



MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
BISMARCK-MANDAN AND SURROUNDING AREAS
NORTH DAKOTA

DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA
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1527 N. 19th St.
Bismarck, ND 58501



Published by the **CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**

Member

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies
and
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



AIMS:

1. To encourage the study of mineralogy and geology.
2. To foster field trips for collection of minerals, gems and fossils.
3. To improve the skills of its members in the arts of cutting, polishing and gem mounting.
4. To provide opportunity to exchange, purchase and exhibit specimens and other material.

MEETINGS:

First Sunday of each month in the hospitality room of the Capital Electric Building on Highway 83, north of Bismarck; 7:30 P.M. from April through October and 2:30 P.M. the rest of the year. VISTORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

DUES:

Dues are \$5.00 per family per year.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

President	Stanley Fairaizl	205 6th Ave. N.W.	Mandan	663-9712
Vice President	Harold Brady	1401 Sunny Road	Mandan	663-3904
Secretary	Don Larson	2400 N. 7th St.	Bismarck	223-8850
Treasurer	Robert N. Randall	928 N. 16th St.	Bismarck	223-1625
Past President	William A. Buresh	1527 N. 19th St.	Bismarck	223-0611
Parliamentarian	Genevieve L. Buresh	1527 N. 19th St.	Bismarck	223-0611
Publicity	Blossomae Campbell	1134 N. 28th St.	Bismarck	255-3658
Program	Ernest Knudson	2020 Catherine Dr.	Bismarck	255-4796
Librarian	Ted Glese		New Salem	843-7005
Field Trip	Gordon Bell and Larry Strand	515 N. 22nd St. 913 N. 19th St.	Bismarck	223-5146 258-5128
Annual Show	Earle Campbell	1134 N. 28th St.	Bismarck	255-3658
Pebble Pup Leader	Pat Brady	1401 Sunny Road	Mandan	663-3904
Historian	Emma Fischer	501 S. 13th St.	Bismarck	223-4362
Doorman & Greeter	Al White	604 10th Ave. S.W.	Mandan	663-8727
Membership Chairman				
& Subscription Agent	John Dosch	1425 N. 15th St.	Bismarck	255-1924
Federation Rep.	Ida Mae Hamberg	1325 N. 15th St.	Bismarck	223-6296
Refreshments	Mae Fairaizl	205 6th Ave. N.W.	Mandan	663-9712

Subscription rates for non-members are \$3.00 per year.

All members are encouraged to submit articles, etc., for publication during the year. All material for the bulletin should be received by the editor by the 10th of each month. Advertizing in the bulletin by members will also be accepted.

Other editors may reprint articles from this bulletin. A credit line would be appreciated.



North Dakota's Annual
GEM AND MINERAL SHOW
Mandan Community Center
October 7-8, 1978

MERRY CHRISTMAS

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?
(A little child speaks)

This holiest of all nights,
I wonder what it means?
It's surely more than candlelights
On tinselled evergreens.

It's more than toys that make it dear
And eating pleasant things,
For if you listen right you'll hear
A murmuring of wings.

My grandma says it's more than fun
And hanging up your stocking.
It's knowing any needy one
Might be the Savior knocking.

It's helping those who feel the rod
Of grief and heavy labor,
I guess it's being nice to God
By loving all your neighbors.

by Dr. John Nelhardt - from The Cycad via PICK & SHOVEL

PRESCRIPTION FOR 1978

Capsule No. 1 (Prayer, Hope, Enthusiasm, Plans)
Take one every morning.

Capsule No. 2 (Patience, Understanding, Goodwill, Endurance)
Take one after lunch

Capsule No. 3 (Forgiveness, Reflection, Relaxation, Rest)
Take one at bedtime.

From THE ROCK VEIN via FLINT ROCK & Others

A SUPER 1978 TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU! The EDITOR

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, by Stanley Fairaizl

FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS: Never before have I written a letter trying to express a feeling of thankfulness, as I am doing this morning. I thank God for a miraculous recovery from a stroke which I had on Saturday the 18th. of December. I thank all freinds and groups for their prayers. I thank you all for electing me to another year as your President, and thank you all for the beautiful bola slide which was delivered personally by Gen and Bill Buresh.

It was a surprise I was able to get to the meeting, not only because of my condition, but the weather added its touch, making it dangerous to go out on the road, and not being able to get close to the building. In spite of every thing, twelve people came for the beginners' class. We did not have much of a class. Three boys appointed themselves guardsmen, watching for those in need of help. Class was interrupted many times because a car was stuck in the approach to the building. Due to the storm, the boys could not identify the cars, but when they announced a little yellow Volkswagen was stuck we all know the Fischers had arrived.

The regular meeting came to order with forty people in attendance. With that kind of dedication and enthusiasm there is only one way this club can go and that is up. I have said several times that every time we look back and say this was our best, we remind ourselves we will have to work harder to make the next a little better. But with co-operation, hard work, and with God's help, we can and will.

Last but not least, the women of the club again showed their best talents when it came time to eat. I am sure everyone enjoyed the meal as much as I did. See you all January 8th. at 1:30 p.m.

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NEXT MEETING -- JANUARY 8

The first Sunday in January happens to be New Year's Day. It was felt that most of the members would be preoccupied during this festive period and probably not in much of a mood for a "Rock" meeting so the regular January meeting was postponed until the following Sunday January 8. The regular meeting is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Capital Electric building north of Bismarck.

The meeting will again be preceded by the Pebble Pup and beginners' session at 1:30 p.m. For the benefit of our new members, the beginners' sessions include discussions on the basics of rockhounding and lapidary science. Everyone is welcome.

Program Chairman Ernie Knudson announced that the January program will be a showing of slides of Alaska by Ida Mae Ramberg and Bill Buresh.

The lunch committee for the afternoon consists of Gen Buresh, Sue Randall, and Blossomae Campbell.

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AT THE LAST MEETING -- DECEMBER 4

Thirty-two adult members, five Juniors, and three guests were reported present by Emma Fischer, Acting Greeter. Elsie Garrett introduced her friends Grace Henson and son Jon of 1424 N. 12th St., Bismarck. The other guest was Daniel Meth of 1014 Boulevard Ave., Bismarck.

Show Chairman Earle Campbell announced that eight dealers have already returned their

AT THE LAST MEETING - cont.

signed contracts with deposits for next year's show. The ninth contract was mailed out but had not yet been returned.

President Fairaizl appointed Ida Mae Ramberg, Gen Buresh, and Earle Campbell as a committee to study the selection of an appropriate name badge to be worn by the members for identification at meetings and other club functions.

The President also appointed another committee consisting of Sharon Springer, Mae Fairaizl and Gen Buresh for the purpose of making feasibility study for the making of uniform vests for club members.

Bob Randall reported that a letter of inquiry was mailed relative quantity prices and availability of the pattern for the emblems ordered some years ago, and which are presently being worn by some of the club members.

Ida Mae Ramberg reported that the club slide series of "Gems and Minerals of N.D." were shown at the new Senior Center in Bismarck and were well received and that she also plans to show them at the Missouri Slope Lutheran Home in Bismarck and at Crescent Manor in Mandan.

The slate of candidates for the officers of the Club for the year 1978, which was presented by the nominating committee at the November meeting, were elected by a unanimous ballot. Hence the officers for the coming year will be as follows:

President-----Stanley Fairaizl

Vice President---Harold Brady

Secretary-----Mary Osborn

Treasurer-----Ted Giese

The door prize for the meeting was a piece of varisite donated by Emil Rosenau of Ogden, Utah, a former resident of Mandan. Earle Campbell made the presentation on behalf of the donor. It will be recalled that Mr. Rosenau also donated the door prize for the October meeting.

Harold Brady was the lucky recipient of the prize but not until after twenty-two other names of absent members were drawn.

There was food-a-plenty for the pot-luck dinner which followed the meeting and it was enjoyed by all as evidenced by the lines for seconds and thirds. The winter storm warning for the evening didn't seem to deter many of those present from visiting and swapping rock tales. Among others present were the newest members, Steven and Becky Newstrom. Secretary Don Larson left after the meeting but returned for the dinner with his wife Joyce and baby son Eric, who greeted his audience with big smiles.

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DUES -- ARE DUE

Dues are due as of January 1. The Treasurer reports that 87 members have paid their dues for 1978 as of December 12. The 1978 roster will be published in the next issue of the "Diggin's" so if you want your name listed on the roster in alphabetical order, your dues will have to be paid by the January meeting.

WELCOME -- NEW MEMBERS

Bob Randall, treasurer, reports that the guests present at the December meeting joined the Society at the close of the meeting.

The new members are:

Grace Henson and son Jonathan

1424 N. 12th St.

Bismarck

Daniel Meth

1014 Boulevard Ave.

Bismarck

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HOSPITAL NOTES

Members were pleased to see President Fairaizl back at the podium after a recent five-day stay at the Mandan Hospital.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1978

Jan. 8 Capital Electric Building, Bismarck.--First regular monthly meeting of the Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society at 2:30 p.m. for the year 1978.

Mar. 10-12 Deming, New Mexico.---Second Annual Deming Rock Hound Roundup at State Fair Grounds

May 20-21 Hot Springs, S.D.---Picture City Gem and Minerals Show

June 9-11 Colorado Springs, Colo.---Rocky Mountain Federation Show

July 14-16 Monroe, Wash.---Northwest Federation Show

July 27-30 Pleasanton, Calif.---American Federation Show

Aug. 10-13 Cedar Rapids, Iowa.---Midwest Federation Show

Oct. 7-8 Mandan, N.D.---North Dakota's Fourth ANNUAL SHOW, Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society

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SAFETY TIP -- SUPER GLUE

The consumer product safety commission is attempting to remove from the market thousands of tubes of Supex Glue. This glue was originally developed for use during surgery in place of stitches. The cyanocrylics are sold under many different brand names.

The glue is so strong that it can cement fingers and hands together, requiring medical help to free them. Along with being super sticky, they are also speedy drying. Some brands do not carry label warnings about this glue causing eye irritations. Washing the eye with water, a common home remedy, will make this glue set faster.

Acetone can dissolve the glue, but acetone cannot be used in the eye. Many in our hobby have marveled at the drying speed and holding power of this type glue. It is sold in very small quantities, in plastic containers for about two dollars.

From THE GEO-LOGIC via THE CRYSTAL LOG and others

DUES ARE DUE! DUES ARE DUE! DUES ARE DUE!



HOLLY FOR HOLIDAYS

Holly has been raised for the Christmas market on salty slopes of the Pacific Northwest on Whidbey Island, Washington, for eighteen years. The producers expect to market 11,000 pounds of holly this year, 80 percent to wholesale commercial customers and 20 percent as domestic gift boxes.

Four varieties are grown for harvest on the island--Olde English, a deep green prickly variety with brilliant red berries; a red-berried variegated holly; Green Maid, a green smooth-leaved holly with red berries; and yellow-berried holly.

Holly has been a traditional winter holiday decoration since before Christ. Romans used it to celebrate the Festival of Saturn during the winter solstice. Tutonic tribes hung it in the house during their winter rites to encourage woods creatures to come in from the weather. In the county of Rutland, England, it is unlucky to bring holly into the home before Christmas Eve and in Derbyshire, England the kind of holly brought home indicates who will be master. If the holly is smooth, the wife will be master and if it is prickly, the husband will rule.

Persons lucky enough to receive holly should submerge it in water overnight and then keep it in water during display to last a long time. (The cut ends in water, as with cut flowers--Ed.) Out of water, holly lasts about two weeks, according to the producer.

Information from CO-OP COUNTRY NEWS

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SHOP HINTS

Add a couple of tablespoons of liquid detergent to your cutting oil. If your saw has a plastic lid, this will be the first time you have been able to see through the top after cutting your slab.---From Mineral Memos via Livermore Lithogram & others.

Polishing powders (tin or cerium oxide, etc) can be kept, in solution, in a plastic squeeze bottle with dispenser top (Joy, Ivory, etc). Small amounts can be squeezed out as needed, minimizing waste. The mixture does not dry out and the chance of contamination is eliminated.

Try using chrome oxide when polishing Apache Tears. It's a lot faster than other compounds.

Many collectors use hydrochloric acid for cleaning the brown iron stain from quartz crystals. This cleans the crystal, but leaves a residue of ferric chloride which requires washing to remove. Tartaric acid will clean as well and much easier to clean. It comes in crystal form and may be purchased at the local drug store. Place a spoonful or so in water and immerse the specimen. If needed, add more acid crystals. Tartaric acid is stronger than oxalic but milder than hydrochloric.

Garbage can liners make good aprons when cutting and polishing rocks ... and cold cream on the hands will help get the oil off if you put it on before you start to cut.

Prestone anti-freeze can be used in your slab saw as a cooling agent with no odors and it will not rust your saw. No evaporation either.

All of the above from The Rock Vein via The Rear Trunk and others.

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION "CODE OF ETHICS"

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations, or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no wilful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supply.
- I will cause no wilful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter, Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other proper authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rules", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and "Public Image" of rockhounds everywhere.

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The above is a composite "Code of Ethics" selected from many sent in by clubs from all parts of the country, with the addition of a few items to bring it into conformity with presently existing conditions. It is hoped that all Federations and Societies will adopt and publicize this code. Voluntary conformity by all collectors on field trips will insure continued use of collecting areas and build invaluable good will.

From American Federation Newsletter

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ARTIFACTS ARE FOUND -- A team of scientists who examined the path the Alaskan pipeline followed have found more than a half-million artifacts, some dating back 10,500 years.

The pipeline company publication "Alyeska Reports" said flint scrapers, small micro-blades and projectile points comprise the bulk of the finds. Tools, animal remains, and dwelling ruins also were discovered. The findings indicate that the early inhabitants of Alaska were nomads, depending for their livelihood on the movements of caribou herds and on fish runs, the publication said.

From Gritty Greetings via Lake Agassiz
Rock Hound