

DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA



CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY
Ida Mae Ramberg, Editor
1325 North Fifteenth Street
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA

CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

- AIMS: 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 exchange, purchase and exhibition of specimens and material.

MEETINGS: First Sunday of each month in the Hospitality Room of the Capital Electric Building on Highway 83, north of Bismarck

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME: at the club functions, meetings, field trips, Annual shows, etc.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

President	William A. Buresh	1527 N. 19th St	Bismarck	223 0611
Vice President	Duane Robey	2119 Ave. F East	Bismarck	255 0576
Secretary	Stan Fairaizl	205 6th Ave. N.W.	Mandan	663 9712
Treasurer	Dick Bergantine	703 12th Ave. N.W.	Mandan	663 3419
Past President	Earle Campbell	1134 28th St.	Bismarck	255 3658
Parliamentarian	Genevieve(Mrs.W)Buresh	1527 N. 19th St.	Bismarck	223 0611
Program Chairman	Harold Brady	1401 Sunny Road	Mandan	663 3904,390
Librarian	Owen O'Neill	906 1st Ave.N.W.	Mandan	663 3748
Field Trip Chairman	Frank Herr	528 West Villard	Dickinson	225 8712
Nominations	Ted Giese	Zip 58563	New Salem	843 7005
Refreshments	Sue(Mrs.Bob)Randall	928 N. 16th St	Bismarck	223 1625
Annual Show	Earle Campbell	1134 N. 28th St.	Bismarck	255 3658
Historian	Vian(Mrs.A.)Anderson	R.R. # 2	Bismarck	673 4585
Doorman and Greeter	Dick Merrill	1428 N. 22nd St.	Bismarck	223 7275
Pebble Pup Leader	Patricia Brady	1401 Sunny Road	Mandan	663 3904
Editor &Publicity	Ida Mae(Mrs.J)Ramberg	1325 N. 15th St.	Bismarck	223 6296
Membership chairman				
&Subscription Agent	Larry Strand	913½ N. 19th St.	Bismarck	258 5128
Zip Codes	Bismarck, 58501	Mandan 58554	Dickinson 58601	

All contributions for this bulletin should be mailed to the Editor, Ida Mae Ramberg, 1325 N. 15th Street, Bismarck, N.Dak. 58501, by the 10th of each month.

Each member should consider submitting articles etc.for publication each year.

Other editors may reprint articles from this bulletin, A credit line would be appreciated. Exchange bulletins are welcomed and should be mailed to the editor at her home address.

The Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society is a member of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

By the time you read this, there will be only three weeks left before show time, and very few of the members have indicated that they will have an exhibit at the state show.

Are you preparing a display but have neglected to notify Dick Bergantine, the display chairman, about your intentions? If you are one of those, let him know immediately so that he can provide space for you. Dick's telephone number is 663-3419.

Remember that this gem and mineral show is sponsored and promoted by the Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society, and you are an important part of it. The success of the show will depend solely on your participation in it.

On Monday, August 25, at 7:30 p.m., a special meeting of the Society will be held at the usual place, Capital Electric Building, primarily for the purpose of assigning duties and time schedules for each member during the show.

I trust that each of you will be present to assist with these final details. However, if you cannot be present on August 25, kindly call the show chairman, Earle Campbell, or me before the meeting date to indicate your willingness to assume a duty.

--Bill Buresh

THE PICNIC - AUGUST MEETING

The wind kept away the mosquitoes, The roof kept away the sun;
The food was piled high on the tables, And enjoyed by everyone.
There were hot dishes, salads and pickles, and lots and lots of desert;
So most of them came back for more, And ate until they hurt.

Then a business meeting was held, with discussion on the SHOW!!
There'll be lots and lots of work, And it is hoped that all will GO.
A meeting of committee chairmen was planned To meet with Gen. Earle and Bill,
And another final planning for ALL, At our usual place on the HILL
This will be Monday, the twenty-fifth of August and all are urged to attend---
To get the final briefing for the show on how and where and when.

Then down came the tail-gates and goodies were displayed.
Some interesting specimens changed hands and all were well paid.
Those who forgot and didn't bring any, were left out in the cold;
So next time there's a rock swap, bring your gems and fool's gold.
All in all, it was a lot of fun
And was enjoyed by everyone.

Ida Mae Ramberg

Little Jamie, a second grader, arrived home with a big smile on his face.
"We finally had a good home-cooked meal at school, Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches."

A balding, timid husband to wife, mustering up courage for a moment, "We're not going out tonight, and that'ssemifinal."

Rich people miss one of the greatest pleasures of life...paying the last installment
from WOMEN'S CIRCLE HOME COOKING



A FIELD TRIP TO THE BADLANDS

When it is cool other places, in the Badlands it is cold; when the weather warms up slightly in town, in the Badlands it is H-O-T! So it was on Sunday, July 26, when The Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society took a field trip to the Little Badlands, south of Southheart, North Dakota.

Members of the club met at Herr's Rock Shop in Dickinson that Sunday morning. Frank had just received a shipment of dendritic agate from Wyoming. Some of our local rockhounds made good purchases before we ever left the shop. I became the proud owner of a 52 pound hunh of barite crystals.

Frank Herr led a caravan of twelve vehicles from Dickinson to the Little Badlands. After arriving at our destination, club members enjoyed a picnic lunch before going into rock hunting terrain. After lunch the group split into two parties, one group going with Frank in his four-wheel drive vehicle and the other group going with John and Ralph Anderson in theirs. It was a wild and woolly drive cross-country through gullies and over hills until we came to a place where there were "North Dakota roses" in abundance. Aragonite nodules were also plentiful from button size up to twelve inches in diameter. Phillip Solberg found a fossil turtle while several others found turtle bones. Harold Brady found several jaw bones with teeth attached. The weather wasn't too bad here because there was a delightful breeze blowing which helped keep one cool.

After we had picked enough "roses" and aragonite to fill our bags, we again formed a caravan and followed Frank to another spot a bit farther down the road. Here we should find opalized wood and maybe, just maybe, a bit of wood with fire opal.

However, at this second spot the breeze was shut off by the surrounding hills and here it was H-O-T! Under foot was bentonite, and when the sun shone on the white surface and then reflected up to one's face it made a person feel pretty miserable. Some of the more hardy rock collectors followed Frank as he took out for the hills on foot. Others, like me, decided they just couldn't stand the pace Frank set, and did their rock hunting near the edge of the badlands. Here were jaspers, concretions with pyrites and petrified wood to be found. (After we got home we found out that the wood we picked up fluoresced a beautiful orange.)

About this time the hunt started to break up as one by one the club members returned to their cars and headed for home, hot tired, but happy. Thanks to our field trip chairman, Frank Herr, this was a successful field trip!

One sight you don't ordinarily see on a field trip - Sue Randall looking for rocks while holding a brilliantly colored umbrella over her head to protect her from the sun's burning rays!

Members who made the field trip were: Harold and Emma Brady and daughter, Pat, Sally and Owen O'Neill, Ernie and Kim Knudson, Henry and Phillip Solberg, Ed and Katherine Muggli, Ewald and Clara Muggli and son, Sue and Bob Randall, John and Ralph Anderson, Bill Buresh, Roy Schubert and son, Leo Krank, Earle and Blossomae Campbell, and last, but far from least - our leader, Frank Herr.

Blossomae Campbell

* * * * *

WESTWARD HO!!!

During the last month I made a trip with Sun Valley, Idaho as my destination, along with Florence Tucker from Dickinson. Joel and I had covered some of the trip earlier. We traveled through Montana, along the Yellowstone River. We saw the Crazy (Woman) Mountains from a rest stop. Although it was mid-July, they were snowcapped, telling us we were changing altitudes. In places we followed the banks of swollen rivers, letting us know what was causing our surplus water in Lake Sakakawea. Other times we climbed and circled through formations of rock and sparse vegetation.

After spending a night at Livingston and stopping in Butte the next day, we took #43 to #93. This took us through the Big Hole country. We stopped at the Center that commemorates the Big Hole Battle Ground. This is one of the sad stories in our history. This large beautiful valley is completely surrounded by high towering mountains. Joel and our neice's family had a very successful fishing trip into them in June.

When we came to the Pass and the boundary between Montana and Idaho, we headed north on Highway 93. The grade was steep for many miles, passing the scars of a 1960 forest fire. When we reached the Bitterroot River, we came to the MOOSEHEAD MUSEUM AND ROCK SHOP. The father of the present operator settled on that land in the 1800's. I purchased some wonderstone, fire-opal and tiger-eye buttons. The father is still active.

We then followed the West Fork of the river to Trapper's Peak Job Corp, where my neice's husband, Jim Kahl, is a medical technician. We spent the night with them. They took us to the Painted Rocks Dam, where the colors in the mountains are fabulous. I tried to capture it on film, but didn't do the beauty justice. Donna took us to an observation point from which we could have a better view of Trappers Peak, and far into the valley below, truly a breath-taking ride, culminated by an awe-inspiring view.

After again climbing to the divide, we entered Idaho, and after another steep grade we followed the Salmon River through rugged mountain terrain. This is a beautiful but slow drive, with many twenty-mile per hour hair-pin curves. If the number of campers parked along the river is an indication, it must be great fishing country. We passed near the Sawtooth Range, which truly lives up to its name - with rugged snow-capped Alpine type peaks.

We finally arrived in Ketchum and Sun Valley, with majestic Baldy Mountain, sporting many ski runs carved out of the tree covered sides. Professional and amateur skaters performed early and late on the large Olympic size skating rink outside our window. A large pool had many swimmers practicing or just enjoying themselves.

After a week at Sun Valley, we headed south and east to Craters of the Moon, a desolate but interesting array of cinders in many formations. The park center had a goodly display including a movie showing the working and ravaging of a volcano, which is the cause of the cinder rock in the area.

After going through irrigated potato country, we again climbed into the mountains, reaching the top and looking into the Valley of the Tetons. These rugged mountains

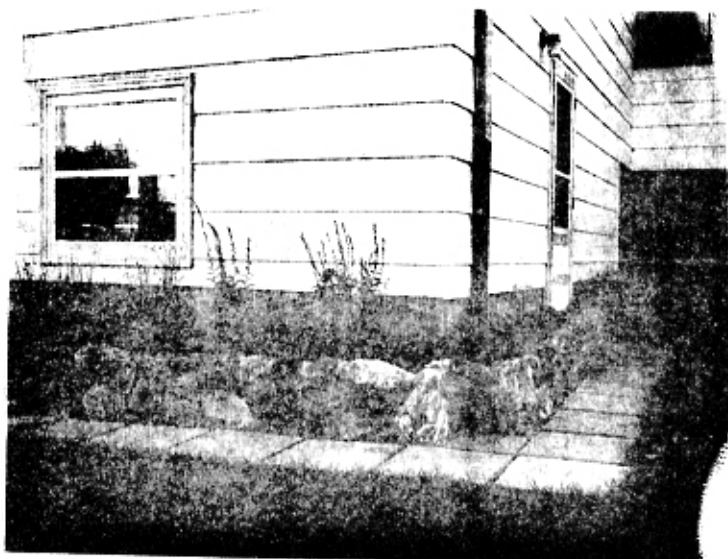
forming a back-drop for the Jackson Lake and valley have their own picturesque way of inspiring the beholder.

We were unable to get a room in Jackson, but made reservations at Flagg Ranch, so we were able to enter Yellowstone Park early the next morning. We had breakfast while watching Old Faithful perform her hourly fete. Pictures can never do justice to the sight of this most regular of Nature's wonders- so the next eruption can be foretold, almost to the minute. Other geyser activities were seen, but their actions are not as predictable.

Paint pots, water falls, Mammoth Terrace and majestic valleys were followed by the fast descent into the hot out-of-the-park climate, and Gardiner, Montana. Here we visited The King's Rock Shop where some goodies were purchased and an ad for the Diggin's was received. If anyone goes to Yellowstone, I'd strongly recommend King's as a friendly and interesting place, with much Mexican Onyx and agate spoons and much more.

After a night in Billings, we returned home to colorfully green North Dakota, with happy memories but proud of the beauties of our own state- the Bad Lands, Roosevelt National Memorial Park, the rolling prairies of green and ripening grain, all give a thrill, especially to those of us who love the prairies, fresh air and open country. It's great to go, but better to return.

Ida Mae Ramberg



Pictured here is the rock wall built by John Bosch and his sons around part of the family home. This wall is 42 feet long and 2 feet high. It contains many interesting specimens of petrified wood, jasper and other local rocks. It represents many long hours of hard work, but is a beauty to behold at 1425 N. 15th St. He also has many other interesting rock displays and projects of interest to rock hounds and others. His table top with a map of the United States has rocks from all states.

PEBBLE PUPS

At the next regular meeting of Pebble Pups the group will be studying fossils- so Pups, bring your fossils, share what you have and learn from others.

Can you unscramble these letters to name some fossils?

isudnoar, SOOTH, ETTEH, SOOTL, OTRDEO, CASLM, ERTIBILOT, SDCRBAHIPO

Pat promised to have some interesting things to tell you, so be there!!!

September 14, 1975- 7:30 P.M.

REMEMBER!!! MEETING, AUGUST 25, to finalize plans for the FIRST STATE GEM AND MINERAL SHOW, September 6,7 with work beginning? 5th!! REGULAR MEETING, September 14, at usual time- Mrs. Ramberg will show slides on their trip to ALASKA last fall. They went by car and returned by boat.

DIGGIN'S FROM OTHERS:

An interesting article was found in the February, 1970 issue of LAPIDARY JOURNAL, ON "Those Hard Headed Hole Makers", by Marie Kennedy. The picture accompanying the article has "Three specimens of agatized wood, colors cream, red and brown, from cannon ball formation in North Dakota. Identified as teredo bored sequoia wood of the Paleocene Period." There are quite a few other pictures of specimens of petrified wood that have been bored full of holes. It is quite a long article and has many pertinent facts of interest to us in North Dakota, since our state rock is Teredo wood.

From the GEO-LOGIC, Bloomington, Minn.

DID YOU KNOW??? The Black Sea is black because of a high concentration of Hydrogen sulfide? The Red Sea gets its red hue from the recurring bloom of small algae?? Russia's White Sea earned its name from the ice that covers it most of the year? The Yellow Sea derived its color from the mud that rivers carry into it.

via T-Town Rockhound; Rock Rollers & Rock Talk

From LAKE LAND GEMS CHIPS AND BITS, Minocqua, Wisconsin
WORDS:

DID is a word of achievement; WON'T is a word of retreat;
NIGHT is a word of bereavement; CAN'T is a word of defeat;
OUGHT is a word of duty; TRY is a word of each hour;
WILL is a word of beauty; CAN is a word of power.



From KORN KRIB NEWS, Mitchell, South Dakota

ROCK TIP OF MONUMENTAL PROPORTIONS

The monument maker uses a weak solution of oxalic acid to acquire the glassy shine on granite. It is used as a polishing aid. Dissolve a little oxalic acid in water and work into your felt buff, or add to your polishing paste and try on agates, for it really works wonders. A piece of corduroy glued to soft rubber makes fine, inexpensive polishing material.

via Cycad, The Template

from THE DIGGERS, Potlatch, Idaho

HINTS, POLISHING ONYX: To get a high polish on onyx and other stones that are difficult to polish, to through the complete process of making your cab from start to finish in the normal manner. Then, to get the high polish, mix in a babyfood jar or other wide mouth glass, 3 tablespoons water with one-half teaspoon of oxalic acid dip your cab in this mixture and go back to the polishing wheel. You will be surprised with the results.

Via GOLDEN SPIKE, CHIP AND TIPS

TIP A safety razor makes a handy sander. Remove the blade and wrap a sanding paper around the curved blade holder, tuck in the ends under the teeth and tighten handle. Ideal for sanding small surfaces, especially if they are curved.

Via CHIPS & TIPS



from
Miami Mineralogical
and Lapidary Guild
GEODE NEWSLETTER

THE T-TOWN ROCKHOUND

TULSA, OK.

SORRY MISS BROWN . . . BUT THAT'S WHAT "COPROLITE" IS



Johnny Horizon '76 is a nationwide, action-oriented environmental awareness program to clean up America for our 200th birthday -- and then keep it clean! Through citizen involvement, with government, business and industry support, the program gives full recognition to the emergine environmental/conservation ethic based on more thoughtful use of our natural resources.

from THE GEODE, St. Louis, Mo.

via GEODE NEWSLETTER



From JADE JOURNAL, Casper, Wyoming

The way these modern women dress
Disgusting so says I
The micr and the mini skirt
Above the knee so high.

It burns me up, it makes me mad
My rage is so inspired
To see these lovely creatures
So scantily attired.

Yes, I'm a very moral man,
And hot pants leave me cold
Why couldn't they have been the style
Before I got so OLD.
Poem by Bud Robbins, Stockton, Cal.

Illustrations from THE LITTLE GEM
NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF EARTH SCIENCE CLUBS
(show September 28, 29, 30, North Platte Neb.)



Special display of
Teredo Wood!!
Demonstrations!!
Swap Table!!
exhibits
Dealers

Bring yours to show!!!

NORTH DAKOTA'S FIRST ANNUAL
GEM AND MINERAL SHOW*

September 6 & 7,

MANDAN COMMUNITY CENTER



Share Your Hobby

ATTEND THE SHOW . . .
. . . INVITE A FRIEND

PATTERSON PRIVIES PROVIDE PREVIEW OF PAST

In Patterson, New Jersey, according to the Wall Street Journal, when bulldozers were clearing off a highway right of way they struck an archeological gold mine.

Industrial research workers studying old factories nearby were delighted when the bulldozers uncovered a series of stone-lined pits located in the back yards of ten old houses.

The pits were believed to be cisterns but upon excavation turned out to be the sites of old outhouses dating back to the early Irish immigrant workers.

The workers now have several boxes of catalogued specimens -- glazed ceramic whiskey bottles, white clay pipes, little clay dolls and other everyday artifacts of workers' lives.

One historian said it was the equivalent of finding a sheaf of letters written by George Washington.

from THE TULIP CITY CONGLOMERATE, Holland, Michigan



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# ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION RECAP SHEET

AUGUST 1975

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The BIG SHOW is now a part of history and - WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SHOW IT WAS !! We wish to take this opportunity to again thank Walt Risch, Show Chairman, and all the other wonderful people in the Denver area who gave so much of themselves, their time and efforts, to work together in the planning and preparation needed for such a tremendous undertaking. To you all: "THANK YOU VERY MUCH!"

Since this is a Recap Sheet, space does not permit the listing of all the many happenings and the many decisions made at Denver. We would like to call your attention to a few of them:

A Boundaries Agreement, stating the boundaries of all regional Federations and other pertinent information, was added to the AFMS Bylaws.

Dean Wise, Tax Status Chairman, reported that we should have our IRS Tax Exempt (C-3) Status within a few months. All clubs will be notified when this status is granted our Federation.

Three (3) new clubs have joined the RMFMS since May, making a total of 118 clubs and 7,991 members. (see article, page 2)

RMFMS dues will be raised to 45¢, from the present 35¢, beginning with the 1976 dues (AFMS dues will be raised from 10¢ to 15¢ per member at that time also).

Show locations selected for 1976, 1978, and 1979. (see article page 2)

Our Federation secretary, Mrs. Nancy Roth, will be sending copies of the minutes of the House of Delegates meeting to all Federation clubs the first of August. Please read these minutes for complete details of all transactions at the meeting.

The September Rocky Mountain Newsletter will contain more information about the show and other happenings at Denver, too, so be looking for that issue.

Committee reports were included with the agenda items for the House of Delegates meeting. All club delegates received a copy at the meeting. If your club had no delegates present and would like a copy, please write to me. There are a few extra copies available.

Louellen Montgomery, President

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## 1975-1976 OFFICERS ELECTED

President - - - - - Mr. James C. Brown, Phoenix, Arizona  
Vice President - - Dr. Arthur H. Schoondermark, Fort Collins, Colorado  
Secretary - - - - - Mr. Harold Howell, Glendale, Arizona  
Treasurer - - - - - Mrs. Nelda Reed, Wichita, Kansas

### State Directors:

Arizona - - - - - Mrs. Marianne Mills, Claypool Arizona  
Kansas - - - - - Mr. Bob Wallace, Great Bend, Kansas  
South Dakota - - - Mrs. Connie (Betty) Watts, Hot Springs, South Dakota  
Wyoming - - - - - Mr. William M. Guthrie, Casper, Wyoming

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(Editor's Note) Please take note of the new typewriter print! Thanks to the Federation for the new machine for the editor, and I'm sure the people who read the Newsletter will want to thank them too. It is a Smith-Corona Coronamatic 7000. Could be the editor won't be quite so mad all the time.... MAD

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DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER -- AUGUST 10th!!!!!!

Following are the winners of the Bulletin Contest for 1975.

Category I

- 1st Place: T-Town Rockhound  
Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 2nd Place: The Tumbleweed  
Southwest Kansas Gem & Mineral Society, Garden City,  
Kansas
- 3rd Place: Quarry Quips  
Wichita Gem & Mineral Society, Wichita, Kansas
- Honorable Mention:  
The Hourglass News  
Enid Gem & Mineral Society, Enid, Oklahoma  
Mineralscoop  
Mineralogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Pick & Pack  
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

Category II

- 1st Place: The Rockhound Scoop  
Golden Belt Gem & Mineral Society, Great Bend, Kansas
- 2nd Place: Chaparral Rockhounds  
Chaparral Rockhounds, Roswell, New Mexico
- 3rd Place: The Stone Age Bulletin  
Santa Fe Gem & Mineral Club, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Honorable Mention:  
Rock Talk  
Newton Gem & Mineral Society, Newton, Kansas  
Chips from the Rockpile  
Pueblo Rock Hound Club, Pueblo, Colorado

(s) Clarence Wolfe, Bulletin Aids Chairman

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FUTURE RMFMS SHOW LOCATIONS APPROVED

- 1976 - Roswell, New Mexico - Host: Chaparral Rockhounds  
1978 - Colorado Springs, Colo. - Host: Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society  
1979 - Rapid City, So. Dakota - Host: Black Hills Mineral Society

Salt Lake City, Utah, was approved in 1974 as the location for both the 1977 RMFMS and the 1981 RMFMS-AFMS Shows. Show location of 1980 is still open for bid.

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WELCOME TO THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION!

During the month of May, THE EARTH SCIENCE LEAGUE OF ARIZONA, Glendale, Arizona, was approved for membership. The president of this new club is James C. Brown, RMFMS Vice President. Two new clubs were accepted into our federation at Denver. They are: CEDAR CITY ROCK CLUB, Cedar City, Utah, - the president of this club is B. Wayne Mifflin, 286 So. 500 W., Cedar City, Utah 84720; and, WESTERN DAKOTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, Rapid City, South Dakota - the president of this club is G. Arthur Pavin, 2900 Orchard Lane, Rapid City, South Dakota 57701. \*\*\* \*\*

DIRECTORY CHANGES:

Please make the following changes in your 1975 RMFMS Directory:

- Page 14: MW Arkansas Gem & Mineral Soc. - now meets at Siloam Springs Rodeo Grounds.  
Page 24: Golden Belt Gem & Mineral Soc. - new address: P.O. Box 1212  
Page 44: Stillwater Mineral & Gem Soc. - address change: 1116 So. Gray, Membership: 65

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