

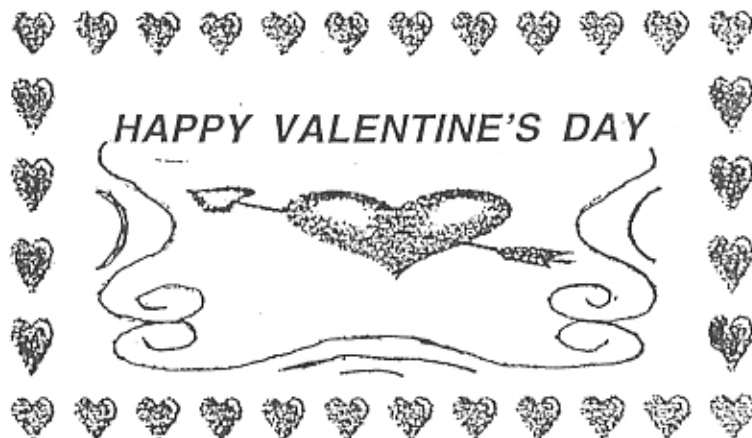
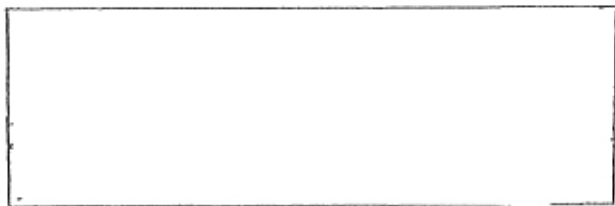
"DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA"



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

DUES ARE DUE

Volume 34, No. 2 February 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



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



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

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: Any Volunteers?

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 Oliver, 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 Form February 7, 1999

The CDG&MS met at the Masonic Center. President Neill Burnett called the meeting to order and had everyone cite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The next meeting will be held on March 7, 1999. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved ad read.

Treasurer, Ray Oliger, reported a balance on hand of \$189.56.

COMMITTEES:

Field Trip: Nothing planned until the Spring thaw.

Show Chairman: Steve Newstrom stated that the Bismarck Hotel wanted way too much money for rent. Since we already had the Mandan Community Center reserved, the show committee went ahead and signed a contract. A short discussion followed concerning the 2000 show, and it was suggested that a possible site for our show might be the Missouri Valley Fairgrounds.

Hospitality: We have servers for March and April but still need volunteers for the rest of the year.

There were 19 Adults, 3 Junior and 1 Adult Guest at the meeting. The Adult door prize was won by Darlene Newstrom. The Junior door prize went to Laura Ellis.

Jim Ellis volunteered to take over as the Diggins Editor. This is a big responsibility for a High School student,

but he is a straight A student and has always accomplished what he set out to do. His parents and other club members that know him say he can handle the job. So everyone give a hand to our new editor, and give a helping hand if needed.

The meeting was adjourned. The program that followed was Part II on basic bezel mounting presented by Steve Newstrom.

The March meeting is the annual club silent auction, so bring in your material for sale and your cash for purchases.

Submitted by Secretary

Russell W. Oliger

From The Presidents Pen

This is My first message to our ROCKY members since you so kindly bestowed upon me the honor of being your President for 1999. (To some, the last year of our century - to others, the next to the last year, the year 2001 being the beginning of the new millennium). Since I missed our first meeting (Jan), and managed to stumble through our February meeting, I promise to try to be better organized for the rest of the year. Ray Oliger would like to assume the position of vice-president, and be relieved from the Treasurer's position, but he cannot until we find a dedicated ROCKER to take over as Treasurer. Any Volunteers? We also need a Parliamentarian, a Publicity Chair, a hospitality/cards chair and a Door Count Chair HELP!!!

Jim Ellis has volunteered to take over as "DIGGINS" Editor, with help from the Oliger's. Thank you Jim.

Sunday, 7 March, will be our annual 'in house' silent auction, designed to attain two objectives:

To make money for the Club.
Twenty percent of all sales go to the club.

To allow members to exchange treasures, equipment etc.

Since we started this event, I have found it to be one of the more fascinating programs of each years activities. Bring something to place on the tables. We'll start at 1:30 PM (1330 hours), since there will be no Early Class.

REMEMBER - The more the merrier.
Wear you Green ClubVests. Invite your friends - encourage visitors.

We also need volunteers to conduct programs at our Monthly meetings. If you have a favorite topic that you would enjoy expounding upon, let us know.

Faceting, Opals, Topaz, Knife River Flint, Cutting, Whatever. The last two presentations by Steve Newstrom held us all captivated. Do not assume that we are not interested, or that every one does it, so it would not be interesting. NOT SO. Many of us are still Neophyte Rock Hounds, and learning what you do not know is what makes life interesting.

Remember to pay our dues for 1999 to Ray Oliger. Also, we will include a roster of members in one of the next two 'DIGGINS'.

Till you pick that next strange rock off the ground

I Remain, yours

Neill C. Burnett

Neill C. Burnett

Mineral Terminology:

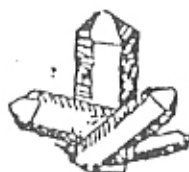
Word of the Month: **Chatoyancy**

The light effect which resembles the slit-eye of a cat. This is caused by the reflection of light from parallel fibers, needles and cavities in a stone. Most effective when the cut is *en cabochon*. The most common stones this is associated with are Tiger's eye and moonstone and in the manmade material fiber-optic glass.

Closely related to chatoyancy is what is called "**Asterism**". This is Star-Shaped rays of light which meet at a point. It is formed like a cat's eye, except that the reflecting fibers lie in different directions. Found in some sapphires and garnets and in synthetic sapphires and rubies.

Remember to attend the next meeting of the Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society. To be held at the Masonic Temple in Bismarck at 1:30 PM CST on Sunday, March 7, 1999. The Program for this meeting is the annual club silent auction. Visitors and guests are always welcome so bring your neighbors, brothers, sisters, cousins and anybody else you can drag in.

For anyone who did not get your February "Diggins" we regret any inconvenience. Since our Editor quit we had to scramble to get out a Diggins and are still trying to get our mailing list completed and updated. Bear with us, we'll get it right soon. None of us have put out a newsletter previously. Thanks for your patience.



The "February Birth Stone" : Amethyst

AMETHYST

The much prized amethyst is a variety of quartz of various shades of purple or violet. One of the qualities that enhance the beauty and desirability of a gem stone is the possibility of seeing into its depths. The amethyst has this physical property. As amethyst of gem quality should be perfectly transparent, deep purple in color, and cut "brilliant", as the jewelers say.

This six-sided variety of quartz has pointed crystals. The color variation is believed to be due to impurities such as iron and manganese. There is also a purple variety of the mineral corundum that is called the Oriental Amethyst.

At one time the amethyst was nearly as valuable as the diamond. New, extensive deposits in many parts of the world, especially Siberia, Brazil, Mexico, and Nova Scotia, have caused this gem to be less than one-tenth its former value. Amethysts are found in many places in the United States and some fine crystals have been collected in Chester and Delaware counties of Pennsylvania.

Taken from "Birthstones" by E.R. Eller Curator, Section of Geology and Invertebrate Paleontology, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Via Roc Toc - Feb. 99. Shasta Gem & Mineral Society.

Additional information obtained from World Book.

Rockhounds delight Quartzsite Arizona

For those of you that do not receive the magazine "Rock and Gem", you missed some great articles in the February, 1999 issue about the huge gathering each year at Quartzsite AZ. From what I have been told it is bigger than any other large event you can imagine.

Harold and Mike Brady of our club just returned from there annual trip, Harold told me that a person could walk for eight hours a day for a week and not see it all. He said you have to visit Quartzsite to believe it.

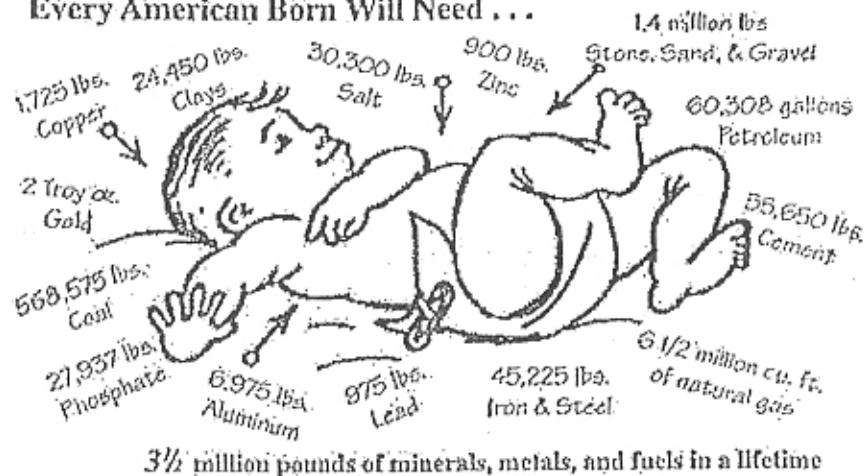
By Ray Oliver

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Happiness often sneaks in
through an open door you didn't
know you left open.*

SOURCE UNKNOWN

Every American Born Will Need ...



Rockhound Riddle:

What is a teenage snake?

Answer: Serpentine

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 1999

11th, 12th, 13th, & 14th, 1999 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, Convention Center, Tucson, AZ Admission: Adults 5.50, children 14 and under free with paying adult. Feature: Minerals of Mexico Information: contact: Tucson Gem & Mineral Soc., Ph: (520) 322-5773; Fax: (520) 322-6031 e-mail: tgmsgb@azstarnet.com
12th, 13th, & 14th, Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Show, hosted by the Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Society, Community Center, 160 N. Valentine Street, Wickenburg, AZ Dealer Contact: Earl Brown, 965 America St., Wickenburg, AZ 85390 (520) 684-0489

MARCH 1999

Roundup, hosted by Deming Gem & Mineral Soc., Deming, NM SW New Mexico Fairgrounds. Field trips during show. Information: Mary Remondini, (505) 546-6670, Deming Gem & Mineral Soc. PO Box 1459, Deming, NM 88031
19th, 20th, & 21st, Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Show, hosted by Timpanogos G&M Society, Show location: Provo Elks Lodge, Provo, UT Show Chair: Jan Badertscher, 3087 West 5900 South, Lake Shore, UT 84660; Dealer Chair: Dick Peterson, 2625 East 1250 South, Spanish Fork, UT 84660 Show Info: (801) 798-0515
20th & 21st Rock & Gem Show, hosted by The Silver Colorado River Rock Club, Bullhead City, AZ. Show location: Bullhead City Junior High School gymnasium, Hancock at Lakeside, Bullhead City, AZ 86439 (520) 768-1983. Dealer Chair: Don Feil, PO Box 22648, Bullhead City, AZ 86439. (520) 763-1953

APRIL

23rd, 24th, & 25th 1999 Wichita Gem & Mineral Show, hosted by the Wichita Gem & Mineral Soc. Show located at Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita, KS Show Chair: Jim Ballou, 8927 W. Warren, Wichita, KS 67212 e-mail: <ghost@feist.com>
23rd, 24th, & 25th - 2nd ANNUAL "Rockin Into Spring" Denver, Colorado PHT Promotions, LLS, Best Western Central Motel, 200 w. 48th Ave. (I-25 & 48th) Contact Jihn Haney, PHT Promotions, LLS 4242 Thompson CT., Denver, CO 80216-4005 (303) 296-8268
 Fax: 303-984-2155 email: khemmerle@aol.com
30th, May 1st & 2nd 7th Annual Rock Swap, hosted by the McPherson Gem & Mineral Club, 4-H Fair Grounds, Hickory and Woodside, McPherson, KS Info contact: Brett Whitenack, 602 N. Ash, McPherson, KS 67460 (316) 241-7600

MAY

8th & 9th - 52nd Annual Gem & Mineral Show, "Earth's Rainbows" hosted by Grand Junction Gem & Mineral Club, show location: Two Rivers Convention Center, 1st & Main, Grand Junction, CO Show Chair: Frank Marz, PO Box 953, Grand Junction, CO 81502 (970) 434-1447
21st, 22nd, & 23rd Ellenwood Rock Swap, Ellenwood, Kansas Information Contact: Mrs. Helen Dickson, 203 Pembroke, Ellenwood, KS 67526

JUNE

10th, 11th, 12th, & 13th Mile Hi Rock & Mineral Soc. 24th Annual Show hosted by the Mile Hi Rock & Mineral Soc., Westminster, CO. Show location: Westminster Mall, 88th & Sheridan Blvd, Westminster, Colorado. Show Chair: Sue Kurtz, 4790 W 103rd CT., Westminster, CO 80030 (303) 466-4950
 e-mail Skurtz3824@aol.com
19th & 20th Wyoming State Gem and Mineral Society presents "Gems of Wyoming" Gem and Mineral Show, hosted by Natrona County Rockhounds Club, at Parkway Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, I-25 and Center St., Casper, WY
 Info: Ed McKnir, C/O Natrona County Rockhounds, PO Box 123, Mills, WY 82644-0123, Ph: 307-265-6202

JULY 1999

1st, 2nd, & 3rd 13th Annual American Gem & Mineral Show, hosted by The Flagstaff Gem & Mineral Soc., Located in the Little American Hotel, Butler Ave. & I-40, Flagstaff, AZ Show Chair: Ed F. Lechner, PO Box 233, Williams, AZ 86046 (520) 635-1379
9th, 10th, & 11th 47th Annual Gem Show, hosted by the Four Corners Gem & Mineral Club Durango CO, show location: LaPlata County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Hall located on Main St. Durango. Inquiries to: Jay Swanson, PO Box 955, Durango, CO 81302 (970) 259-3145 e-mail: faswanson@juno.com
17th, & 18th, Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society Show, Rushmore Civic Center, Rapid City, SD. Show Chair: Tom Estes, 23773 Aero Road, Rapid City, SD 57701 (605) 342-2147 Asst.Chair: Donald Rathert, 2701 Mystic Mtn., Rapid City, SD 57702 (605) 342-2147
18th & 19th - 25th Annual Rockhounds Roundup hosted by Ute Mountain G&M Cortez, CO show location: Montezuma County Annex Bldg., 103 N. Chesnut, Show Chair: Jay DePuy, 22751 C. R. G, Cortez, CO (970) 565-6528

NOVEMBER

12th, 13th, & 14th RMFMS Show and Convention, Tucson Convention Center, downtown Tucson, AZ, hosted by Old Pueblo Lapidary Club, Tucson, AZ Show Chair: Jason Penn
 462 South Stratford, Tucson, AZ (520) 793-3825
 e-mail: Ekmtuc@azstarnet.com (This a date and location change)

A Moment To Laugh

some rockhound humor

There once was a rock hunter from Anaheim

Who hunted for rocks all the time

When asked, "Why so many?"

He replied, "Must have plenty,

For tomorrow it may be a crime!"

From Beehive Buzzer (Utah) via Rockhound

News, 11/96, VIA The Rock Collector (Rochester NY) 10/98

