



MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
 P.O. Box 2445, Bismarck, ND 58502-2445
 SERVING BISMARCK, MANDAN, AND SURROUNDING AREAS IN
 NORTH DAKOTA

Gen & Bill Buresh, Eds.
 DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA
 44 Captain Marsh Dr.
 Mandan, ND 58554-4704

FIRST CLASS

Volume 30, No. 12
 December, 1995

SAVE STAMPS FOR

SAVE STAMP FOR

STAMP CHAIRMAN

STAMP CHAIRMAN

RMFMS - 2nd PLACE, SMALL BULLETINS, 1992
 RMFMS - 2nd PLACE, SMALL BULLETINS, 1987
 AFMS -- 2nd PLACE, SMALL BULLETINS, 1985
 RMFMS - 4th PLACE, SMALL BULLETINS, 1985
 RMFMS - 2nd PLACE, SMALL BULLETINS, 1981



DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA

Published by the CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 2445, BISMARCK, ND 58502

Member of

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES and
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES



Organized March 1966

- OBJECT: 1. To further the study of mineralogy and geology;
2. To arrange field trips to collect minerals, gems, and fossils;
3. To assist its members to improve in the art of cutting, polishing, and mounting gem material;
4. To provide opportunities for the exchange, purchase, and exhibition of specimens and materials; and
5. To share knowledge about gems, minerals, and activities of the Society with the general public. --Article II, CDGMS Constitution

MEETINGS: First Sunday of each month at Masonic Bldg., 1810 Schafer Street, Bismarck, ND:
2:00 p.m., November through March; 7:00 p.m. April-October.

EARLY CLASS: One-half hour before each meeting. VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

ANNUAL DUES: Family - \$10.00; Individual Adult - \$8.00; Individual Jr. - \$4.00

1995 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - RAY OLIGER, 516 N. 20th St., Bismarck, ND 58501 - - - - - 223-4986
VICE PRES. - BETTY MAUTZ, Rt. 1, Box 368, Garrison, ND 58540 - - - - - 337-5775
SEC'Y. - DOUG HANSON, 407 Easy Street, Bismarck, ND 58504 - - - - - 223-3945
TREASURER - NEILL C. BURNETT, 1002 Arthur Dr., Bismarck, ND 58501 - - - - - 223-6758

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

PROGRAM: Betty Mautz - - - - 337-5775
Ray Oliver - - - - 223-4986
HOSP.--LUNCH: Carol Hickle - 794-3342
Emme Brady 663-3903 or - 663-3904
HOSP.--CARDS: Gen Buresh - - 663-5397
FIELD TRIP: Norman Mautz - - 337-5775
John Campbell - 223-6754
EDITORS: Gen/Bill Buresh - - 663-5397
FEDERATION REP.: Ray Oliver - 223-4986
ANNUAL SHOW 1995: Rodney Hickle 794-3342, Ray Oliver 223-4986, Harold Brady 663-3903
RMFMS-STATE DIRECTOR FOR ND: Betty Mautz, Rt. 1 Box 368, Garrison ND 58540 337-5775

EARLY CLASS: John Atwood - - - 222-0389
Harold Brady -663-3903 or - 663-3904
GREETER: Betty Mautz - - - - 337-5775
LIBRARIAN/HISTORIAN: Sue Randall-223-1625
PARLIAMENTARIAN:
PUBLICITY: Edna Mausehund - - - 782-4291
STAMP CHR.: Doris Hickle - - - 794-3173
DOOR COUNT: Betty Mautz - - - - 337-5775

All members are encouraged to submit articles/news items for publication.
Material for the bulletin should reach the editor by the 10th of each month.
Advertisements from members will be accepted for the bulletin. (\$2.00 for 1/8 page)
Permission is granted to reprint non-copyrighted articles if proper credit is given.



Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society's
22nd Annual
GEM & MINERAL SHOW
COMMUNITY CENTER -- MANDAN, ND
Sept. 28-29, 1996
Chr.: Rodney Hickle, HC2, Box 191, Center, ND 58530
Telephone--701-794-3342

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DECEMBER, 1995

NEXT MEETING--JANUARY 7, 1996, Masonic
Center, 1810 Schafer St., Bismarck
EARLY CLASS: 1:30 p.m., Meeting 2:00 p.m.
PROGRAM: Rodney Hickie, Trip to Russia - 1995
LUNCH COMMITTEE: 1996 Officers



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, another year is almost over. We had our meeting and annual Christmas dinner on December 3rd at the north Bonanza Restaurant, Bismarck. We had a good turnout and a very nice dinner.

At this time I would like to thank all the members who have served on committees during my last two years as president of the club. The committees made my job a lot easier. I hope most of you will offer to serve the next president.

Have a Very Merry Christmas and New Year.

I'll see you at our next meeting on January 7, 1996.

Ray Olinger

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 16 BISMARCK, ND--Paleontological Soc. Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Capital Electric Bldg., Highway 83 N of Bismarck.
- 1996
- Jan 7 BISMARCK, ND--Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Soc. Early Class 1:30 p.m.; Meeting 2:00 p.m., 1810 Schafer Street, Bismarck
- Feb 3 OAK HARBOR, OR--"Sweetheart of Gems" Show at Oak Harbor Senior Center, sponsored by Whidbey Island Gem Club with Whidbey Island Pebble Pushers
- Feb 7-11 QUARTZSITE, AZ--Quartzsite Pow Wow, Annual Gem & Mineral Show
- Feb 8-11 TUCSON, AZ--Tucson Gem & Min. Show. Theme Minerals: Calcite and Fluorescents Tucson Convention Center
- Feb 13-Mar 6 LORDSBURG, NM--5th Annual "Rockamania" 1966. Gem & Mineral, Arts & Crafts & Flea Market Show, Hidalgo Co. Fairgrounds. (For more details see their advertising bulletin at January 7 meeting.--Eds.)



Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society
22nd ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW
Mandan Community Center, Mandan, North Dakota
SEPTEMBER 28-29, 1996



Show Chr.: RODNEY HICKLE, HC2, BOX 191, CENTER ND 58530

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY MEETING

At the January meeting, Rodney Hickie will tell about some of his experiences during his repeat trip to Russia during the summer of 1995.

Rodney traveled to Kyrgyzstan in southeast Russia for the second year with a farmer-to-farmer exchange program. It should be most interesting to hear his report.

MEMBER NEILL BURNETT'S
PHOTO IN SUNDAY "TRIBUNE"

Neill Burnett's photograph appeared in the Sunday, Dec. 10, 1995 issue of the *Bismarck Tribune* in connection with an article titled "Better water utilization urged," with the sub-head, "Scientist says larger communities ill informed of problem," written by Ann Vadnie.

The article quotes Neill, a retired environmental scientist now consulting for High Plains Consortium, about water problems in the rural areas of the state and suggests ways to divert water to areas where it is badly needed. □



1996 OFFICERS ELECTED

Nominees for 1996 officers were presented by Mel Berg, chairman of the Nominating Committee, and elected by unanimous ballot at the December meeting. They are:

President -- Betty Mautz	Treasurer -- Neill Burnett
Vice Pres. -- Russ Otiger	Secretary -- Robb Morris

Congratulations to all of the 1996 officers, who will take office during the meeting on January 7.

NOTE -- SILENT AUCTION IN MARCH. Edna Mausehund plans to sell most of the equipment that Verl had owned at that time. This will include a Beacon Star Diamond Saw, a tumbler, grinder, some rocks, and miscellaneous items. More details later.

1996
DUES ARE DUE

JANUARY BIRTHSTONE: Garnet

JANUARY FLOWER: Carnation

Happy Birthday to:

Jan. 20 Melvin Berg Jan. 20 Anne Ellis

(No anniversaries on record. If you will have a wedding anniversary in January, please let me know--Gen Buresh, 863-5397, or 44 Capt. Marsh Drive, Mandan, ND 58554)

PRICES ARE GOING UP, as you have probably noticed. Prices for copier paper have increased sharply. Some bulletins have ceased publication. One has cut from six pages to four. One has switched from No. 12 type size, like this, to No. 10 size like the rest of this page. Unless there are complaints, we will try using No. 10 print for most of the bulletin. We are also using two columns to save paper.--G Buresh

ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END

In January 1977 Bill Buresh followed Ida Mae Riamberg as editor of our bulletin, "Diggin's from Dakota," with Gen as a behind-the-scenes assistant. In Jan. 1978 we were listed as co-editors. Gen was appointed editor by President Mary Beth Osborn when Bill was elected vice president for 1981. Here we are at the end of 1995 still editing the "Diggin's" together, no matter whose name is listed as editor.

It has been an enjoyable time, most of all because of the wonderful people we have met in our club and other clubs, especially other club editors. We met many in person at Editors' Breakfasts during Federation shows. Others we have met through the mail as editors and/or authors. The list stretches from coast to coast and north to Winnipeg, Canada. We thank them all for the articles, notes, and inspiration they have provided. Special thanks to Ruby Lingelbach, long-time editor of the Rocky Mountain News, who has graduated to the post of vice president of RMFMS. Thanks also to all our own club officers with whom we have worked.

Another plus has been membership in S.C.R.I.B.E., an organization for bulletin editors. It meets annually at the big show in Quartzsite, Arizona each February, but our association with it has been through their bulletin.

It is now time to give someone else the opportunity to experience these pleasures. We will be glad to give whatever assistance we can to whoever is appointed as the next editor of "Diggin's from Dakota."

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Bill and Gen Buresh



CIDGMS Minutes - December 1995



The regular meeting of the Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society was held on December 3, 1995 at Bonanza restaurant in north Bismarck. President Ray Oliger presided. There were 22 people present for the meeting/dinner.

The next meeting will be held on January 7, 1996 at the Masonic Center in Bismarck. The program for the January meeting will be Rodney Hickle giving a talk on his latest trip to Kyrgyzstan, Russia.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved as read. Neill Burnett gave a Treasurer's report.

Hospitality reported that the new officers will be the servers for the January meeting.

Show chairman Rodney Hickle reported that the 1996 show will be held at the Mandan Community Center again and that it will cost \$50.00 to \$75.00 more than in 1995.

Old Business: Ray and Russ Oliger were at the Gateway to Science Center in November explaining about rocks and giving demonstrations on rock cutting to about 20 interested kids.

New Business: Election of Officers - Nominees were as follows:

President:	Betty Mautz
Vice President:	Russ Oliger
Secretary:	Robb Morris
Treasurer:	Neill Burnett

As there were no nominations from the floor, Bob Randall moved that nominations be closed and all four nominees be approved by a unanimous vote. The motion was seconded and approved. The new officers will assume their post at the January 1996 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned and the members had Christmas dinner.

Doug Hanson, Secretary

From AFMS Newsletter 11/95 and RMFMS Newsletter 12/95:

EACH CLUB--EACH YEAR--ONE ROCKHOUND

(Replaces AFMS Education Thru Sharing)

Your AFMS is pleased to announce a new club member recognition program, *EACH CLUB -- EACH YEAR -- ONE ROCKHOUND*. This is no contest. There will be no judging or "awards". Instead your club simply selects one of its members, sends the name to us and that club member will be recognized in the AFMS NEWSLETTER as an outstanding rockhound. The guidelines for submission of names is very simple.

1. Each year each club affiliated with a federation can nominate one of its club members for recognition as an outstanding rockhound.
2. Using an 8-1/2" by 11" sheet of paper simply provide us with this information:
 - a. The *name of your outstanding rockhound*.
 - b. The *name of your club* and *where it is located*, i.e. city and state.
 - c. The *name of the federation with which you are affiliated* (Eastern, South Central, etc.).
 - d. The *name of the person or persons making the nomination*. Any club member can nominate another club member but the earliest postmark gets that year's recognition.
 - e. *This is optional*, but it would be fun to have a brief statement to publish with the name as to why this club member is so special. Statements must be 25 words or less.
3. Send your recognition requests to your federation representative. They will accumulate your recognition requests, and forward to me. These nice folks are listed in your Federation bulletin under *Education Thru Sharing* or *Each Club -- Each Year -- One Rockhound*.
4. This program replaces the AFMS Education Thru Sharing.

The Federation representatives should get the names of their honored rockhounds to me before May 1, 1996 for publication in a 1996 AFMS NEWSLETTER. Names received after May 1, 1996 will be considered as part of the 1997 recognitions program.

Margaret M. Pearson, AFMS Chairperson
Each Club -- Each Year -- One Rockhound
 9034 West Lisbon Avenue #24, Milwaukee, WI 53222
 (414) 464-0781

NOTE: Club members should send any nominations for this award to an Education Thru Sharing federation Chairman. Members of ROCKY MOUNTAIN clubs, including Central Dakota G&M Soc., should follow the above guidelines and send nominations for this recognition to the Rocky Mountain Federation chairman, who is:

Janet Dugan, RMF Chairman
 Ed. Thru Sharing
 517-1/2 South Summit
 Newcastle, WY 82701

From LAKE AGASSIZ ROCK HOUND, 12/95, Wil DeGraff and Ethel Eshom, Eds.

GEOLOGIC RESOURCES: *THE FACE OF NORTH DAKOTA*



Donald P. Schwert
Department of Geosciences
North Dakota State University



The Face of North Dakota, by John P. Bluemle (State Geologist), remains the most comprehensive text treating the geology of North Dakota. The revised (1991) edition expands and improves Bluemle's original (1977) publication of the same title. The book is written to the level of the "educated layman," with almost all technical terminology supported by ample diagrams and photographs.

Of central focus to this text are the remarkable glacial landscapes of North Dakota. Aside from outlining the origins of more familiar glacial landforms, such as eskers, moraines, and kettles, Bluemle outlines those that are classically-expressed in North Dakota. These include ice-walled lake plains, "doughnuts," sand volcanoes, and ice-thrust masses: glacial features that are almost unique to North Dakota. Bluemle's ice age history leads to the story of Lake Agassiz, with the massive lake bed today still scarred by scour marks left by grounded icebergs.

Elsewhere in the state, particularly southwest of the Missouri River, bedrock controls the topography. But Bluemle's text shows that what we view at the surface in the form of buttes and badlands is only a minor, surface reflection of an almost three-mile thick pile of sediments that actually underlie western North Dakota. Cores through this pile (Williston Basin) provide geologists with an almost uninterrupted sedimentary record representing 500 million years of geologic time. Out of this region comes the important North Dakota resources of oil, gas, and coal (lignite). Bedrock outcrops yield the remains of plants, shellfish, and dinosaurs, providing a window into the past geologic past of our state.

At \$5.00, the *Face of North Dakota* is, by itself, a bargain. But users will be even more pleasantly surprised to discover that inserted into the back in each copy is the 1977 version of Bluemle's *Geologic Highway Map of North Dakota*. For a traveler or for the classroom, this multi-color geologic map provides a useful supplement to the text. The *Highway Map* also include west-east cross-section of the subsurface rock layering (stratigraphy) of the Williston Basin.

The *Face of North Dakota* can be ordered directly from the North Dakota Geological Survey (request NDGS Educational Series 21) at the following address:

Publications Clerk
North Dakota Geological Survey
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840
Tel.: (701)-328-9700 Fax: (701)-328-9898

Price: \$5.00/copy. Make checks payable to: North Dakota Geological Survey. Inquire at the time of purchase about possible shipping charges.

From OSAGE HILLS GEMS Jul-Aug 1995:

CRUISE-ING DOWN THE INTER-NET

What the heck is "cruising down the net?" Well, there are millions of computers all over the world that are set up to talk with each other. If you have a personal computer with a telephone connection, you too can talk over the net--or browse the Library of Congress Index--or check up on information at the University of Heidelberg. There are two groups among thousands that are especially of interest to rockhounds. One is called rocks-and-fossils and the other is called rockhounds. From my vast experience of 2 days, I can say that rocks-and-fossils seems to have professionals and amateurs all over the world as members. Rockhounds seem to be just that--rockhounds.

The way newsgroups work, you write a letter and send it to a special computer and it sends a copy to all the other members of the group--electronic party line style. A sampling of one day's electronic mail included a plea for help by someone who had a dinosaur tooth that was cracking. The answer came "I am a professional dinosaur dentist. You should glue it with" The answer came from a museum specialist. Then there was a note from an

Israeli student wanting sources to get two articles she needed. And a newcomer in New Jersey who teaches and hopes to become a paleontologist. There were answers to several questions (such as "Where do I get a CD with detailed contour maps for all the world?") sent by the editor of a major geologic magazine. There were questions about collecting sites, about dinosaurs, and about trips. There was a feud going on about someone who used bad language. Overall, not boring ever, not info you couldn't live without, mostly, and very interesting. I already have a couple of good articles for this bulletin. Rockhound notes were fewer but echoed what you would hear between rockhounds at any major show. If you're interested--you can easily join. For rocks and fossils, send E-mail to Majordomo@world.std.com with the message "SUBSCRIBE ROCKS AND FOSSILS." (Note: DO NOT CHANGE CAPITAL LETTERS TO SMALL OR VICE VERSA!) For the rockhound newsgroup send e-mail to rockhounds-request@infodyn.com with the message "SUBSCRIBE ROCKHOUND." See you on the net!

THE STORY OF STERLING SILVER

In ancient times, bands of traders roamed the European continent. Often they traded their goods for other wares or took payment in coins of the land where they happened to be.

One such band came from five free towns in eastern Germany and were known as "Easterlings." Free towns in the twelfth century made their own laws and even minted coins and currency. These traders crossed the English channel and traded for English goods. It soon became common knowledge that the Easterlings were honest traders and that their coins could be counted on to contain 925 parts in 1000 of pure silver. These coins were in great demand because of this consistently accurate silver content and became known as "Easterlings." This name became "sterling" as it is known today.

The 925 parts pure silver is blended with a base metal, usually copper, to add durability to the silver. Now all sterling is thus alloyed and fixed by law.

Sterling's melting point is 1640 F. It may be hardened by hammering or working. It is softened by heating to 1200 F and quenching in water. The soft beauty of sterling silver is enhanced by careful usage and proper care. Articles made from this metal serve a lifetime and are ever beautiful.

--From COLUMBIA GEM via OSAGE HILLS GEMS 9/95