

"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

DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA

Jim Ellis Editor

3235 16 St. S.W.

CENTER N.D.

58530

Volume 35, No.4 April 1999

RMFMS - 1st Place, 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



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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



Organized: March, 1966

OBJECTIVES

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 St., Bismarck, ND

EARLY CLASS: One - half hour before each meeting.

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

MEETING TIMES: 2:00 PM — From November thru March & 7:00 PM — From April thru October

COMMITTEE PERSONS

PROGRAM: Neill Burnett #223-6758

Jim Nevland #221 - 2419

HOSPITALITY Carol Hickle #794 - 3342

and LUNCH: Emma Brady #663 - 3903

HOSPITAL/CARDS: Gen Buresh #663 - 5397

FIELD TRIPS: Steve & Darlene Newstrom #255 - 4675

EDITOR: Jim Ellis #794-3192

ANNUAL SHOW: (1999) Rodney Hickle #794 - 3342

EARLY CLASS: Harold Brady #663 - 3903

GREETER: Any Volunteers?

Parliamentarian: Gen Buresh #663 - 5397

STAMP CHAIR: Doris Hickle #794 - 3173

LIBRARIAN: Agnes Berg #442 - 5620

PUBLICITY: Any Volunteers?

HISTORIAN: Betty Mautz #337- 5775

DOOR COUNT: Any Volunteers?

VISITORS AND GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME !

RMFMS State Director for North Dakota: Ray Oliger, 516 N. 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 are encouraged for the Newsletter. (\$2.00 for 1/8 of a page per month or \$20.00 per year) Permission is granted to reprint non-copyrighted articles if proper credit is given. The "Diggins From Dakota" Newsletter is published monthly.

CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY'S

25th ANNUAL

GEM & MINERAL SHOW

COMMUNITY CENTER — MANDAN, ND

SEPTEMBER 25 & 26, 1999

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

Phone: 701 - 794 - 3342



Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society
Minutes From April 11, 1999

The meeting was called to order by vice-president Jim Nevland and the Pledge of Allegiance. The next meeting will be Sunday, May 2, 1999 at the Masonic Temple in Bismarck, N.D. at 7:00 PM. A Moment of Silence was called for Sue Randall who will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer then reported that the beginning balance for the club's account was \$106.00 with income and expenditures, the ending balance was 205.42. We still owe the Masonic Lodge this years rent payment.

COMMITTEES:

Field Trip: Steve and Darlene Newstrom reported that they would have to resign as Field Trip chairs because they would be moving to Billings Montana. Steve has to be there by May 1, 1999 and Darlene will follow shortly thereafter if she is not already there by the 1st.

Hospitality: Servers for May are Lenora Opp and Verna Giese. We also have servers for June but need one more for July.

Show: The Show Treasurer gave a final report on the 1998 show.
There was nothing to report by the other committees.

Ray Oliger asked if there were any preferences for the location of this year's picnic. One suggestion was to hold it at Sibly Park this year. Russ Oliger made a motion that the picnic be held at Sibly, Duane Robey seconded. Motion carried. Our annual Picnic will be on August 1, 1999 at Sibly Park Shelter #2.

A Silent Auction will be held by the family of Bill Buresh, a long time member of the CDG&MS. The auction will be on Sunday May 22 at 44 Captain Marsh Drive, Mandan, ND from 10:00 AM to Noon.

A Discussion of the dig being conducted by John Hoganson, the state paleontologist, of a triceratops followed. The main question was whether or not the club could arrange a visit to the sight to see the kind of progress being made. Russ Oliger said he would try to contact John to make arrangements if it is permitted.

There were 28 Adults and 7 Juniors present at the meeting. The adult door prize was won by Philip DeKrey, the Junior door prize by Justin Leidholm.

The meeting was adjourned and the floor was turned over to Russ Oliger who gave a class on tumbling stone.

Submitted by Secretary

Russell Oliger

President's Message:

I noticed at our 11 April meeting, several green vests (even though I was only there for a few minutes). HURRAH!!!! Now, if only we can improve on this trend, and everyone start wearing their green vests to our meetings, field trips and other Club affairs.

I want to apologize for not staying at our last meeting, but I am sure that our Vice-President, Jim Nevland, carried on superbly. After all, that is why we have Vice-Presidents, to preside in the absence of the President.

We should all be very proud of our attendance at meetings. We have been showing up in good numbers. Now!!!! We need to encourage all of our members to attend meetings and support the Club. After all - we only meet once a month, and that should not stress our busy schedules too much (and look who is calling the kettle black). I will be at our next meeting.

We need good programs. Please help me in arranging interesting programs. So far, we have been off to a good start, but we need ideas. Please call me if you have a suggestion, or even if you are willing to volunteer to present something which is dear to your own heart. Our phone numbers are listed in the Diggin's.

I want to thank those volunteers who help Carol Hickle with refreshments at our meetings. We need you. Nice refreshments after each meeting are a further inducement to attend. So let Carol know if you are willing to help.

See you all on 2 May at our next meeting, and do not forget the Buresh Sale from 10:00 to 12:00 on 22 May.

Sincerely,

Neill Burnett

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society will be held at the Masonic Center, 1810 Schafer St. Bismark N.D. on May 2, 1999 at 7:00 PM. Early class will be at 6:30 PM.

Servers for the May meeting are Lenora Opp and Verna Giese.



BIRTHSTONE - DIAMOND
FLOWER - SWEET PEA

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2-Kristi Eng
12-Verna Giese
12-Lee Huber
18-Sharon Scwindt
23-Kristen Liffbrig
29-Karen Atwood
29-Penny Hanson
29-Michael Brady

By Don Rathert

The following are excerpts from an article written by Pranay Gupte and Bonner R. Cohen and published in the February 22, 1999 issue of *Forbes*.

"Al Gore is obsessed with 'protecting the environment' and he has the means of putting his beliefs into law. He has seeded such bodies as the EPA, the Council on Environmental Quality, and the Department of Energy with friends, acolytes, and ex-staffers." The article goes on to say the following: "In the Environmental sector, Congress has, in effect, ceded law-making power to the executive branch. It has to. There is simply no way the legislators could themselves run the experiments and make the scientific judgements that determine the details of pollution control or energy conservation."

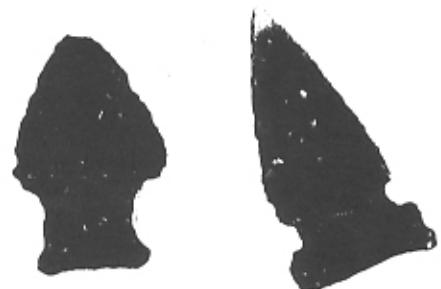
I disagree with the last statement. We did not elect legislators to renege on their responsibilities, and instead turn those responsibilities over to the executive branch, thereby giving that executive branch dictatorial powers. And this particular executive branch is using those powers. The rest of this is a summary of the above article. The Kyoto Treaty would require the U.S. to reduce pollution by 30% but place no restriction on developing countries like China, India, Mexico, or other developing nations. Al Gore would eliminate the use of coal and reduce the use of other fossil fuels. U.S. tax dollars are going to fund supporters of the Kyoto Treaty while those groups that are against the Treaty receive few if any research funds.

In summary, my opinion is that these environmental groups are trying to make the air cleaner than before man came to "pollute", to create forests that did not exist before man moved in. In economics courses in college, we studied research that said by 1899 we would not be able to produce enough food for the world's increasing population. The population has doubled since then and we are still producing enough food — it just isn't getting to everyone. Bruce Babbitt said "We must identify our enemies and drive them into oblivion." I think this is true but Babbitt and his ilk are the enemies!

A silent auction will be held by the family of Bill Buresh, a long time member of the CDG&MS. The auction will be on Sunday May 22 at 44 Captain Marsh Drive, Mandan, N.D. from 10:00 AM to Noon.

This will be a very good sale with all of Bill's equipment and rocks selling. Be sure to go to this auction!!.

VIA THE AMMONITE



ROCK OF THE MONTH: OBSIDIAN

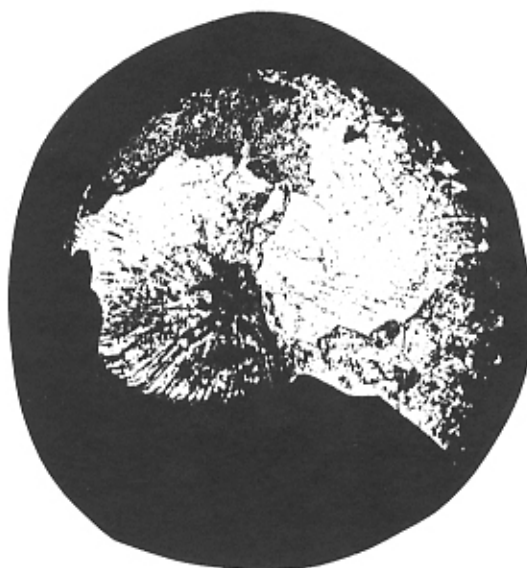
This is a silica-rich volcanic rock. With glass as its main component, obsidian is sometimes defined as being a glassy volcanic rock, with less than 1 percent water content in its structure.

TEXTURE:

Glassy. Obsidian may contain rare phenocrysts of quartz and feldspar. It breaks with a very sharp conchoidal fracture, which has been used since palaeolithic times for making cutting tools.

ORIGIN:

Volcanic, formed by the very rapid cooling of viscous acid lava.



MINERAL OF THE MONTH: SULFUR

ATOMIC No. 16. S

Hardness $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$

The crystal forms of this mineral are tabular, and bipyramidal. Sulfur also occurs in massive, encrusting, powdery, and stalactitic habits. It is bright lemon-yellow to yellowish-brown, and the streak is white. Sulfur is transparent to translucent and has a resinous to greasy luster.

FORMATION:

Forms around volcanic craters and hot springs.

TESTS:

Fuses at low temperature, giving off sulfur dioxide.

WORD OF THE MONTH: ADAMANTINE

The word used to describe a very high luster like the luster of a diamond. It is a metallic luster on a translucent material.

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WORDS OF WISDOM

"If a nation expects to be ignorant and free it expects something that can not be" Thomas Jefferson

"Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people." John Adams

LIST OF STATE ROCKS

Here is a listing of state rocks, etc. from most of the states. I have no information on five states: Hawaii, Kansas, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Virginia.

ALABAMA:

Mineral - Hematite
Rock - Marble
Fossil - Eocene Whale, *Basilosaurus cetoides*

ALASKA:

Gemstone - Jade
Mineral - Gold
Fossil - Pleistocene Mammoth, *Mammuthus primigenius*

ARIZONA:

Gem - Turquoise
Fossil - Triassic Petrified Wood,
Araucarioxylon arizonicum

ARKANSAS:

Gem - Diamond
Mineral - Quartz Crystal
Rock - Bauxite

CALIFORNIA:

Gem - Benitoite
Mineral - Gold
Rock - Serpentine
Fossil - Pleistocene Saber-Tooth Cat, *Smilodon californicus*

COLORADO:

Gem - Aquamarine
Fossil - Upper Jurassic Dinosaur, *Stegosaurus*

CONNECTICUT:

Gem - Garnet

DELAWARE:

Mineral - Sillimanite

FLORIDA:

Gem - Moonstone
Stone - Agatized Coral
Fossil - Eocene sea urchin, *Eupatagus antillarum* (unofficial)

GEORGIA:

Gemstone - Quartz Crystal
Mineral - Staurolite
Fossil - Shark's Teeth (no genus or species specified)

IDAHO:

Gemstone - Star Garnet

ILLINOIS:

Mineral - Fluorite

INDIANA:

Fossil - Crinoid (proposed)

IOWA:

Rock - Geode

KENTUCKY:

Fossil - Brachiopod (no genus or species specified)

LOUISIANA:

Gemstone - Agate
Fossil - Petrified Palm Wood

MAINE:

Mineral - Tourmaline
Fossil - Devonian Plant, *Pertica quadrifaria*

MARYLAND:

Fossil - Miocene Marine Snail, *Ecphora quadricostata*

MASSACHUSETTS:

Gem - Rhodonite
Mineral - Babingtonite
Rock - Conglomerate
Fossil - Dinosaur Tracks

MICHIGAN:

Stone - Petoskey Stone (Devonian Coral),
Hexagonaria percarinata
Gem - Chlorastrolite

MINNESOTA:

Stone - Lake Superior Agate

MISSISSIPPI:

Stone - Petrified Wood
Fossil - Eocene Whale, *Zygorhiza koochii*

MISSOURI:

Mineral - Galena
Rock - Mozarkite
Fossil - Crinoid

MONTANA:

Gem - Yogo Sapphire
Gemstone - Moss Agate
Fossil - Upper Jurassic Dinosaur, *Maiaasaurus*

NEBRASKA:

Gem - Blue Chalcedony
Rock - Prairie Agate
Fossil - Pleistocene Mammoth, *Mammuthus*
(*Archidiskodon*)

NEVADA:

Metal - Silver
Fossil - Marine Reptile, *Ichthyosaurus*

NEW JERSEY:

Rock - Stockton Sandstone (unofficial)
Fossil - Dinosaur, *Hadrosaurus fouldii* (unofficial)

NEW MEXICO:

Gem - Turquoise
Fossil - Upper Triassic Dinosaur, *Coelophysis*

NEW YORK:

Gem - Garnet
Fossil - Late Silurian Sea Scorpion (Eurypterid),
Eurypterus remipes

NORTH CAROLINA:

Precious Stone - Emerald
Rock - Granite
Shell - Scotch Bonnet

NORTH DAKOTA:

Fossil - Terebo (bored) Petrified Wood

OHIO:

Gemstone - Flint
Fossil - Ordovician Trilobite, *Isotelus*

OKLAHOMA:

Rock - Rose Rock (Barite Rose)

OREGON:

Gemstone - Sunstone (gem feldspar)
Rock - Thunderegg (agate-filled nodule)

PENNSYLVANIA:

Fossil - Devonian Trilobite, *Phacops rana*

RHODE ISLAND:

Mineral - Bowenite
Rock - Cumberlandite

SOUTH CAROLINA:

Gemstone - Amythyst
Stone - Blue Granite
Shell - Snail, *Oliva sagana*

SOUTH DAKOTA:

Gemstone - Fairburn Agate
Mineral - Rose Quartz
Fossil - Upper Cretaceous Dinosaur, *Triceratops*
prorsus

TENNESSEE:

Gemstone - River Pearl
Rocks - Limestone and Agate

TEXAS:

Gemstone - Topaz
Rock - Fossilized Palm Wood

UTAH:

Gem - Topaz
Fossil - Upper Jurassic Dinosaur, *Allosaurus fragilis*

WASHINGTON:

Gem - Petrified Wood

WEST VIRGINIA:

Gem - Mississippian Coral, *Lithostrotionella*

WISCONSIN:

Mineral - Galena
Rock - Wausau Red Granite
Fossil - Trilobite, *Calymene celebra*

WYOMING:

Gem - Jade
Fossil - Eocene Fish, *Knightia*