

"DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA"



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



WE'LL SEE YOU--
AT THE SHOW!!

Jerry Nevland, Editor
"DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA"
606 North 12th Street
Bismarck, ND 58501-4301

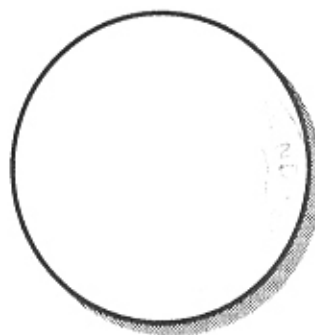


Volume 33, # 8 & 9 August/Sept., 1998

AFMS - Honorable Mention, Small Bulletins, 1998
RMFMS - 3rd Place, Small Bulletins, 1997, New Editor
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



FIRST CLASS



DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA

Published by : The Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society
P.O. BOX 2445, Bismarck, ND 58502-2445

In Association With:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES AND
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

OBJECT:

Organized: March, 1966

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 materials;
 4. To provide opportunities for the exchange, purchase, and exhibition of specimens and materials;
 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 the Masonic Center, 1810 Schafer Street, Bismarck, ND

EARLY CLASS: One - half hour before each meeting.

ANNUAL DUES: Junior: \$6.00, Single Membership - \$10.00, Family Membership - \$12.00

MEETING TIMES: 2:00 pm, from November — March and 7:00 pm, from April — October

PRESIDENT: RUSS OLIGER, 13700 22nd Ave. SE, Menoken, ND - 701-255-6440
VICE PRESIDENT: JIM NEVLAND, 419 W. Broadway, Bismarck, ND - 701-221-2419
SECRETARY: LENORA OPP, 3010 E. Rosser Ave., #8, Bismarck, ND - 701-255-3973
TREASURER: RAY OLIGER, 516 North 20th Street, Bismarck, ND - 701-223-4986

COMMITTEE PERSONS

PROGRAM: Russ Oliger - 255-6440 and
Jim Nevland - 221-2419

HOSPITALITY - LUNCH: Carol Hickle - 794-3342 &
Emma Brady - 663-3903

HOSPITAL - CARDS: Gen Buresh - 663-5397

FIELD TRIPS: Steve & Darlene Newstrom - 255-4675
& John Campbell - 223-6754

EDITOR: Jerry Nevland - 223-6900

ANNUAL SHOW: (1998) Rodney Hickle - 794-3342
Ray Oliger - 223-4986 & Harold Brady - 663-3903

EARLY CLASS: John Atwood - 222-0389 and
Harold Brady - 663-3903

GREETER: (Any Volunteers?)

Parliamentarian: Gen Buresh - 663-5397

PUBLICITY: (Any Volunteers?)

STAMP CHAIRMAN: Doris Hickle - 794-3173

DOOR COUNT: (Any Volunteers?)

LIBRARIAN: Agnes Berg - 442-5620

HISTORIAN: Betty Mautz - 337-5775

VISITORS AND GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME !

RMFMS - STATE DIRECTOR FOR ND: Ray Oliger, 516 North 20th St., Bismarck, ND 701-223-4986

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



Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society's

24th Annual

GEM & MINERAL SHOW

COMMUNITY CENTER — MANDAN, ND

Sept. 26 & 27, 1998

Chrm: Rodney Hickle, HC2, Box 191, Center, ND 58530

Phone — 701-794-3342



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The monthly meeting of the C.D.G. & M.S. was held September 6, 1998 at the Masonic Center in Bismarck, ND. President Russ Oliger called the meeting to order.

The next meeting will be on October 4, 1998.

The minutes from the last meeting were unavailable due to technical difficulties.

The quests present were welcomed by the club. They were Jim Burnett and John Fay.

Neil Burnett announced that he had more information about a new copier to give to the copier committee. This committee had been established at the last meeting to check into buying a new copier for the club. Nothing had been decided on yet by the committee.

Treasurer, Ray Oliger, reported a balance on hand of \$182.31. He also said there had been a donation of \$210.00 towards the purchase of a new copier. Rodney Hickie, Show Chairman, said that they would contribute funds from the show toward the purchase of a new copier. If anyone else would like to contribute, please see Ray Oliger about this matter.

COMMITTEES'

Nominating Committee — Mel Berg informed members that they have volunteers to serve as President & Vice-President, but still need some one to serve as Secretary & Treasurer. Anyone wishing to volunteer to serve should see Mel Berg as soon as possible.

Show Committee — Rodney Hickie informed all members that there will be nine dealers at the 1998 Annual Rock Show. Set-up day is Friday, Sept. 25, 1998 and anyone and everyone is welcome to come help set up for the Show. The Showcases are in various states of being repaired, but will be available for the show. If anyone had a duty last year at the Rock Show, please be responsible for that same job this year. If anyone needs exhibition forms, please see Ray Oliger. (Ed. Note: A exhibition form is included in the August - Sept, 1998 "Diggins.")

Rodney Hickie said that after the 25th Annual Rock Show (1999 Show) he and Ray Oliger will be resigning their positions from the show. Anyone interested in learning to take over these two positions should contact Rodney or Ray.

MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

New ideas are needed for the show. If you have any, talk them over with Rodney Hickie.

Doorcount: 21 adults and two guests.

Communications: Were read through by the Treasurer — Ray Oliger.

The adult doorprize was won by Neil Burnett. The Program that followed was presented by Ray Oliger on his interesting trip to the American Federation Show in Houghton, MI.

Meeting was adjourned and lunch was served.

Minutes by Secretary,

Lenora Opp

WANTED

"Cookies & Bars"

As usual, coffee, bars, and cookies will be available to the public. This year lemonade or some other type of fruit drink will also be available for those who may prefer something other than coffee. Please bring cookies, bars, pastries or a cash donation to help defray cookie bar expenses.

Thank you.

DEALERS' BREAKFAST

A breakfast for the dealers' will be held on Sunday, Sept. 27, 1998 at 9:00 am. The cost will be \$3.50 per person. Please try to pay before Sunday's breakfast. Anyone is welcome to attend.

WANTED - SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

Silent Auction tables will again be available to sell your materials. This is a good place for "new" rockhounds just getting started in the hobby can get acquainted with minerals and also the active members of our club. Let's keep the interest going. Do your part, bring many items to sell !!!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Howdy,

It's been a very busy summer. But summer is almost over and now we're looking at the first hints of Fall. It's good to hear that the "Diggins" is back "Online" again. The 1998 Rock Show looks to be a real great extravaganza. I hope to see you all at the Show.

Russ Olinger

HOW TO EXTRICATE FOSSILS FROM SANDSTONE

By Ruth Kirkby

The following formula for removing specimens from sandstone was given to Ruth Kirkby by Dr. J. Leroy Kay, a scientist with the Carnegie Museum in 1963:

1. Place sandstone block in water until it is thoroughly soaked — about 10 hours.
2. Remove block from water and allow to drain about 10 hours.
3. Place block in deep-freeze for about 12 hours or until thoroughly frozen.
4. Thaw block, which will disintegrate, and sieve through screen wire to separate all fossil specimens from the sand.

From: Dinny's Doin's, 11/97 via
PICK & PACK, 9/98 and others

USEFUL? FACTS

From AFMS Newsletter, 2/98

- *In every episode of Seinfeld, there is a Superman somewhere.
- *Murphy's Oil Soap is the chemical most commonly used to clean elephants.
- *Barbie's measurements if she were life size: 39-23-33
- *February, 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
- *Leonardo Da Vinci invented scissors.
- *Giraffes have no vocal chords.
- *Many hamsters only blink one eye at a time.
- *Cat's urine glows under a black light.
- *The first Ford cars built had Dodge engines.

YOU MIGHT BE A NORTH DAKOTAN IF:

1. You have gotten sunburned and and frostbitten in the same week.
2. You think public transportation is "Bubba's truck bed."

DEALERS' FOR THE 1998 ROCK SHOW

Don's Original Gems
Donald & Muriel Brandt
Plymouth, MN

L & R Lapidary
Lyle & Ruth Peterson
Jamesville, MN

Costigan's Minerals
Larry & Lois Costigan
Newport, MN

Ramrock Shop
Jean Marshall
Lebanon, OR

Phantom Rock & Minerals
Graig & Carolyn Tunncliff
Eldorado Springs, CO

Pebble Peddler
Brian & Ruth McManus
Bottineau, ND

P & M Prehistoric Life
Paul Santangelo
East Grand Forks, MN

Nancy Baue
Montana

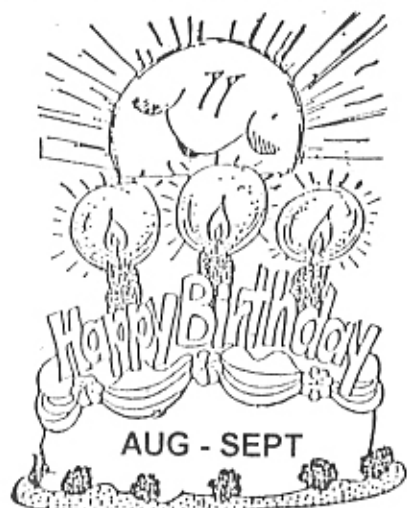
Monzelowsky Jewelers
Dennis & Rhonda Monzelowsky
Bismarck, ND

The members of the Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society would like to extend a hearty THANK YOU to the many dealers attending the 24th Annual Rock Show. We anticipate that you will enjoy your stay in the Bismarck-Mandan area and welcome you to return again for the 25th Gem & Mineral Show.

**THE 1998 ROCK SHOW EXHIBIT CLASSIFICATIONS
FOR THE JUNIOR AND ADULT SHOWCASES**

1. OPEN CLASS
2. FOSSILS
3. LAPIDARY
4. MINERAL
5. PEOPLE'S CHOICE

There will be a First, Second, and Third Place Ribbon presented in each designated class.



BIRTHSTONE

Sardonyx or Peridot

Sapphire

FLOWER

Gladiolus

Aster

August: 20 - Walter Bosley
24 - Richard Hoerner
24 - Ledores Robey (1924)
28 - Bennett Robinson
29 - Gary Ellis

SEPTEMBER: 1 - Mike Schwindt
9 - Broadus A. Jeffcoat-Sacco
13 - Marla DeKrey
14 - Rick Huber
16 - Agnes Berg (1927)
18 - Philip DeKrey
19 - James Swanick (1910)
27 - Verl Mausehund (1912)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

AUGUST 10 - Paul & Mona Jeffcoat-Sacco
13 - John & Terry Ringland
15 - Robert & Sue Randall
23 - Mike & Sharon Schwindt
28 - Lee & Colleen Huber

SEPTEMBER 7 - Doug & Penny Hanson
8 - Neill & Alice Burnett
8 - Henry & Ethel Hansson
12 - Steve & Darlene Newstrom
13 - Michael & Gwen Brady
23 - Jessie & Bonita Kinck

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

By Beverly Moreau, CFMS President

If you were to question a number of people about their goals in life, you would undoubtedly hear a wide variety of answers. Most of them, I dare say, would have something to do with acquiring tangible property or attaining some lofty status. It is in striving for such goals that people fail to realize the they have wealth to share with their fellow man. Wealth not in the monetary sense, but in the sense that their knowledge or endeavors, properly directed, could benefit others.

Recently I read a quotation that went like this: "People are seldom famous for the things they say until they become famous for the things they do."

Clubs recognize an individual or couple for what they DO for the club. And it seems that these individuals are not prone to doing just one particular thing, but keep on volunteering their time, efforts, and expertise to help out however and wherever it's needed.

What they are, in fact, doing is making a difference in how things turn out for their fellow members. It's true that some folks are more service-orientated than others. That doesn't mean that each one of us couldn't find a way to contribute from our knowledge, training, education, or expertise or by simply serving to make a difference in our own organization.

If we were to accomplish nothing else in this life, to amass no great wealth or to attain no grand status, yet we could look back over the years and see that we had given of ourselves for the benefit of others and had really made a difference, this would be a comforting thought and source of satisfaction.

Some members think only of what the club can do for them, not what they might contribute to the betterment of the membership. If they see another Club that has more to offer, they're ready to drop their membership and join the other Club. The moral is, let them GO! They're "takers," not "givers." They won't contribute anything to help make the other Club more successful either. It takes a "giver" to, as they say really MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

From: Gem Time, 7/98 via Others

The color of the sun in the early morning: Rose.
The brightest day of the week is Sun-day.

THANK YOU

A BIG THANK YOU is sent to the following members who contributed financial assistance in purchasing the new Xerox copier for the Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society.

Without their help, the members would not have this "Diggins From Dakota" Newsletter in their hands right now.

Say thanks and a hearty pat on the back to: Mel & Agnes Berg, Robert & Sue Randall, Phil & Marla DeKrey, and last, but not least Ray Olinger, who went way out of his way to help purchase the copier — once again thanks to all who were involved in the purchase of the new copier. The "Diggins" Newsletter will continue to keep the members informed and hopefully educated a few more years.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are the order of the day for Michael Simonson who received "*Honorable Mention*," Advanced — Adult Class, in the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Bulletin Editors' Contest held on August 16, 1998 in Houghton, Michigan. Michael's article was published in the Diggins From Dakota Newsletter in the September, 1997 edition. The name of the article was "Prehistoric Peoples & Artifacts of North Dakota." The judge, Russ Kemp, commented: "Very interesting article, the series no doubt was appreciated by Diggins readers." Good work, Mike, and thanks from the Editor of the Diggins From Dakota Newsletter.

LIMB SECTION OR LIMB CAST?

From: SMS Matrix, via CHIPS, via G.I. Nugget 10/97

Do you know the difference between a fossil limb section and a limb cast? Some call a specimen by either name, not realizing there is a difference.

A limb cast occurs when a buried limb has decayed and the resulting void was filled with agate or some other material. The cast is in the form of the original limb, but no cell or ring patterns have been preserved.

A fossil limb section is a portion of petrified wood. As the wood decayed, it was gradually and completely replaced by mineral deposits, cell by cell, thus a part of the wood structure — cells and rings — has been preserved.

Committees for the 1998 Gem & Mineral Show

<u>Welcome:</u>	Earl Campbell
<u>Club Booth:</u>	Gen Buresh Sue Randall
<u>Registration:</u>	Ray Olinger
<u>Show Exhibits:</u>	Bob Randall Mike Simonson
<u>Program:</u>	Ray Olinger
<u>Admissions:</u>	Emma Brady Carol Hickie
<u>Silent Auction:</u>	Lenora Opp Edna Maushund Agnes & Melvin Berg
<u>Publicity:</u>	Ray Olinger Bill Buresh
<u>Flourescents:</u>	Bob Randall Jim Nevland Ray Olinger
<u>Cookie Bar:</u>	Betty Mautz Viola Anderson
<u>Dealers' Breakfast:</u>	Betty Mautz Ray Sprong
<u>Touch & See:</u>	Duane Robey Neil Burnett
<u>Security:</u>	Harold Brady Michael Brady

SET UP & TAKE DOWN: ALL CLUB MEMBERS

(The more members available to help, the easier it is for the other members who usually do all the work. This is everyone's Rock Show.)

IN THE BEGINNING

In the beginning when the Lord created rocks as the building blocks for the earth, the angels inquired:

"Sire, because rocks are inert, who shall know their role in the universe? Because they are inanimate, who shall reveal their beauty and charm? Because they are inarticulate, who shall speak for them? Because they are immobile, who shall take pieces of them about for all to see?"

The Lord replied — "I shall make a special breed for that noble mission; and hence forth, among all others, the breed shall be known as Rockhounds!"

And thus it came to pass.

From: East Bay Nodule, 4/98 via
The Rock Vein, 9/98

Rock of the Month: Chlorargyrite

Crystals are rare. This mineral usually occurs in massive or flaky habits, or as crusts and waxing coatings. Chlorargyrite is colorless when fresh, but varies from gray to green or yellow on exposure to light, eventually turning purple-brown. It ranges from transparent to nearly opaque. The luster is resinous to adamantine.

Formation: Forms as a secondary mineral in the oxidation zone of silver deposits.

Word of the Month: Meteoric Water

Water derived from, or in, the atmosphere.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION — PICNIC

The Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society held the annual 1998 Picnic at General Sibley Park — two miles south of Bismarck — on August 2, 1998, beginning with the meeting at 1:00 pm, and a pot luck lunch was enjoyed by the members present after the conclusion of the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Ray Oliger in the absence of the President and Vice-President. Duane Robey gave a report on the behalf of the Copier Committee. It was recommended that the club purchase a Xerox Copier for approximately \$560.00 with the option of buying an extended warranty of three years for \$79.00. The original warranty that comes with the copier is two years. A total of 5 (five) years of warranty coverage could be had for just \$79.00. Motion was made by Bob Randall to purchase the copier and seconded by Mel Berg.

Motion carried. The copier will be purchased from Office Depot in Bismarck, ND. Financing will be worked out to purchase the copier.

Jerry Nevland made the motion and seconded by Bob Randall to send Ray & Russ Oliger as delegates to the Federation Show in Tulsa, OK in October, 1998.

Ray Oliger read communications. Treasurer's report of balance of hand at \$182.65.

No more business was announced, meeting was adjourned.

Betty Mautz, Acting Secretary

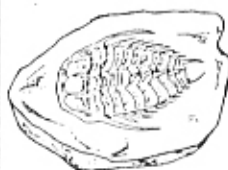
FOOD FOR THOUGHT

From: *The RockyTie*, 5/98 via Chaparral Heller, 6/98
Fact is the art of making a point without making an enemy.

When a habit begins to cost money, it's called a hobby.

No matter how much you try to improve Mother Nature, you can't fool Father Time.

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything. They just know how to make the best of everything.

**SUPPORT YOUR CLUB:**

- Come to meetings
- Contribute to your club

Newsletter:

- * Send in a joke
- * Send in a tip (how to do something)
- * Suggest a program (better yet, help arrange one.)
- * Write an article, book review, a comment or letter on a field trip or some type of rock or mineral that interests you. Share your knowledge with the younger members.

- Bring items for the "Silent Auction" to the 1998 Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Societies Annual Rock Show and Learning Fair.

COLORS OF THE RAINBOW

INDIGO is one of the colors of the rainbow. The following definition of indigo was found in *Dan River's Dictionary of Textile Terms*: Indigo is the oldest known vat dyestuff, formerly obtained from the indigo plant. It is now made synthetically. The blue shades produced by indigo cannot be obtained by any other known dyestuff. They have a characteristic brilliancy and tone which have made this dyestuff popular for ages. Has good resistance to washing and light.

From: *The Rockhound Gazette*, 6 & 7/98 via T-TOWN ROCKHOUND, 8/98

YOGO GULCH SAPPHIRES

One day in 1895, old Jake Hoover was panning for gold in Yogo Gulch. His luck was not too good that day, but he noticed in the tailings of his pan some small blue pebbles which he sent off to Tiffany's in New York. Back came a check for \$17,000!

This legendary prospector had stumbled onto the largest sapphire dike in the world, right in the gullies of Central Montana. Since then, \$30 million worth of sapphires has been extracted from the five-mile long gem-encrusted fissure in the Little Belt Mountains, 45 miles west of Lewistown, Montana.

Yogo Gulch is the only place in the world where sapphires are locked in their original rock formation deep under the ground. Old Jake sold the mine, along with everything he had, for \$5000 and took off for the wilds of Alaska.

The mine had since had several owners and problems with production and legal snarls. They have now streamlined the mining operation, introducing modern technology and hope to get \$40 million worth of sapphires out of the mines annually. Estimates are less than 5% of the deposit has been mined.

Excerpted from: *San Jose Mercury*, via *Ghost Sheet*, 9/96 and *THE GLACIAL DRIFTER*, 8/98

AN OBSERVATION, COINCIDENCE OR REALTY

By: Teresa Masters - AIMS NEWSLETTER, Summer/1998

I have at one time or another been a member of the following Clubs, Culver City, Conejo Valley, Vista, San Clemente, Palomar, Islanders, S.D. Lapidary, J.A.D.E., as well as San Diego County Council, and C.F.M.S. Yes, all in California, I lived in Oceanside, San Diego County. Club Shows have always attracted me, and I travel many miles from home to visit them. This preamble, I believe qualifies me for the following commentary:

Happy Marriages and Full Heads of Hair. A few years ago, while sitting in the rear of the room for a CFMS Directors Meeting, I noticed a sea of gray heads of hair. Very few baldies, Hmmm, amazing I thought. I parked that in the back of my brain and redirected my attention to the proceedings at hand. (Ed. Note: As a baldy, I don't agree with this observation.)

Another thought has been brewing for a long time. The longevity and happiness of the married couples around me. During meetings, shows, seminars, etc. I have long been aware of the many happy long-time couples around me. When I have brought the subject up, I get total concurrence.

Think about it. Actuarial statistics show the longevity of men and women, and I believe Rockhound men far exceed those expectations. I am happy to know nonagenarians within the groups, active ones too.

Now lets look into marriages. Statistically Americans do not come out very well. Rockhounds, to me have the most "Rock" solid and happy marriages I have collectively seen. I have belonged to Computer User Groups since 1980. Initially many of the wives I met considered the computer to be "the other woman" in their husband's life. I did not see the happy togetherness I regularly see among Rockhound couples. There is a change today with more women in the computer arena, and Computer User Group meetings have more couples attending. There is less anger in that arena now, but the longevity is still missing.

I found similar negatives within the co-workers I associated/socialized with during my work career. Many dissolution's of marriages, and less togetherness and happiness.

So what does this all lead to? Well one conclusion is we are all in the right place at the right time. Somewhere, sometime, someone doing a population evaluation, Thesis for a Doctorate can take this observation to another level. I personally find it rather amazing.

This certainly speaks well of the family who chooses to lead a very healthy outdoor life, enhancing it with discovery and refining it into a marketable, or collectable lifetime hobby is way ahead of the statistics.

Resolve to be cheerful and helpful.
People will repay you in kind.



Phylum Arthropoda



Stromatolite



Hallucigenia sparsa



Family Tyrannosauridae



Class Crinoidea



Order Ammonoidea

Distillation
(Fern)

Phylum Brachiopoda

Tools needed for identifying and preparing newly acquired specimens after bringing them home

By: Jerry Nevland, Editor, "Diggings From Dakota"

You have collected your specimens and brought them home. Now you should prepare them carefully for identification, and then for display purposes and/or storage. Your home equipment should have the essential identification aids such as: (1) Bradawl, (2) Fine dust blower, (3) Fine pointed scaper, (4) Spatula, (5) Pointed scaper, (6) Tweezers, (7) Nailbrush, (8) Sable brush, (9) dusting brush, and (10) Toothbrush.

Many specimens will have soil and/or rock matrix attached to them which you must clean off. Use a soft brush to remove very loose soil and other rock debris. Avoid hammering at specimens with heavy or sharp tools unless you want to reveal fresh surfaces. Hold the specimens in your hand while you brush away the loose material, a vice or metal clamp may cause damage.

If you are preparing a hard rock specimen, such as granite or gneiss, you can do very little damage, even with a fairly coarse brush and running water. For delicate minerals, such as calcite crystals, use distilled water (which doesn't contain reactive chemical additives) and a very fine brush (the cubes of halite lose their sharp edges), use other liquids. Alcohol cleans nitrates, sulfates, and borates, and weak hydrochloric acid is a good cleaner for silicates, but will dissolve carbonates. Soaking silicates overnight in acid will remove coatings of carbonate debris.

Scraping and Prying Tools. Clean off loose debris from some specimens with sharp metal implements. A pointed tool like a bradawl is useful for prying material off, but take great care not to damage the underlying rock. This is a preliminary stage of specimen preparation.

Cleaning Brushes. You can clean rocks and minerals using brushes of various sizes and stiffness, from a soft paintbrush to a nailbrush, depending of the fragility of the specimen. A soft sable brush is best for removal of tiny sediment grains from minerals, whereas a nailbrush is best restricted to hard rocks, such as gneiss or gabbro, which it can't damage.

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Size: 2 1/2" X 4"

(1/8 of a page)

Price per issue: \$2.00

or \$20.00 per year

Distributed to approximately 120 addresses of rockhounds, amateur lapidarists and geology buffs and read by numerous other individuals as the "Diggins" is read by many rockhounds whose rock club exchange their bulletins with other rock clubs.

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Bismarck, ND 58504-2445

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AFMS NEWSLETTER (American Federation of Mineralogical Studies)

The AFMS Newsletter may be subscribed to by all members. \$3.50 per year. AFMS Central Office, Dan McLennan, P.O. Box 26523, Oklahoma City, OK 73126-0523. Published monthly except - January, July and August. Telephone: 918-336-8035. E-Mail: www.mela@galstar.com



ODE TO A ROCKHOUND

By Nancy Wares

The day he was born no one was to know
The obsession inside him would bloom and grow.
Picking up pebbles from the roadside bed
Some people would say - he had rocks in his head.

As he grew up in years, and size, and knowledge,
He kept gathering rocks, through High School and College.
The rock piles grew in number and size
But he kept collecting to our surprise.

Rocks in the kitchen, the pantry and den,
Rocks in the barn and the old chicken shed.
Now, all were assured, he had rocks in his head.
He even had one at the foot of his bed,
"To warm up his feet," he solemnly said.

What would become of this boy, now a man
As he searched the world over for rocks?
When he runs out of his pockets, he takes off his socks,
And fills them up too when he goes on his walks.

The love of a rock, a gem, or a stone.
I do not believe this lad is alone.
As I reach down and pick up a petrified bone,
And I know there are others, and I may be one.

The author of this bit of poetry is the daughter of
Bill Acorn, Editor of the Pineywoods Rooter. She
makes her home in North Thompson River Valley
north of Kamloops, British Columbia.
From: The Pineywoods Rooter, 6/97 via
Quarry Quips, 7/98

DESCRIPTION OF A ROCKHOUND

In a way, we are an odd lot because we have asked for no government appropriations to expand our recreational opportunities. We're inquisitive people, citizens with a thirst for knowledge, regarding learning and discovery as great and even spectacular adventures.

We lug home heavy bags of rocks which are worth little or nothing; but we also bring back color in our cheeks; muscles all limbered up; appetites like plow horses and an unwavering belief in our ability to jump over the garden gate.

The rockhound destroys nothing. He picks up stuff nobody has ever wanted or needed, it's well preserved on tables in the living room, on window sills, in basements, on porches, in pockets, and in the trunks of their cars.

Rockhounds just amble quietly along lakeshores and up crooked ravines. They climb bluffs and mountains. Belly-deep breathing of hilltop air cleans the smog out of their flues, burns the carbon from their valves.

Because they feel good, they're agreeable, pleasant persons to be with. "Old Rockhounds Never Die, They Just Petrify."

By: Mr. Matt Saari for the "Conservation Volunteer." (Ely, MN)
via The Petoskey Stone, 3/98 via QUARRY QUIPS, 7/98

NORTH DAKOTA'S 24TH ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW
Mandan Community Center, Mandan, ND
September 26 and 27, 1998

Exhibitor Invitation

Mineral and gem hobbyists are invited to exhibit rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, and jewelry at North Dakota's 24th Annual Gem and Mineral Show to be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 26 and 27, 1998. Each exhibitor will furnish his/her own display case and specimens. Each one will also provide their own three-wire grounded extension cord and connectors. Space for exhibits and 200 watts of electrical power for lighting will be furnished without charge. Show hours will be from 10:00 am to 7:00 PM on Saturday and 10:00 am to 5:00 PM on Sunday. Space will be available for set-up beginning at 12:00 noon on Friday, September 25, 1998. Displays must be dismantled by midnight on Sunday, September 27, 1998.

All exhibitors are urged to display their exhibits for the entire show. However, for those guest exhibitors who cannot stay for the full two days, there will be a special "Show & Go" area where exhibitors may be set up or dismantled at any time. All exhibits will be entered as non-competitive. However, trophies will be awarded to the "Best of Show" in both adult and junior divisions. Blue ribbons will be also awarded to the "Best of Minerals," the "Best of Lapidary," the "Best of Fossils," the "Best Educational," and the "Best Open," in the adult division. The junior division will receive first, second, and third place ribbons. Judging will be on showmanship and public appeal.

The Show Committee will provide security during the entire show, including installation and dismantling. However, the Show Committee will assume no liability for safety of exhibits or exhibitors from robbery, pilferage, damage by fire, accident, or other causes.

Please complete the form below and return as soon as possible to: CDG&MS, 1998 Show Exhibits, P.O. Box 2445, Bismarck, ND 58502-2445. *Thank You.*

EXHIBIT SPACE REQUEST — 1998 CDG & MS ANNUAL SHOW

I will have an adult entry _____; a junior entry _____.
 I will need _____ feet of table space for my exhibit.
 I will need electric power _____ yes/no _____.
 I plan to exhibit _____ or demonstrate _____.
 My exhibit case will be a standard 2' X 2' X 4' case _____, a 2' X 2' X 3' case _____,
 A slant front case (size) _____; other (size) _____.
 Please indicate in which of the following categories your exhibit should be placed;
 Minerals _____, Lapidary _____, Fossils _____, Educational _____,
 Open _____.
 My exhibit will be in the regular exhibit area _____. Show & Go area _____.

Exhibitors Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip Code _____
 Phone Number plus Area Code _____