



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.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I would like to thank all the members who exhibited at the two shows. I feel we had a successful show this year. A special thank you to our show chairman, Dr. Gordon Bell. Any suggestions for next year's show are always welcome. We had some very happy pebble pups who made a few 25¢ sales - remember, as the twig is bent, so the tree grows.

Another big thank you to DeLane Meier, our program chairman, for a wonderful program at the last meeting.

We had some rockhounds from Oregon stop at our place. They were well pleased with the trades we made. I was pleased with the trades, too. If we see material we think we have enough of, we should take it home anyway. It is good trading stock to share with other rockhounds, or to give to some new member.

John Dosch

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SHOW A SUCCESS

The Bismarck show, which was held on September 8 at Kirkwood Plaza, was a big success. It was twice as large as last year's show. There were crowds of people around the exhibits all day long. This year, for the first time the viewers were allowed to purchase some of the lovely jewelry and other articles which were on display.

Dr. Bell and John Dosch did a good job of getting things organized. A special thank you should go to Dick Bergantine. Although he did not have an exhibit, Dick was there bright and early to help get tables set up, helping the ones who needed it, etc.

John Dosch asked for suggestions for next year's show. I have one. Although the hours were from twelve to six p.m., there were people there at 10 o'clock, watching us getting our exhibits ready. Maybe next year we should put them up at 9:00 a.m.

I do not have the results from the Mandan show. Perhaps someone would send me a report to put in next month's bulletin.

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THIS 'n THAT

Guests at the September meeting were Bill and Dorothy McLean, Coosbay, Oregon. Walter Weisenburger was also a guest. He liked the meeting so well that he joined our organization. Please put his name in your membership roster:

Walter Weisenburger.....2013 E. Hannaford Ave.....255-4965

Vernie Peterson won the door prize, which was brought by Emil Hilken.

Earle and I are planning a trip to Kansas the first week in October. We hope to be back in plenty of time for the October meeting. If we don't make it, I hope you will all take notes of the meeting and send them to me.

There was a nice write-up in the September issue of Lapidary Reporter about John's Rock Shop and the rock John Tonander has which he fondly calls "Gandhi's Boot". Along with the article is a picture of the rock. If you haven't seen this special rock, stop by and visit John. He will be glad to show it to you.

As mentioned elsewhere in this bulletin, the 1973 Rocky Mountain Federation Directories are out. If you wish to have a copy for your own personal use, see either John Dosch or Earle Campbell. Price of the directory is \$1.00.

MUGGLI'S VACATION

On September 1, 2 and 3, we attended the Northwest Federation Star Garnet Gem and Mineral Show in Lewiston, Idaho. The city is situated where the Snake and Clearwater Rivers converge and Clarkston, Washington is across the Snake River to the west. The twin cities are named for the famous explorers, Lewis and Clark, who camped at the site in 1805.

There were about 130 displays of a large variety of materials. On display was a \$15,000 crown of Star Garnets. The show also featured arrowhead chipping, silver-smithing, filigree, enameling, casting, soapstone carving, faceting, gem identification, and microscopic displays.

There were many activities to occupy our time. We took a very pleasant one-day boat trip down the Snake River through Hell's Canyon.

We didn't do well on the field trips, but made up for that swapping rocks, and at the silent auction which was kept going all during the show. We did get some good material, including apples we swapped for some of our North Dakota rock. The climbing on some of the field trips was very difficult. We felt it wasn't worth risking sprained ankles and broken legs, which happened to several people.

Before going to Lewiston, we spent two days visiting our son, Terry, and his family in Spokane.

Our trip was short because we had to hurry back for our show. Nevertheless, we had an enjoyable trip and the show was just great.

Ed and Katherine Muggli

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 21 - 23	Williston Rock & Mineral Club.....	Williston, N. D.	
Oct. 6 - 7	Lakota Glacier Rock Club.....	Aberdeen, South Dakota	
Jan. 25 - 27	Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club, Inc.....	Mesa, Arizona	
Feb. 8 - 10	Tucson Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.....	Tucson, Arizona	
July 19 - 21	Winnepeg Rock & Mineral Club.....	Winnepeg, Manitoba	
June 7 - 9	ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, WYOMING STATE FEDERATION OF MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETIES.....		Cheyenne, Wyoming
June 13 - 16	AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES, MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES AND THE NEBRASKA ASSOC. OF EARTH SCIENCE CLUBS, INC.....		Lincoln, Nebraska

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NICK FRANKE GUEST SPEAKER

Delane Meier, program chairman, has announced that for our October meeting Nick Franke will be the guest speaker. Mr. Franke is research archeologist for the North Dakota State Historical Society. Since his co-worker, Liess Vantine, spoke to us about using flint in prehistoric times, Mr. Franke will talk about prehistoric techniques using stone other than flint. Other topics of interest that he will talk about are stone grinding and stone in building. He will also give us insight in mining techniques and materials used in prehistoric times.

It sounds as though we will have a very interesting evening waiting for us!

WHAT DO YOU GET FOR 35 CENTS?

Members of the Rocky Mountain Federation ask, many times, "What do I get for the dues I pay?" This is a legitimate question and you are entitled to know the answer.

The first answer is the privilege of membership in the finest hobby organization in the land.

The second question: "What do I get for the 35¢ paid to the Rocky Mountain Federation?" To this you are entitled to a down-to-earth factual answer.

Out of the dues of each member, paid to their local club or society, the sum of 35¢ is sent to the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Society as dues. From this the sum of 10¢ per member is sent to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies as dues to assist in its administration and services.

With the remaining 25¢ the Rocky Mountain Federation does the following for the members - services, assistance and material:

1. Slide Program Library:

The Program Aide Committee is continually adding to the slide library through contests and purchase of programs, which may be borrowed by any member club at the cost of \$1.00, plus payment of return postage and insurance. As of July 1, 1973, there are 62 programs available and a contest for any club to enter a program they consider worthwhile.

2. THE RMFMS NEWSLETTER:

The Rocky Mountain Federation Newsletter is published every other month with seven copies going to each club. Recap sheets are mailed out in the alternate months, one copy for each member in the club.

3. FEDERATION DIRECTORY:

A directory of all clubs affiliated with the Federation is published each year and sent to each member club. This lists such information as club officers, membership, and meeting time and place. (This is used by many people in planning their vacation).

4. Discount of Rockhound Periodicals:

"Gems & Minerals", "Lapidary Journal" and "Rockhound" permits you to add to your club treasury through each year's subscription you send in through your club.

5. Eligibility for Competition in Federation Shows:

Uniform rules have been set up by the Uniform Rules Committee to assure uniformity in exhibiting in the Federation shows. Member clubs are encouraged to use these Uniform Rules in their local shows. As a member of a club affiliated with the Rocky Mountain Federation, you are eligible to compete in our annual Federation Show and in the annual American Federation show if your exhibit qualifies. Trophies are awarded for the best exhibit in each division by RMFMS.

6. Technical Assistance:

The Mineralogy Technical and Lapidary Committees have been set up to provide technical assistance to clubs or individual members on request. From time to time articles will appear in the RMFMS Newsletter

7. Bulletin Editors Contest:

A bulletin contest is sponsored each year by RMFMS; at the annual convention, an editors breakfast and workshop is held for all interested members.

8. Show Date Coordinator:

Keeps a listing of shows, dates and locations as requests are received and to help clubs by advising them of dates set, thus avoiding too many shows in one area and assuring clubs of the best possible attendance.

(Continued)

9. Conservation of Recreational Lands Committee:

This committee has facets, some of which are H. E. L. P. through the Johnny Horizon Campaign, SAVE, Save Against Vandalism Everywhere, and is responsible for keeping in touch with impending legislation which might affect our hobby, and for advising the member clubs accordingly.

10. Organizational Assistance:

Assistance in organizing a new club or changing the organization of an existing club is available by contacting the State Director, or other Federation officers. A "New Member" Kit is available and will be sent to all new clubs.

11. Participating in Nation-Wide Programs:

Several nation-wide programs are sponsored by the American Federation, such as the scholarship Foundation (one for each federation), Stamps for milk, Bulletin Contest, All American Club, all of which improves the public image of rockhounds as responsible citizens.

12. International Guide for the Gem & Mineral Collector:

This Brochure was prepared by AFMS and should be in all club libraries to assist anyone interested in foreign exchange of material.

13. Books and Supplies:

RMFMS and AFMS Publications, lapel pins, posters, decals, etc., are available through the RMFMS Treasurer.

All of the foregoing tangible services and aids to the clubs and members of this Federation are covered by the 35¢ but do not take into account the endless hours of work, planning, ability, know-how, professional knowledge and techniques, years of experience in organizational work, in all phases of earth science, and in personal dedication to the members of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies by the men and women who serve.

by Jim V. Howell
State Director - Oklahoma

(The foregoing article was taken from the August issue of the Rocky Mountain Federation Newsletter. A copy of this Newsletter has been placed in our library. Anyone who wishes to find out more about the workings of the Federation may read about it in the Newsletter. See Ewald Muggli, club librarian.)

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VANDALS IN THE FOREST

Apparently all rock collectors are not conscientious as the ones we know. Reports from the rangers patrolling the Petrified Forest in Arizona seem to indicate that the petrified wood found there is considered public property by the many tourists who visit the national park each year.

It has been estimated that 12.5 tons of petrified wood are taken annually. It may even be higher, as the ground that was once covered with chips of petrified wood has been denuded and only a few pieces are now seen. One enterprising tourist was caught trying to leave with 67 pounds of this beautiful wood in his possession. The park attendance has risen from 705,000 in 1962 to 1.2 million in 1972.

Because of this vandalism tourists are now watched closely. A fine of \$25 is charged, going up to a dollar a pound for each pound of wood stolen. The gates of the park are now closed at dusk, but if vandalism continues, the park itself may go out of existence.

by Beatrice L. Swanson
Geode Newsletter

SARDONIC CAUTIONS
ABOUT MINE HAZARDS

Rock hunting in mining areas, especially old ones, can be hazardous. That "cool, sweet-tasting" spring water may be seeping from old workings loaded with arsenic and blue vitriol. Water that will copper a knife blade in thirty seconds will embalm a human before lunch. Lack of plant life in water could denote a poison.

Abandoned mine shafts are often covered with boards and poles. Later with moss and leaves. Insurance paid up? A slight depression surrounded by dump rubble probably means that the first set of shaft timbers are giving way. Take a light along. It is dark, 200 feet down.

Tunnels are fascinating booby traps. Timbering was placed there to hold unstable ground fifty years ago. If you want to play Atlas, thump a stud to test its soundness. In untimbered tunnels, beat on that fractured spot where a seam meets the wall. It's possibly a key rock holding up a ten-ton tombstone---your own.

Fool around with old dynamite. It becomes hair-triggered over the years. Folks will know where you were last. If you live, being called "Wingy" or "Three-Finger Jill" is not so bad.

Let the kids play under the old ore bunker or in the caustic soda bin, but if you like it clean and sudden, toss the old quicksilver flask into the evening campfire. We all gotta go sometime.

Experience is a great teacher, but certain experiences are neither enlightening nor beneficial, especially when the intended recipient has been biologically terminated by the lesson itself, meaning, the guy got clobbered and croaked.

By Herman Jenny from Rock Rollers
via The American Federation Newsletter

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Every member has a right to be heard.
So if you can't attend our meetings,
write your thoughts on paper and put
it here.