



CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY
Ida Mae Ramberg, Editor
1325 N. 15th Street
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501



DIGGIN'S 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 the 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	Stanley Fairaizl	205 6th Ave. N.W.	Mandan	663 9712
Treasurer	Dick Bergantine	703 12th Ave. NW	Mandan	663 3419
Past President	Earle Campbell	1134 28th St. N.	Bismarck	255 3658
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Program Chairman	Duane Robey	2119 Ave. F East	Bismarck	255 0576
Librarian	Owen O'Neill	906 1st Ave. NW	Mandan	663 3748
Field Trip Chairman	Ewald Muggli	Box 27	Glen Ullin	348 3897
Nominations	John Dosch	1425 N. 15th St.	Bismarck	255 1924
Refreshments	Emma Brady	1401 Sunny Road	Mandan	663 3904
Annual Show	Earle Campbell	1134 N. 28th St.	Bismarck	255 3658
Historian	Vian Anderson	R.R. #2	Bismarck	673 4585
Doorman and Greeter	Ole Stavem		Wilton	734 6933
Pebble Pup Leaders	Pat & Harold Brady	1401 Sunny Road	Mandan	663 3904, 390
Publicity	Blossomae Campbell	1134 N. 28th St.	Bismarck	258 3658
Editor	Ida Mae Ramberg	1325 N. 15th St.	Bismarck	223 6296
Membership Chairman				
& Subscription Agent	Larry Strand	913 1/2 N 19th St.	Bismarck	258 5128
Federation Represent..	Ernest Knudson	2020 Catherine Dr.	Bismarck	255 4796

ZIP CODES Bismarck, 58501 Mandan 58554 Glen Ullin 58631

All contributions for this Bulletin should be mailed to the Editor, Ida Mae Ramberg 1325 N. 15th Street, Bismarck, ND 58501, by the tenth 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.

DUES: \$5.00 per family; **SUBSCRIPTIONS** to DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA: \$3.00 a year.

ADVERTISING: \$2.00 per month; \$11.00 for six months; \$22.00 for a year, in advance.

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.



North Dakota's Annual
GEM AND MINERAL SHOW
 Mandan Community Center
 Sept. 11 & 12, 1975

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Thirteen vehicles containing approximately 36 eager rockhounds assembled in the picnic area in Medora on Sunday, June 27 for a rock hunt in the Badlands. Most of the group had converged on the Herrs at their Rock Shop in Dickinson earlier that morning before proceeding to Medora.

The rest of the morning was spent in a creek bed west of Medora, where hunting was not as lucrative as in the past. However, some nice pieces of agatized wood were found.

After lunch Frank Herr escorted us to an area south of Belfield, where everyone found numerous specimens of fern leaf fossils. Not only rocks but also a live rattling specimen was encountered by Don Larson and Joyce Reinhardt.

Thank you, Frank Herr, for leading this expedition.

These same two areas were visited on Memorial Day weekend by other rockhounds, and an interesting report by a Grand Forks participant is found in this issue on page 5.

Our new treasurer, Don Larson, is ready to conduct Society business. He will accept next year's dues any time.

Thank you, Dick Bergantine, for a job well done as club treasurer during the past eighteen months.

I also wish to express my appreciation to the Campbells for the informative program last Sunday, and to Earle for making a strong plea for swapping material for the September show. As "Swap Chairman," I also urge each of you to bring material for swapping at the show. Join in the fun--swap surplus items in your collection for materials from other areas.

Bill Buresh

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SOCIETY CALENDAR

July 25 - Field trip to Cannonball River

August 1 - Field trip to Montana

August 22 - 5:30 p.m., Potluck Supper - Capital Electric Building
7:30 p.m., Meeting - " " "

August ? - The editor of DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA will be back to resume her responsibilities. Welcome back, Ida Mae and Joel.

Sept. 11-12 - North Dakota's SECOND ANNUAL GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

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HAVE YOU STARTED TO PREPARE YOUR EXHIBIT FOR THE SEPTEMBER SHOW?

MEETING NOTES

Present at the July meeting were thirty-three members, two juniors, and one guest, Cindy Gordon, of Bismarck, ND.

Hostesses for the meeting were Helen Nelson and Blossomae Campbell. No hostesses were appointed for the August meeting, inasmuch as a potluck dinner is planned.

The annual picnic and field trip to the Glen Ullin-Almont areas which were previously scheduled for August 1 have been cancelled. Other plans for August 1 are reported under "Field Trips."

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 22, at the regular meeting room in the Capital Electric Building. A potluck supper is scheduled for 5:30 p.m., followed by a business meeting at 7:30 p.m. For the supper, each family should bring for their own members sandwiches and any beverage desired other than coffee, plus one additional dish for the potluck. The dish may be a hot dish, salad, or dessert. Each family should also provide their own plates, cups, and eating utensils. Coffee will be served.

Don Larson was elected treasurer for the balance of the year to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dick Bergentine, who has moved out of the area and is no longer able to attend meetings regularly.

Earle Campbell, show chairman, announced that a certificate of appreciation will be presented to the owner of each display, and he urged all members, including junior members, to prepare some type of display or exhibit for the September show. He also stated that "Swap Bucks" will be sold by the cashier during the show. These may be used at the "Swapping Table" by those not having any trading materials. Demonstrations in faceting and in jade polishing and cabochon making will be added attractions during the show.

Bob Randall, publicity chairman for the show, announced that TV Talk Shows about the September show are scheduled for local stations on September 7 and 8, plus radio spots and a banner strip ad in the Tribune. Three hundred seventy-five publicity packets have been mailed.

Subscription chairman Larry Strand reported that the subscription rates for the Lapidary Journal have increased to \$8.95 per year. The Society will receive \$2.25 from each subscription purchased through its chairman.

The following Society members were reported on the sick list: Ewald Muggli is hospitalized in Rochester; Ted Giese was hospitalized since the last meeting and is now resting at home; Emil Hilkin is improving at home but is still not able to get out to meetings.

The program for the evening was a slide and talk presentation by the Campbells on "How to Prepare an Attractive Showcase Display." Blossomae discussed displays and demonstrated the arranging of specimens in a showcase, and Earle showed slides of some very attractive displays as well as some with less desirable features. A summary of their suggestions is listed on the following page.

TIPS ON A SHOWCASE DISPLAY

Here are a few tips I gleaned from the AFMS Exhibitors Manual. Some of them might be useful in helping you with your displays.

Adequate ventilation should be used if lights are used in a show case. Many gems and minerals crack or deteriorate under prolonged heat.

Make sure overhead or back lights are so placed that no shadows fall on exhibited specimens.

If you use tube lights they should be the daylight type. Fluorescent type lights may distort the color of many specimens.

If you paint the ceiling of your case white you will get better light distribution.

In lining your case, choose a color that will compliment your specimens. You may want to select a neutral color such as light beige, white or pastel shades that will blend with all specimens or you may want to select a color which will be a contrast to your specimens. If strong colors are used be sure they do not overpower the specimens shown.

A material with a very pronounced texture may draw attention away from the specimens on exhibit. Outing flannel, indianhead, velvet, orlon fleece, straw-cloth, and many of the new drapery fabrics have good texture.

A shiny surface such as satin reflects light and can distract the viewer. A stretch type of display cloth is good because it fits over the corners of risers without wrinkles.

When placing specimens do not put them too close together that they detract from one another, nor so far apart that there are wide open spaces in between. A good rule of thumb is to leave as much space around the specimens as the specimen takes up.

Place the specimens in the position to show each specimen to the best advantage.

In general we say keep the larger specimens in the back.

If you have one outstanding piece it should be used for the center of interest.

Do not put all large specimens on one side of the case.

Separate vividly colored specimens to make the case look balanced.

Dark specimens give the feeling of weight so all the dark specimens should not be on one side.

If you use labels, be sure that they are neatly placed, and do not zig zag around the specimen. It is best to place all labels at one angle so a viewer can easily read all labels from one position.

Have all labels laying flat in the case or have them all standing. Do not mix them.

Although the above tips are to be used where exhibits will be judged, I think they are also useful to our type of show. Anything that makes a case look attractive is a big help.

(Reprinted from August, 1973, Diggins from Dakota)

Blossomae Campbell

MILES CITY GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

On Friday, June 18, Sue and I left Bismarck in late afternoon to attend the Yellowstone Agate Club Gem and Mineral Show held in Miles City, Montana. We drove into western North Dakota that evening and stayed at the Buffalo Gap Campground west of Medora. This was a very nice camping area and was lightly used - there being only three other parties in the campground that night. An attractive scenic view point with two educational displays has been developed adjacent to the campground by the Forest Service. One of these points out and names the highest points of land in the vicinity and tells a bit about the geology of the area. The other explains the formation of "scoria".

After a good nights sleep and a leisurely breakfast we were on our way again. It was a beautiful morning and we stopped for awhile at a creek several miles west of Glendive, and again at Cherry Creek northeast of Terry, Mont. where we looked for rock. I found two fairly nice small agates and several pieces of colorful jasper.

We arrived at Miles City shortly after the doors to the show opened. Before getting a good start at making the rounds of the dealers and exhibits we met Emma and Pius Fischer and then Blossomae and Earle Campbell.

There were 9 or 10 dealers present who had a very good variety of material. Don Faust of Rock and Gem Jewelry, from Adrian, Mich. had an exceptionally good stock of books on rocks, minerals, fossils and all aspects of the hobby. He also had an unusually large stock of lapidary tools and supplies. Howard C. Ehrle from Miles City was a dealer who was particularly interesting to me since he specialized in minerals. He had an excellent assortment of good quality specimens from many areas. After spending a considerable amount of time at this booth I acquired a couple of nice additions to my collection. Mr. Ehrle also had some very large white sharks teeth - both individually and in a ground mass matrix from California.

Three of the dealers at the show had been at our show in Mandan last year. These were Canyon Road Rock Shop, Rolene Rock Shop and J - B Silversmiths.

Although the number of exhibits was limited there were some very nice displays. The most outstanding to me was the Montana Agate in hand wrought silver and gold by Mr. Klapmeir of Miles City. Everyone should see this beautiful work. A display of fluorescent material was shown in a separate darkened room. Some nice specimens were to be seen and they were shown and discussed by one of the hosts at the show.

We came home by way of Baker, Mont. and Bowman, N.D. and on Sunday we stopped several times to look for petrified wood. It was an enjoyable trip and we saw a number of new and interesting things at the show. - Bob Randall

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THE DICKINSON FIELD TRIP
by Isis Lynch

There were between 50 and 60 people who turned up --some along only for the ride--even a two - month old baby. We were the only ones from our club. There were people from the Dickinson, Williston, and Fargo clubs. Met our friends Donna and Merrill Dykema and their children. Was nice to see them again.

Frank Herr had a lot of slabs, rough rock, fossils cabachons, and jewelry on hand. We found some interesting slabs--including some new jaspers for my collection.

Anna Herr served coffee and her delicious famous rockhound bread and rolls and homemade jelly.

Saturday we went out to a private ranch out in the "boondocks"--and part of it over a terrible rough road under construction. It was a narrow road and we had to dodge huge tandem trucks fully loaded. We finally got there--was hard work and muckier than anything. We aren't sure yet if we got anything good--a boy from Fargo did--we were hunting leaf fossils. We ended up washing all our clothes when we got back to the campground. Even our glasses had mud on them and even in the hinges.

Sunday--we went up to Sentinel Butte--where Merrill had suggested. The majority wanted to go there and Frank led us then--saw the beautiful Painted Canyon as we whizzed by. The area we hunted is beyond Sentinel Butte and up high on a hill and very scenic. It's steep and narrow, winding and oneway but we got up there okay. They hunted for fish fossils a little further up but we spotted small agates and other rocks that intrigued us so we stayed in that spot. Some of the others found some fish fossils and were real happy. The view up there is breathtaking. Frank still wanted to take us back to the creek bed as he had originally planned. It turned out too muddy and the group found very little. They tried a couple of other places and the group gradually broke up and went separate ways.

Don't know if anyone went hunting on Monday as we ended up with our rig having its emergency brakes doing out and we left for Williston.

Enjoyed seeing the Herrs and the Dykemas and the other familiar faces and making new friends.--From the PIK-N-ROK, a publication of the Red River Valley Gem and Mineral Club. Grand Forks. ND.

FIELD TRIP JULY 25-FIELD TRIP JULY 25-FIELD TRIP JULY 25-FIELD TRIP JULY 25

The third field trip of the season is scheduled for Sunday, July 25th. The hunting area will be on the sand bars of the Cannonball River, provided the river flow is not above normal. In previous years, agatized and jasperized wood, marcasite, and fossils have been found in this area.

Members wishing to attend should meet at 10:00 a.m. (Bismarck time) at the Breien turnoff on Highway #6 south of Mandan. (The Breien turnoff is just north of the Cannonball River bridge, which is about 28 miles south of Mandan.)

MONTANA FIELD TRIP JULY 31 & August 1

Another field trip is scheduled for Saturday, July 31 and Sunday, Aug. 1, to hunt for Montana agates in the Ballantine area about twenty miles east of Billings, Montana. This area is private property owned by a friend of John Dosch. We are indebted to John for making the arrangements.

Hunting will be on prairie, summer fallowed fields, and possibly creek beds.

This information about this spot is going to Society members only. The field trip is intended for members only and should not be publicized outside of the Society. We may want to be invited to come back again another time.

Ballantine is located on I94. The meeting place is a campground next to an Exxon(Enco) station which may be reached by taking the first right after leaving I94 at the Ballantine turnoff. The time of the meeting on Saturday is 1:00 P.M., Montana time. For those arriving on Sunday the meeting time will be 9:00 A.M. Montana time and at the same place. Arrangments have been made for the above stated time only.

There is another campground in Ballantine and motel accommodations are also available there. No camping in the hunting area.

If you plan to go and may be delayed on either day call John Dosch or Bill Buresh before noon on Friday, July 30.

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WORDS TO LIVE BY

PRAY:

It is the greatest power
On Earth.

LOVE:

It is a God given
Privilege.

READ:

It is the fountain of
Wisdom.

THINK:

It is the source of power.

BE FRIENDLY:

It is the road to
Happiness.

GIVE:

It is too short a day to
Be selfish.

PLAY:

It is the secret of
Perpetual Youth.

LAUGH:

It is the music of the
Soul.

WORK:

It is the price of success.

SAVE:

It is the secret of
Security.

— Selected

DO YOU HAVE YOUR
SWAPPING MATERIAL
READY FOR THE
SEPTEMBER SHOW?

The above contributed
by Anna Herr.