



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

# DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA



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.

## 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	Mary Osborn	309 - 12th Ave. NW	Mandan	663-9603
Treasurer	Ted Giese	Route 1	New Salem	843-7005
Bulletin Editors	Genevieve L. & William A. Buresh	1527 N. 19th St.	Bismarck	223-0611
Parliamentarian	Genevieve L. Buresh	1527 N. 18th St.	Bismarck	223-0611
Publicity	Blossomae Campbell	1134 N. 28th St.	Bismarck	255-3658
Program	Ernest Knudson	2020 Catherine Dr.	Bismarck	255-4796
Librarian	Fred Springer	1119 S. 9th St.	Bismarck	255-4232
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 Brady	1401 Sunny Road	Mandan	663-3904
Hospitality	Emma Fischer	501 S. 13th St.	Bismarck	223-4362
Membership & Subscription Agent	John Dosch	2118 Marian Dr.	Bismarck	255-1924
Federation Rep.	Ida Mae Ramberg	1325 N. 15th St.	Bismarck	223-6296
Refreshments	Emma Fischer	501 S. 13th St.	Bismarck	223-4362

Subscription rates for non-members are \$3.00 per 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**

### FIELD TRIP

Our Memorial Day Field Trip is again planned for the Black Hills. Saturday, May 27, we will meet at the Pactola Dam Visitor Center in South Dakota. This is approximately 28 miles south of Lead, S. D., on Highway 385; or 18 miles west and 4 miles south of Rapid City, taking the Rim Rock Drive (Highway 44). We will meet at 10:00 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time (11:00 a.m. C.D.T.). Bill Collin will provide leadership on Saturday. We should be looking forward to a pleasant day of nice scenery and pretty rocks.

Sunday, May 28, we will meet at the Wagon Train Rock Shop, east of Custer, S. D., at 10:00 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time. Mr. Louis Stratton, a professional guide from Custer, will lead us Sunday. He comes highly recommended by South Dakota rockhounds. His fee is \$25.00 for the first six people and \$1.50 per person after that, children free. Mr. Stratton's fee will be shared by all who participate in the field trip on Sunday.

There are camping and tenting facilities in both areas.

MAY MEETING

The May meeting of the Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society was opened with a prayer by the chaplain, Earle Campbell.

Mary Osborne, secretary, read the minutes of the April meeting. They were approved. Treasurer Ted Giese gave a report on the finances of our organization.

## Guests were:

Al Hartl, 1111 North First, Bismarck  
Dee Gronhoyd, Grand Forks, N. D.  
Mr. & Mrs. Reinhold Braun, 419 Easy Street, Bismarck  
Lawrence & Annette Sackmann, Linton, N. D.

## SHOW COMMITTEE REPORT:

Earle Campbell, Show chairman, announced that the flyers for North Dakota's Fourth Annual Gem & Mineral Show were available and members were urged to distribute them when they traveled this summer.

Anyone who would like to have a showcase built should see Pius Fischer, phone 223-4362. If someone would like to build his own case and needs plans and measurements, check with Harold Brady, 663-3904.

## VESTS:

Sharon Springer distributed the material for the vests. Sharon & Fred Springer & Mae & Stan Fairaizl were wearing their vests. Mae had hers made in a longer length. She was wearing matching green slacks. It made a very striking outfit. Sharon's vest was a little below waist length. She was wearing lighter green slacks. This also looked very nice. (The two husbands also presented a pleasing appearance in their vests.) Simplicity pattern #7607 was used. I have the pattern in both the large and extra small sizes. If anyone would like to have a copy of either size, call Blossomae Campbell - 255-3658.

## SERVING COMMITTEE:

The serving committee for the evening were: Alice Hanson, Dee Robey and Violet Anderson.

Members who are to serve at the June meeting are Ruth Bell, Mrs. Walter Beseler and Mrs. Spencer Bobb. If one of you cannot serve for that meeting you are to find a replacement. If you have and questions about serving call the chairman of the refreshment committee, Emma (Mrs. Pius) Fischer, phone 223-4362. DO NOT call this editor!

The club members voted to present a life membership to John Tonander for his many years of dedication to our hobby.

A book, World Treasury of Minerals in Color, by Pierre Bariand, was purchased and placed in the club library.

Club patches are still available for members to purchase. Price \$1.50.

Rocks, minerals, fossils, crystals, etc. are needed for our hospital box. See Emma Fischer in Bismarck, or Stan Fairaizl in Mandan, if you have something to give for this worthy cause. Every member should participate. Some day YOU might be in the hospital. There is nothing like a nice specimen, or even a piece of jewelry, to give one's spirit a lift.

It was good to see both Clara Huggli and Verna Giese at the meeting. Both women had spent time recently in the hospital.

## Meeting (cont.)

The Dakota Northwestern Bank of Bismarck is planning to have a showcase in the bank where people can display their collections. Earle Campbell offered to check with the bank about our gem & mineral society having a display of the North Dakota state fossil teredo wood.

## NEW MEMBERS:

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Little	-	415 North Bell, Bismarck
Art & Norma Jorgensen	-	2433 Atlas Drive, Bismarck
Al & Ruth Hartl	-	1111 North First St., Bismarck
George & Betty Robinson	-	155 Northwest Drive, Bismarck
Ole & Hable Stavem		Wilton, N. D.

## PROGRAM:

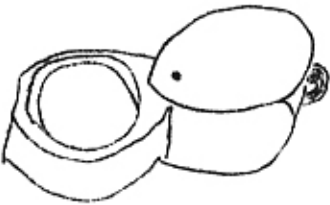
John Althouse spoke on "The Scientific (?) Approach to Hunting Dryhead Agates". John is a true rockhound. For him, the search is more exciting than the discovery. He would rather hunt for it than find it. However, he and his partner did find "it", the dryhead agates they were searching for. It cost \$10.00 a day to dig for the agates; and you do dig. First you have to dig through a six foot layer of sandstone to find a six inch layer where the agates are. John was lucky because he has some nice samples to show. Dryheads are similar to Tepee Canyon agate but not quite as brilliantly colored. They are red and gray with quartz. Sizes range from silver dollar size to 8 to 10 inches. Hoodoo Canyon agate which are also found in the Big-horn Canyon area are not as colorful, being mostly gray and white.

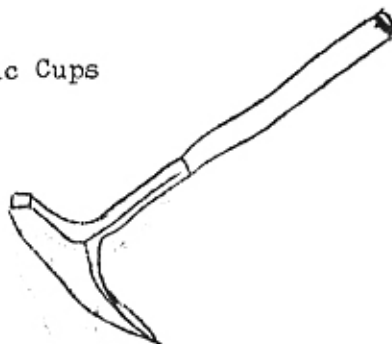
## JUNE PROGRAM:

Leiss Vantine, a member of the curator staff of the State Historical Museum, will be a guest speaker at the June 4th meeting. His topic will be "Plains Indian Language and Oral Literature".

\* \* \* \* \*

CHECK LIST FOR FIELD TRIPS

Rockhound or Geologist's Hammer	
Rock Bag - or a good canvas bag with a shoulder strap	
Ten Power Lenses	
First Aid Kit	
Jackknife	
Steel Chisels	
Safety Goggles	
Field Trip Guide Book	
Field Notebook	
Canteen of Drinking Water & Plastic Cups	
Pencils & Ballpoint Pens	
Compass	
Topographic Maps	
Hand Sledgehammer	
Insect Repellant	



# CAMPING HINTS



The following articles are reprinted from the March, 1973 issue of Diggins from Dakota for the benefit of our new members who will be joining us for field trips for the first time this year.. Older members who read these articles five years ago may skip the rest of this issue, if they please.

Blossomae Campbell  
Editor, pro tem

Winter is over and spring is here - finally! Now is the time to check your camping gear and your rock hunting equipment so that you will be ready to make a dash for your favorite rock hunting places. But before you head for the garage, the basement, or wherever, pour yourself another cup of coffee, relax, and read the following articles. There might be one that was written just for you!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

## FIRST AID KITS

Before starting on spring field trips, check first aid kits and replace items that may have been used, soiled or damaged. For those that do not have a first aid kit in home and car, now is a good time to prepare one.

You can buy a first aid kit from your drug store or make your own to suit your own needs. If you should decide on the latter, here are some suggestions: A small fishing tackle box or small tool box makes an excellent kit. Paint the box white with red crosses on it for easy identification.

Supplies should include 1 or 2 triangular bandages which are easily made from an old sheet cut into a 40-inch square and then cut diagonally to make two triangles; 1 or 2 rolls of gauze or curlex bandages, 1 to 1½ inches wide; ½ dozen 3x3 or 4x4 inch gauze pads, safety pins, ½ dozen tongue depressors for finger splints; ½ dozen Q tips; 2 boxes of compress bandages; bottle of disinfectant - check with your doctor as to what he recommends; pair of small scissors; pair of tweezers; roll of adhesive tape ½ inch wide; snake bite kit for snake country; and a large white bandage about 16x24 inches to 24x36 inches, several layers thick, to use to cover large burn or injured areas. A small penlight might be handy. You might want to add sunburn lotion, lip ice, headache medication, salt tablets, etc. Small pill bottles make good containers for safety pins. Tongue depressors and Q tips should be stored in a container.

Three items that should be a part of every first aid kit or box of supplies are matches, castile soap and bicarbonate of soda. Matches can be used to sterilize a needle or knife blade. Soap (and water) can be used to wash an area of body exposed to poisonous weeds or any other poisonous or irritating substances on the skin and for cleaning superficial wounds. Soda (with water) can be used for cleansing, ease pain of itching and burning of insect bites, relief of indigestion, and numerous other uses.

# HOW TO LIFT THOSE HEAVY ROCKS SAFELY

The National Safety Council suggests that when lifting heavy objects in order to prevent back injuries:

1. Never try to lift more than you can handle.
2. Crouch down to what you are going to lift.
3. Plant your feet firmly on a surface that is strong enough to hold you and the load you are lifting.
4. Get a firm grip on the object. Place fingers underneath the load whenever possible.
5. Keep your head up, arms straight, and keep your back as straight-up-and-down as possible.
6. Lift gradually and push up, using your strong leg muscles.



7. Avoid twisting motions, shift the position of your feet.
8. Keep the load as close to your body as possible.
9. Put things down by reversing the above methods.

from AFMS Newsletter March, 1973

\* \* \* \* \*

To avoid sunburn, wear enough of the proper clothing, especially hats and shirts with long sleeves.

A good place to carry a spare camper key is in your wallet. You've probably lost many keys, but you seldom mislay your wallet.

Put reflector tape on all your hammers, chisels, pry bars, etc. It makes them easier to find when you lay them down.

Think safety when hunting in mines. Be alert to possible danger. Wear safety hat and shoes.

Drive carefully: Motorists can be recalled by their maker.



BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO POISONOUS PLANTS

Take a good look at these leaves. It will pay you to recognize them for they are poisonous! The safe rule...."Leaflets three, let them be."

Symptoms of poisoning, which usually is caused by direct contact with the leaf may appear any time within a few hours to several days after exposure. They consist of a red rash, swelling, itching and burning, followed by the appearance of blisters of varying size. The blisters frequently become infected from scratching, and the serum which is in them carries the poison to other parts of the body.

AVOID CONTACT!!! No one is immune, however, some people are more sensitive than others, and all people are more sensitive at one time than another.

If you are exposed to the plant or oil from the smoke produced by burning the plant, lather with suds of any good soap, rinse and repeat. If symptoms of poisoning develop, get medical attention.



POISON IVY

1. Leaflets three
2. Usually a vine
3. Fruits hang down



POISON OAK

1. Leaflets three
2. Low-growing shrub
3. Fruits hang down



POISON SUMAC

1. Shrub or tree
2. No wings on mid-rib of leaf
3. Fruits hang down

Sumacs with bunches of red berries at the stem tip are harmless.

\*\*\*\*\*

FIRE SAFETY

Most families have one or more fire extinguishers in their homes and garages. Many carry one in their car, too. All members of the family should know where the extinguisher is and how to use it. Many people purchase an extinguisher and neglect to have it checked at least once a year and recharged when needed. Campers should always carry extinguishers and have them readily available for use. Small fires often occur around the cooking area. Have bicarbonate of soda handy to smother a fire. It is clean, inexpensive and does the job.

Because of the close areas in campers and trailers, extra attention must be paid to materials around the stove area and throughout the camper. Check to see how flammable the materials are by touching a few threads drawn from them to a lit match. Are the sleeping bags or bedding made of materials that might flare up in flames? Do you have fire extinguishers readily accessible? Do you have materials at hand to smother a fire?

Max Holliday

\*\*\*\*\*

The Postal Service's Credo, updated: "Neither snow nor rain nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds - so there has to be some other reason."



DIGGINS from DAKOTA

May, 1978

PAT WINS SCHOLARSHIPS!!!

Word was received that Patricia Brady, daughter of Emma and Harold Brady, was awarded three scholarships recently. Two were from the Mandan Elks Lodge and one from the Mandan Masonic Temple. Congratulations, Pat! Pat is planning to attend Bismarck Junior College next fall.

\* \* \* \* \*

IN MEMORIAM

Doug Stickney, owner of Doug's Rock Shop, Harvey, North Dakota, died April 26th. Doug was one of those persons who some would consider handicapped, but Doug himself refused to think that. In 1973 he was named an outstanding Jaycee by the Harvey Jaycee Chapter and he was honored by the Eagles for his efforts in youth work. The world is a better place for having a person of Doug's stature here, however brief his life.

\* \* \* \* \*

ROCKHOUNDS, GIVE THANKS

For the minerals and rocks that we hunt through the year,  
Let's pause for a moment and give thanks, far and near.

To the One who devised such a wonderful plan---  
The wonders of Nature he created for man.

Yes, we know as we look on a gemstone so fair,  
That only the Master could have placed it right there.

For he who made Heaven, it was He who made earth;  
His gifts are abundant, and immeasurable in worth.

We all have gone searching in those quarries of lime;  
To look for the fossils that mark eons in time.

A passage of Scripture about time (in His way)  
Says a whole thousand years is but only a day.

Let's thank Him for mountains, for sunrise and sunset;  
For beauty around us -- and for friends we have met.

A rockhound's a person who appreciates this;  
And though he grows weary, God's sweet love he can't miss.

He can listen to birds, and enjoy the blue sky;  
He may want to give up, but then something says "Try!"

His efforts rewarded, so what more can he ask?  
Than to thank the good Lord for His part in the task.

So then to our Maker who has made all that's fair;  
Let us humbly give thanks for earth's treasures so rare.

--- Great Lakes Gem Rock via Halite Hilites

\* \* \* \* \*

Earle Campbell checked with Seb Schumacher of the Dakota Northwestern Bank of Bismarck. The period of time from July 31st to August 18th has been reserved for the Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society to have a display of North Dakota State fossil, teredo bored wood. It was suggested that we number the items and have handouts with numbers and descriptions. Further details will be discussed at the June meeting.