

# DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA



MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

BISMARCK-MANDAN AND SURROUNDING AREAS

NORTH DAKOTA

DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA  
Gen & Bill Buresh, Editors  
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, 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. VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

**DUES:** \$5.00 per family per year.

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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

September 28 - 29, 1979

# DIGGIN' S FROM DAKOTA

Vol. 14, No. 2

February, 1979

NEXT MEETING: March 4, 1979, 2:30 p.m. (Beginners' Class, 1:30)

PROGRAM: The Art of Silversmithing, demonstrated by club member Steven Newstrom

Lunch Committee: Viola Anderson, Emma Fischer, and Ida Mae Ramberg

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi, Everyone,

I would like to begin by congratulating Stanley Fairaizl for receiving the recognition and appreciation award from the Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society for thirteen years of loyal and dedicated work. I'm sure I'm echoing the congratulations and thanks of the entire club.

Lately I've been giving our coming annual Gem and Mineral Show a great deal of thought. I was surprised to find that it will be upon us in about six months. Six months may sound like a great deal of time, but it'll come upon us quickly. I would just like to give everyone a reminder that we would like this show to be even bigger and better than last year, and this can be accomplished. It would be nice to see each and every member displaying two cases of materials. There's plenty of time to build your cases and collect materials for them. If nothing else, borrow some from a friend. With a little bit of work from each one of us, we'll have a terrific show!

One other order of business that has been given consideration is the formation of a new committee. This committee's job would be to select one outstanding member to receive the recognition and appreciation award each year. Please give it some thought for the next meeting as we will discuss it then.

I hope to see everyone with ideas to share at the next meeting.

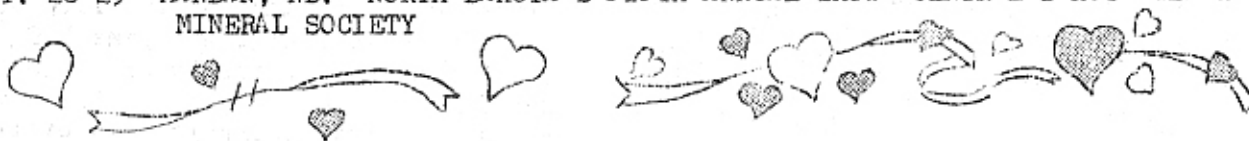
Sincerely yours,

Harold A. Brady



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 4 Bismarck, ND. 2:30 p.m. Regular meeting, Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society, Capital Electric Bldg., Highway 83 North of City
- March 9-11 Ogden, Utah. Gem & Mineral Show--Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society
- May 19-20 Hot Springs, SD. Gem & Mineral Show--Picture City Gem & Mineral Soc.
- May 19-20 Guymon, OK. Gem & Mineral Show--Tri-State Rock Club
- June 8-10 Rapid City, SD. Rocky Mountain Federation Show
- July 12-15 Tampa, FL. National Gem and Mineral Show
- July 19-22 Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The Tenth International Gem and Mineral Show--The Winnipeg Rock & Mineral Club
- SEPT. 28-29 MANDAN, ND. NORTH DAKOTA'S FIFTH ANNUAL SHOW--CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY



AT THE LAST MEETING--February 4

Forty-six members, seven children, and seven guests were reported present at the meeting. Guests were Bob and Darlene Fairaizl with daughters Sharon and Michele, of Mandan; Nancy Skaret, and Rex and Nondace Motsenbocker, all of Bismarck.

Show Chairman Earle Campbell reported that the bill to amend the Sunday closing law to permit gem and mineral shows on Sunday was defeated in the Senate, but that the sponsor would try to revive it with an amendment.

Earle stated that the dealers whom he was able to contact were agreeable to participating in a Friday-Saturday show. Show hours would be from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on both days. He suggested that Friday be promoted as "Students' Day," whereby students who come in class groups and are accompanied and supervised by adults would be admitted without charge. Earle also made a plea for volunteers to help with work in the planning stages of the show.

A need for a different mimeograph for use in printing the club newsletter was discussed. A borrowed machine is being used at present. The editors were delegated to investigate the feasibility of purchasing a used machine. Stanley Fairaizl offered to sell his machine if it is deemed satisfactory. The matter will be pursued further.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, President Brady called on Emma Fischer to make a surprise presentation of a plaque with a mounted gavel to the immediate past president. The inscription reads, "Stanley Fairaizl--In grateful recognition of 13 years of continuous dedicated service--Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society."

After the presentation, President Brady commented that Stanley had served in some capacity as an officer of the club every year since its inception and that some years he had held up to three positions.

The door prize, several pieces of slabbed material donated by Julius Theis, was won by Edna Mausehund.

The program was a talk/slide presentation on the construction of the Garrison Dam pumping station and the McClusky Canal by Rex Motsenbocker, who is the Chief Geologist for the Bureau of Reclamation Office in Bismarck.

Mr. Motsenbocker also displayed specimens of minerals and fossils which were uncovered during the excavation of the Canal.

Serving lunch after the meeting were Sharon Springer, Sue Randall, and Genevieve Buresh.

THE PAST PRESIDENT RESPONDS

Fellow Club Members:

There are surprises and there are surprises. I have lived through many, but never was I so completely overcome by one as I was at the last meeting. This was truly the one time I could not think of a thing to say. Then another surprise came when I tried to introduce the speaker, whom I know well and who is a friend of mine, and for the life of me I could not think of his name. So all I can ask is your forgiveness, and some day when some of you, too, will have a similar experience, only then will you know how I felt.

The reason may be because I do not feel I have done anything special. I did not do a single thing that I had to do, but did it because I wanted to do it and I enjoyed every minute of the thirteen years in our club and hope to enjoy many more.

So again I say "Thank you" to everyone. See you at the next meeting.

Stanley

WELCOME

Our newest member is Glenn Michaels, a previous visitor. His address is 1700 North 4th St., Bismarck, ND.



ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

President Harold Brady called to report the appointment of Earle Campbell as Club Chaplain for the coming year. Appointed to the Hospital Committee are Emma Fischer for the Bismarck hospitals and Stanley Fairaizl for the Mandan Hospital.

Anyone knowing of a club member who is hospitalized should report this to one of these persons, depending on which hospital the patient is in.

Harold reports that the Hospital Rock Bank is depleted and he is appealing for donations. Bring your donations to the next meeting and earmark them for the Hospital Rock Bank.

For the benefit of new members, the club has been trying to deliver a specimen or a lapidary product to club members who are hospitalized, in lieu of flowers. Specimens, slabs, polished material, or jewelry make suitable donations.

The editors would appreciate receiving a list of each item donated, the name of each donor, and the name of each recipient, for publication in the "Diggin's."

EXHIBITS--1979 SHOW

I have again accepted the assignment as Exhibit Chairman for the 1979 show. It is not too early to be planning your exhibit for the fall show. As the Show Chairman indicated at the last meeting, we are hoping that every member will have an exhibit this year.

I have already received a call from Scott McFall, a junior member, to tell me that he is going to have an exhibit at the next show. Thank you, Scott. That's the kind of cooperation we need. Who will be next?

Bill Buresh,  
1979 Exhibit Chairman

THIS-N-THAT

Admitted to the Bismarck Hospital in late January was Nettie Nelson of Washburn. A lapidary product was delivered to her by the editors. Like a devoted rockhound, Nettie has been accumulating minerals--her problem arose when she began storing them in her knee.

Husband Evert reports that Nettie is now recuperating at home.

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Hospitalized at St. Alexius is Marjorie Krein, at last report in isolation until diagnosis can be completed. Emma Fischer delivered a gem to her.

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Emma and Pius Fischer visited the Ewald Muggle Museum in Glen Ullin last week.

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The vacationing Theises report that Tucson is no place to escape the cold this year.

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Earle and Blossomae Campbell plan to visit the Knife River Gem & Mineral Club in Hazen on February 19th--weather permitting.

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The Executive Committee of Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society met in January at the home of Stanley and Mae Fairaizl to take care of annual Federation dues. Program schedules and show-related issues were also discussed.

TOO MANY CABS?

Do you have more cabs than you know what to do with?

Convert some of these cabochons into memo magnetic holders by gluing magnets on the backs of them. These can then be used to hold up papers on refrigerator doors, metal bulletin boards, etc. You will be displaying your gems at the same time.--From THE ROCK VEIN via PIK-N-ROK



AMETHYST--FEBRUARY GEM OF THE MONTH

In Biblical lore, your February birthstone, the Amethyst, means perfection; and where beauty is concerned, the Amethyst is truly perfection.

Not so hard as the Diamond and in recent times far less expensive, the Amethyst still offers the qualities of transparency, lovely coloring and soft brilliance which brought it into popularity centuries before the Christian era.

Chemically, the Amethyst is a precious variety of crystalline quartz and comes in shades varying from faintest violet to deepest purple, the latter sometimes tinged with red.

The deeper shades are the most valuable. Much of the deep purple Amethyst originally came from Russia. Quantities of fine deep-colored gems are found in the Rio Grande du Sul district of Brazil and in Northern Uruguay, while lesser amounts come from India, Ceylon and Madagascar. Amethyst occurs in the cavities of ancient volcanic rocks, especially basalt.

Many Amethysts are among the Russian Crown Jewels. Queen Charlotte of England also prized a beautiful Amethyst necklace. For hundreds of years, bishops and prelates have worn Amethysts in ecclesiastical rings.

(cont., p. 5)

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 \*  
 \* FOR SALE \*  
 \*  
 \* Findings to make your own pendants, rings, belt buckles, and stick pins. \*  
 \* Also chains of all kinds \*  
 \* 80, 200, 400, Grit @ 75¢ a lb. -- Tripoli Polish @ 75¢ a lb. \*  
 \* SLABBED AND ROUGH ROCK \*  
 \* You are invited to visit our museum and shop. \*  
 \*  
 \* MUGGLI ROCK SHOP AND MUSEUM \*  
 \* 701 Oak Ave. East, Glen Ullin, ND 58631 \*  
 \* \*\*\*\*\*

DUES ARE PAST DUE

There is only one more month of grace. The names of delinquent members will be taken off the mailing list after the March issue of the "Diggin's."

ADDITIONS TO THE 1979 MEMBERSHIP LIST

The following people have paid their 1979 dues since the publication of the last issue of the "Diggin's." Please add these names to your membership list:

55. Bell, Gordon & Beth	515 N. 22nd St.	Bismarck, ND 58501	223-5146
56. Campbell, Don	523 Bismarck Ave.	Bismarck, ND 58501	258-7077
57. Jensen, Dave & Ruby		Hazen, ND 58545	748-2061
58. Larson, Don & Joyce	2609 Astronaut Dr.	Bismarck, ND 58501	255-4780
59. Little, Mr. & Mrs. Norman	415 North Bell	Bismarck, ND 58501	223-6853
60. Michaels, Glenn	1700 N. 4th St.	Bismarck, ND 58501	258-8417



AMETHYST, cont.

The Amethyst frequently enters the fashion picture on a grand scale because it is becoming to women of every coloring--blonde, brunette, redhead, and grey-haired alike. In the early nineteen hundreds, Amethysts in "sets" were the pride of many women who loved the matching brooches, earrings and necklaces.

Currently, the Amethyst is a particularly happy choice as the February birthstone because every few years the spring season brings a nationwide vogue for purple in spring suits and coats. Another frequent choice is grey. Who is better prepared for these color revivals than she who owns some handsome Amethyst jewelry?

And thinking still further ahead--what could be more stunning with summer's white?

--From AFMS Newsletter/Feb. 1979

---In 1660 a throne was sent to Csar Alexis, fashioned by an Armenian named Zachary Saradarow. It was set with eight hundred and seventy-six diamonds and one thousand two hundred and twenty-three amethysts and at a time when amethysts were on a par with diamonds.--by Mab Wilson,--From GEMS via LOWCOUNTRY DIGGINGS.

STATE PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

The 1979 winter edition of North Dakota Horizons carries a review of the publication titled, "The Face of North Dakota: The Geologic Story," by John P. Blumle. Published in 1977 by the North Dakota Geological Survey, Bismarck, ND., it is available for \$1.00 from the North Dakota Geological Survey, University Station, Grand Forks, ND 58202.

The review includes this statement: "It is particularly useful for those interested in rocks and minerals, as it pinpoints areas where collectors may find various specimens. The general lack of fossils is also explained, and the areas of known deposits are outlined. . . ."

ECLIPSE OF THE SUN

A total eclipse of the sun will be visible on February 26, 1979, in North Dakota north of a line extending from Beach and cutting through Killdeer, Max, Velva, Rugby and passing out into Canada near Langdon. The center line of the total eclipse area will cut through Crosby where totality will range up to almost three minutes. The eclipse will become total at about 10:37 a.m. in Williston and 10:40 a.m. in Minot.

Residents in Bismarck and Mandan will be able to see only a partial eclipse with a 70% chance of cloud cover. For some of us this will be a last chance to view a total solar eclipse since there will not be another in this area for 38 years.

This information was obtained from the December, 1978 "NDGS Newsletter," which also cautions all viewers that SAFE EYE PROTECTION must be used for even the briefest glance at the sun. (The report states that Number 14 welder's glasses or special eclipse visors should be used for eye protection.)

Two other articles in this issue that should be of interest to club members are titled "Why Do We Have Ice Ages" and "The Origin of Oil and Gas." They are written in layman's language and are readily understood.

A copy of this publication will be filed in the club library collection, which Librarian Fred Springer brings to each meeting. All items in the collection may be checked out by members. Each should be returned to the Librarian when the borrower has finished reading it.

SAFETY:

We have all used the pre-moistened paper towels, especially when traveling. Two doctors of the Children's Hospital in Nashville warn that these towels containing benzalkonium chloride should not be used near the mouth or eyes of children under six years old. The good doctors say the solution used in heavy concentration is poisonous. It also should be kept out of the reach of children.--From S.I.E.S., April 1978

## GEOLOGY QUIZ

From the "Korn Krib News"  
and others

The following true or false quiz will keep your brains pickin' if you're an amateur; the pros, however, should have no problems!

1. \_\_\_\_\_ A rock is an aggregate of one or more minerals.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Some minerals have organic origins.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Only eight main elements compose the earth's crust.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ A sink is a large solution cavity open to the sky, generally created by the collapse of a cavern roof.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Sandstone is a metamorphic rock.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Rock flour is a flour that can be used to make stone ground bread.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Pumice is an extremely vesicular frothy natural glass with a high silica content.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Reservoir rock is used to make reservoirs exclusively.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ A normal fault is one that is generally steeply inclined, along which the hanging-wall block has moved relatively upward.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Neptunist is a term applied to 18th century geologists who believed that granite and basalt crystallized out of water from the sea.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ A molecule is the smallest particle of a compound.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ An orogenic belt is a belt made from organic material.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Oxbow Lake - a curved lake occupying a cutoff meander loop.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Marble is a nonfoliate consisting of calcite or dolomite.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ A kame is a closed depression in drift, created by the melting out of a mass of underlying ice.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Loess is wind deposited silt, accompanied by some clay and fine sand.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ The lithosphere is the outer zone of the solid earth.
18. \_\_\_\_\_ Frost heaving is a sickness caused by breathing in frosty air.
19. \_\_\_\_\_ A geosyncline is a huge linear or arcuate segment of the earth's crust which by subsidence below sea level and sediment accumulation incubates a mountain chain.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Exposure is a condition which occurs when one gets too much sun rock hunting.

(Answers to Quiz will be in the March "Diggin's")

PEBBLE PUPS: Unscramble these letters to form a list of a rockhound's tools:

- |                 |                   |                            |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. _____ lovesh | 4. _____ cork gab | (Answers<br>next<br>month) |
| 2. _____ kicp   | 5. _____ sliche   |                            |
| 3. _____ mahrem | 6. _____ delegs   |                            |