The Tumbler, via AFMS Newsletter



HOW TO LIFT THOSE HEAVY ROCKS SAFELY

The National Safety Council suggests that when lifting heavy objects in order to prevent back injuries:

1. Never try to lift more than you can handle.
2. Crouch down to what you are going to lift.
3. Plant your feet firmly on a surface that is strong enough to hold you and the load you are lifting.
4. Get a firm grip on the object. Place fingers underneath the load whenever possible.
5. Keep your head up, arms straight, and keep your back as straight-up-and-down as possible.
6. Lift gradually and push up, using your strong leg muscles.
7. Avoid twisting motions, shift the position of your feet.
8. Keep the load as close to your body as possible.
9. Put things down by reversing the above methods.

---from Galco Pebble Patter
via AFMS Newsletter
March, 1973

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LET'S TEACH OUR KIDS HOW TO COLLECT

One day this past summer we were at the Cheney Limestone Quarry in Bellevue, Michigan. We found a pocket of crystals about 10 to 12 inches across. They were about one inch in size and had a blue cast. They were the most beautiful crystals I have ever found. We did not take them as we did not have the right tools, so we left them for someone else or another time, rather than take the chance of breaking them. We went about our collecting, and as we were about to leave the quarry we went back for another look at the crystals. When we got there, we saw a youngster about ten years old smashing them with a hammer. He was with another mineral club.

I wonder what some people teach their children. A beautiful specimen lost forever because some youngster smashed it with his hammer.

Let's teach our children how to collect and NOT destroy.

---Bill Helferich in The Geologist
via AFMS Newsletter

BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO POISONOUS PLANTS

Take a good look at these leaves. It will pay you to recognize them for they are poisonous! The safe rule...."Leaflets three, let them be."

Symptoms of poisoning, which usually is caused by direct contact with the leaf may appear any time within a few hours to several days after exposure. They consist of a red rash, swelling, itching and burning, followed by the appearance of blisters of varying size. The blisters frequently become infected from scratching, and the serum which is in them carries the poison to other parts of the body.

AVOID CONTACT!!! No one is immune, however, some people are more sensitive than others, and all people are more sensitive at one time than another.

If you are exposed to the plant or oil from the smoke produced by burning the plant, lather with suds of any good soap, rinse and repeat. If symptoms of poisoning develop, get medical attention.



POISON IVY

1. Leaflets three
2. Usually a vine
3. Fruits hang down



POISON OAK

1. Leaflets three
2. Low-growing shrub
3. Fruits hang down



POISON SUMAC

1. Shrub or tree
2. No wings on mid-rib of leaf
3. Fruits hang down

Sumacs with bunches of red berries at the stem tip are harmless.

---from Calumet Gem
via AFMS Newsletter

FIRE SAFETY

Most families have one or more fire extinguishers in their homes and garages. Many carry one in their car, too. All members of the family should know where the extinguisher is and how to use it. Many people purchase an extinguisher and neglect to have it checked at least once a year and recharged when needed. Campers should always carry extinguishers and have them readily available for use. Small fires often occur around the cooking area. Have bicarbonate of soda handy to smother a fire. It is clean, inexpensive and does the job.

Because of the close areas in campers and trailers, extra attention must be paid to materials around the stove area and throughout the camper. Check to see how flammable the materials are by touching a few threads drawn from them to a lit match. Are the sleeping bags or bedding made of materials that might flare up in flames? Do you have fire extinguishers readily accessible? Do you have materials at hand to smother a fire?

--Max Holliday

Drive carefully: Motorists can be recalled by their maker.

YOUR CAR IS A REFUGE WHEN STRANDED

Everything you need to stay alive, except food, is found in the average car, but few motorists, when up against it, think of their car as a survival kit. The motorist's first inclination is to set out on foot for help. Too often he is beyond help when found a few miles down the road - dead from exhaustion, heat or cold.

The average car radiator holds 6 to 21 quarts of water. IF NOT contaminated by antifreeze, that is enough water to last a family for four days.

The horn can alert rescuers as far as a mile downwind.

Under the hood are four quarts of oil. A quart of oil, burned in a hubcap in the still air of morning, spews a signal of smoke visible for miles. Lube oil can be used as a salve to protect the skin.

A hose from the motor will convert into a syphon for getting gasoline from the tank.

Door panels become ground blankets, insulating a sleeper from frozen, wet or scorching ground.

Slip covers, floor mats and rugs serve as blankets and clothing.

Many a hunter has warmed himself (and stayed alive) over a tire-fire. A little gasoline ignites a tire-fire. An average tire will burn three or four hours.

One family, their car broken down on a little-used fire trail, carefully removed a sealed-beam headlight, leaving it wired to the battery, directed its beams upward in wide sweeping arcs - and drew attention of a rescue team.

--from All State Insurance Co.

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Good quality sunglasses are essential for anyone who spends many hours in bright sunlight. It was discovered in World War II that men exposed to such conditions lost 50 per cent or more of their vision because of sun glare. Correct sunglasses protect the eyes from sun squint which can tire facial muscles, cause irritability and impair vision. Lenses of neutral gray are recommended for the best color preception and least distortion. BUT DO NOT USE SUNGLASSES IN PLACE OF SAFETY GOGGLES.

--from Crystal Cluster,
via Rockpile
via AFMS Newsletter

To avoid sunburn, wear enough of the proper clothing, especially hats and shirts with long sleeves.

A good place to carry a spare camper key is in your wallet. You've probably lost many keys, but you seldom mislay your wallet.

Put reflector tape on all your hammers, chisels, pry bars, etc. It makes them easier to find when you lay them down.

Think safety when hunting in mines. Be alert to possible danger. Wear safety hat and shoes.

JOHNNY HORIZON SAYS HELP CLEAN UP AMERICA -- AND THEN KEEP IT CLEAN!!!!!!

