



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

DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA



Published by the CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
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- 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 26 - 27, 1980

DIGGIN' S FROM DAKOTA

Vol. 15, No. 6

June, 1980

NEXT MEETING: July 6, 1980, 7:30 p.m. (Beginners' Class, 6:30 p.m.)

PROGRAM: Silent Auction

LUNCH COMMITTEE: Mary Beth Osborn, Katherine Muggli, and Verna Ciese

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FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE, June-July-August, by Rod Hickie, Field Trip Chairman

June 22 ND Badlands. Look for petrified wood, concretions, fossils, chalcedony, etc. Meet at 10:00 a.m., Mountain Daylight Time, in the picnic area adjacent to the chimney in Medora.

July 13 Flint Quarry and Ginkgo Leaf Bed. Meet at 10:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time at the Eagles Nest Interchange on Interstate 94 east of Hebron.

July 27 To be announced at next meeting

Aug. 17 Cannonball River

Aug. 31 To be announced

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PROGRAM FOR JULY 6th--SILENT AUCTION, by Larry Strand

Bring lots of material to sell, lots of enthusiasm, and lots of money to take advantage of the good deals at the next meeting. Everyone knows the best place to rock hunt is at our own silent auctions. Nowhere else in North Dakota (well, maybe some places) can you find as many quality specimens as you will on June 6th at our silent auction. You could drive hundred--even thousands-- of miles and collect your specimens "free", or for a couple of dollars you can get great material, most

(cont. p. 3)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 21-22 Livingston, MT--19th Annual Montana State Show. Park County Fairgrounds

June 22 Medora, ND--Club Field Trip to the ND Badlands. (Details above)

June 28-29 Miles City, MT--Yellowstone Agate Club's 9th Annual Show. Eastern Montana Fairgrounds, Miles City

July 4-5 Randall, MN--1st Annual Rock Show, Mesabi Rock & Mineral Club of Hibbing, MN. Main Street Park

July 6 Bismarck, ND--Regular Meeting, Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society, Capital Electric Bldg., Highway 83 North of City

July 17-20 Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada--11th International Gem & Mineral Exhibition, St. James Civic Center

Sept. 19-21 Williston, ND--Williston Rock & Mineral Club Show. Annual Show. New Armory, S. Main Street

SEPT. 26-27 MANDAN, ND--NORTH DAKOTA'S SIXTH ANNUAL SHOW, Mandan Community Center. Sponsored by Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society. Show Chairman: Don Campbell, 1119 Memorial Highway, Bismarck, ND 58501

Oct. 25-26 Aberdeen, SD--Dakota Glacier Rock Club Annual Show. YWCA, 405 S. Washington Street

AT THE LAST MEETING--June 1

Thirty adults and four children were reported present at the June meeting. Twenty-four adults and four children participated in the pre-meeting session.

Field Trip Chairman Rod Hickle reported on plans for future field trips. Details are on page one.

Show Chairman Don Campbell, on behalf of Bob Randall, thanked all members who assisted with "stuffing" the publicity packets for mailing. He also suggested that the proceeds from this year's silent auction at the show again be donated to the Federation Scholarship fund. The matter will be resolved after the show.

Don also urged all members to collect extra specimens on field trips to donate for the silent auction at the 1980 Show.

The program consisted of reports of the Memorial Day weekend field trip to the Black Hills. Participants showed and described the specimens they collected in the mines they visited in the Keystone area.

The door prize, a moss agate cabochon donated by Julius Theis, was won by Jane Lanz.

Doris and Carol Hickle and Nettie Nelson served on the lunch committee.

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1980 SHOW--SILENT AUCTION

by Edna Mausehund, Chairman

The silent auction at the annual show always gives rock lovers a chance to get new or different material.

There will be specimen pieces, slabs for making cabs, rough material large enough for one to do one's own cutting, fossils, and finished lapidary products.

Our club receives twenty percent commission on all material sold. Last year these funds were donated to the

Federation Scholarship fund.

Let's all bring in some good material for the auction at the show.

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SHOW EXHIBITS, 1980

Attached to this issue of your "Diggin's" is an application form for exhibiting at this year's show. If you are planning to exhibit at the 1980 show, fill out the application form and mail it to Earle Campbell, 1134 N. 28th St., Bismarck, ND and not to me as indicated on the form.

Earle has graciously consented to assist with the show exhibits and will take care of these matters while Gen and I are out of town before show time.

Please complete the form and return it to Earle now.

I will be an optimist and hope that every club member is planning to exhibit this year.

If you do not have a case, I have the plans for building one. Call me before July 10 and I will mail a set.

Thanks, Earle, for filling in during the summer and helping out during the show.

Bill Buresh
1980 Show Exhibits Chairman

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JUNIORS PLEASE NOTE:

There are three Timex display cases available for loan for those juniors who wish to display at this year's show but do not have a case.

Direct your requests to Bill Buresh at 663-5397. First come--first served.

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A SMILE IS a curve that can set a lot of things straight.

PROGRAM FOR JULY 6th--SILENT AUCTION.
cont.

of it already cleaned up and some of it even cut, and all the while be in the air-conditioned comfort of a club meeting and have lunch to look forward to later.

P.S. The club treasury is low and needs the 20 percent from the sales at the silent auction.

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FIELD TRIP TO SD--May 24-25,

by Bill Collins

Wine club members plus three youngsters took advantage of a scheduled trip to the beautiful Mount Rushmore area during the Memorial Day weekend. Scenic Keystone was the gathering place for the group.

Our guide, Craig Vanous and his wife Diane, Bismarck, did an excellent job of planning the tour, which was unhurried and productive, with a variety of good minerals to be collected. Craig had formerly worked in some of these mines so he knew his way about the area. The weather was also very cooperative.

On Saturday morning we visited the Bob Ingersoll pegmatite mine. Most of the participants thought that the climb up to the mine was the longest "one-eighth of a mile" they had ever walked, but all agreed that it was worth every step of the way. Minerals found:

muscovite mica
albite feldspar
cleavelandite (variety of albite)
triphylite (blue-gray, iron rich)--
lithiophilite (yellow-brown,
manganese rich)
quartz
almandine garnets
staurolite
tourmaline - green
indicolite (blue variety of tourmaline)
rubellite (rare pink var. of tourmaline)
lepidolite mica
cunningtonite

In the afternoon we toured the Dan Patch mine, where we were able to drive right up to--or into--the mine. Specimens collected:

triphylite--lithiophilite
quartz
muscovite
albite (including cleavelandite)
graphic granite

The Sunday schedule included visits to these three mines:

The Etta spodumene mine, where we had a beautiful distant view of Mount Rushmore. The mine itself was an interesting study of a mineral mining operation. Specimens collected:

spodumene
albite
cleavelandite
muscovite
triphylite--lithiophilite
beryl
malachite

The White Cap mine. Specimens collected:

muscovite
tourmaline (in schist)
albite
microcline feldspar
triphylite--lithiophilite

The Big Chief mine. Specimens collected:

rose quartz (abundant)
graphic granite (abundant)
beryl
schorl tourmaline (3/4 - 2" diameter)
triphylite--lithiophilite
plagioclase feldspars (not identified)

Club members on the tour included Don Campbell; Bill Collins; Norman, Betty, Jim and Kim Mautz; Mary Beth Osborn and Patrick; Duane Robey; Larry Strand; and Gen and Bill Buresh.

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ED. NOTE: Thanks to Bill Collins for his assistance in identifying minerals along the way and for his report of the field trip; to Rod Hickie for arranging the trip; and to Craig and Diane Vanous for their capable leadership of the tour. WAB

THANK YOU FROM THE RANBERGS

May 15, 1980

Dear Dakota Gem & Mineral Society Members,

I'll never be able to thank each of you properly, but want you to know how much your prayers, cards, phone calls, gifts and flowers all have meant to me and also to the family.

On April 9 we were called by the hospital and told that my father was more seriously ill and that we should come to the hospital. As the front door was locked, we had to go around to the "Emergency" entrance. I fell on an unlighted step onto the ambulance driveway and broke my hip. At first they thought it wouldn't need to be operated on, but after two weeks and two more X-rays, Dr. Christianson changed his mind. They put in a ball and pin. When it is healed I hope it will be as good as new.

On April 25 my father passed away. He was 94 years and 9 months old, a grand age for a man with such a productive life. I was able to go to the funeral in a wheel chair.

The day following the funeral I had my operation. The next day Joel was brought in to intensive care. He was in a little over a week, but still isn't well--heart, gall bladder, and all tired out. They brought him to see me after the third day.

On May 7, Joel and I had our 48th wedding anniversary. Arrangements were made by the girls and the doctor so we could have our dinner together in my room. Joel was brought down in a wheel chair. Jean and Lola ordered a beautiful cake from Mrs. Seidel. Our trays had a basket bouquet, cards from the staff, special napkins and place mats, plus a bottle of wine for each, which was sent home. The family had a bouquet for each of us and a corsage and boutonniere. My little room was overflowing, with another bouquet for each from a friend, special cards, and cards from many besides the family. We'll never forget our 48th!!!

Our two granddaughters and their babies are leaving May 25, but our daughter Jean is staying longer. That will be a blessing.

I'm getting around pretty well with a walker. Each day I feel improvements. Thanks again for your prayers and well wishes.

We never realize the friends we have, until mishaps come our way;

Then as the long time passes by, cards, flowers, gifts and calls, some each day.

Until you go through such a time, you do not understand

The numbers of dear friends you have, ready to give a helping hand.

The hundreds of prayers to God on high from points near and far,

All helped to bear the pain and give the patience we have to bear.

God bless you all and keep you in His arms, and keep you healthy and
free from harm.

The rest of the family joins in saying THANKS TO ALL.

Love & Prayers,

Ida Mae & Joel & family

(Excerpts)

SHOP TIP Got some marcasite that is going to pieces? You are not alone, as this material is very unstable. Here are some hints for preserving it. Mix one heaping tablespoon of baking soda in one quart of water. Let it effervesce and wash the marcasite in it. Rinse well in clear water and dry. Then dip marcasite in medium weight mineral oil and drain well. --from Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society via Lowcountry Diggings, 6/80

ED. NOTE #2: Bill Collins forgot to mention that one collector found some rusty iron items that he called "treasures." Incidentally, Bill received his "Diggin's" on May 22 and was in Keystone ready for the field trip on May 23. WAB

REPORT OF OUR TRIP, JAN. 17 to MAR. 31, 1980--PART II, TO NEW ZEALANDBY Ralph and Doris Hickle

On March 16th we arrived in Christchurch, New Zealand in early evening, where we were entertained at a cocktail party by local farmers and agricultural college personnel. Everywhere we went, people were so hospitable and interesting to visit with, it seemed like North Dakota.

Mar. 17. In the morning we enjoyed an escorted tour of the Wihmore Irrigation Research Station, then on to the P.C. Curds farm "Waterslea" where we viewed pasture plots and 2000 sheep being rounded up by one sheep dog. Here we enjoyed lunch catered by the Wihmore Federated Women, which is like our Homemakers' groups. In the afternoon we enjoyed a tour of Lincoln Agricultural College Farm, where experiments were under way with various grasses and crops and Murrey gray cattle. We also enjoyed touring the orchards where the apple harvest was underway. Many of the group purchased apples and strawberries, so we had a fruit party in the evening.

That evening, Ralph and I had the good fortune to be guests at the home of Jim and Jennifer McCartney. Jennifer was an IFYE student from New Zealand about four years ago and spent some time at the John Duhr home in our area, so it was interesting visiting. They raise sheep and process their own wool. Jennifer spins her own wool and knits beautiful sweaters.

March 18. The morning was spent sightseeing Christchurch and the beautiful flower gardens maintained by the Health Food Factory. By noon we were at the airport for a flight to Palmerston-North, which is on the north island of New Zealand. After arriving there we went to local dairy farms, where barns are all open and cattle graze the year round, as weather doesn't get so severe. Farmers as a rule do not make a great deal of hay, instead rotating pastures, as rainfall is plentiful. New Zealand was beautiful and green in contrast to Australia, where they were suffering from drought.

Mar. 19. We departed from Palmerston North, traveling through fertile farm lands and seeing lots of sheep, dairy farms, and cattle. It might be noted that New Zealand has three million people in contrast to seventy million sheep. In the afternoon we visited the Pernal Orchard, where apple and peach picking were in full swing. It was interesting to follow the picking, washing, sorting, and boxing of apples, which are shipped mainly to Europe and the United States.

Mar. 20. Leaving Napier, we traveled through the mountains onto the volcanic plateau and Lake Taupo, New Zealand's largest lake, and the country's most prolific fishing grounds. We also saw thousands of acres of man-planted pine forests. We arrived in Rotorua, which is the center of Maori culture in New Zealand. The Maoris are the natives of New Zealand--brown-skinned people of Polynesian origin.

Mar. 21. The morning was spent going to the Agrodome, a unique display of New Zealand's agricultural bounty. We observed show sheep rams, a demonstration on sheep shearing, wool spinning, sheep dogs working, and other associated farm activities. At noon we had lunch at Rainbow Trout Springs set in a glade of native ferns and trees where crystal clear pools teem with colorful rainbow trout. The afternoon was spent seeing a Maori model village and seeing their Arts and Crafts Institute teaching the customs, crafts, and legends of the Maoris. In the evening we attended a Maori Concert, which is much like the Polynesian concerts in Hawaii. We went on to the Whakarewarew Thermal Reserve, with its gushing geysers, boiling mud pools, and steaming underground rivers. A huge geothermal plant has been built there, where electricity is generated for a large area of the country.

Mar. 23--This morning was spent sightseeing in Auckland, with a visit to the summit of Mt. Eden (an extinct volcano complete with crater), from which there is a superb view showing the unique setting of the city between two harbors. There were several ships unloading passengers and freight in the port.

We had lunch at an English Tea House before going to the War Memorial Museum to see the collection of Maori artifacts and carvings and the Eilerslie Garden Racecourse. We returned to the city along the waterfront drive.

We left the hotel at 5:30 p.m. for the airport, to return home and to regain our day lost by recrossing the International Dateline. This means we had two Sundays in one week. It was another 15-hr. flight; we arrived in Honolulu at 7 a.m., where we went through customs. We arrived in Los Angeles at 4:30 p.m., having to say goodbye to our new friends.

Mar. 24--We boarded a Greyhound bus for Fairfield, Calif., where we had left our car with our son. We spent two nights there. The next day we went on to Reno, Nev. where we visited Harrah's Auto Museum, then on to Salt Lake City, where we encountered a snow storm in the mountains. Friday night we ran into another snow storm before getting to Rawlins, Wyo. Saturday we went by way of Gillette, Wyo. to see the Basin Electric plant which is being constructed there.

We spent Saturday night in Rapid City with Ralph's sister, Ruth Etherington, and arrived home on Sunday evening very surprised to see spring was already here.

It was a great trip.

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PRAIRIE GEM RE-DISCOVERED

Out Oklahoma way they have uncovered a new gem, not natural but synthesized. They call it "boverite" (bovine leaverite), also known as "Prairie Coal." They prize it so highly that one specimen was gold plated and awarded to Dixie Lee Alf, our Federation Scholarship Chairman. The award was in recognition of her literary accomplishments in writing the "Chit N Chat" column which occurs regularly in the "Osage Hills Gems," the newsletter of the Osage Hills Gem & Mineral Society of Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

The award was appropriately labeled the "Golden Chip Award."

This revelation occurred in the June, 1980 issue of the "Osage Hills Gems," which is received as an exchange bulletin.

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SAFETY

Vinegar: A study in Korea, where many people use coal briquets for heat, has revealed that a good whiff of vinegar, given to victims of carbon monoxide poisoning, produces miraculous results. This new method of treating carbon monoxide victims has proven to be 100% effective on humans, dogs and rabbits who fainted after being exposed to carbon monoxide for extended periods of time.

Just what the vinegar does is not understood, but the study team believes that the acetic acid increases the blood's ability to carry oxygen to the vital organs. Tuck this away in your memory: you never know when it can save a life.

--Mining Newsletter via Lowcountry Diggings 6/80