

DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA



MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 2445, Bismarck, ND 58502

SERVING BISMARCK, MANDAN, AND SURROUNDING AREAS IN

NORTH DAKOTA

Gen Buresh, Editor
DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA
44 Captain Marsh Drive
Mandan, ND 58554

FIRST CLASS

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Published by the CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 2445, Bismarck, ND 58502

Member,

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies
and

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



- OBJECT: 1. To further the study of mineralogy and geology;
2. To arrange field trips to collect minerals, gems, and fossils;
3. To assist its members to improve in the art of cutting, polishing, and mounting gem material;
4. To provide opportunities for the exchange, purchase, and exhibition of specimens and materials; and
5. To share knowledge about gems, minerals, and activities of the Society with the general public. --Article II, CDGMS Constitution

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., November - March. VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

ANNUAL DUES: Family - \$8.00; Individual Adult - \$6.00; Individual Junior - \$3.00

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, 1981:

President	Mary Beth Osborn	310 - 12th Ave. NW	Mandan	663-1056
Vice President	William A. Buresh	44 Capt. Marsh Dr.	Mandan	663-5397
Secretary	Jane Lanz	600 - 13th St. NW	Mandan	663-8621
Treasurer	Ronald P. Wandler	336 Shady Lane	Bismarck	255-4947
	Program Chr. Earle Campbell	1134 N. 28th St.	Bismarck	255-3658
	Hospitality (Lunch) Chr. Leota Jensen	1400 - 5th Ave. NW	Mandan	663-8217
Clip stamp on reverse side)	Field Trip Chr. Merle Lanz	600 - 13th St. NW	Mandan	663-8621
	Annual Show Chr. Don Campbell	1119 Memorial, #17	Bismarck	258-1194
	OTHER APPOINTMENTS, 1981:			
	Bulletin Editor Gen Buresh	44 Capt. Marsh Dr.	Mandan	663-5397
	Early Class Harold Brady	1401 Sunny Road	Mandan	663-3904
	Federation Rep. Bill Buresh	44 Capt. Marsh Dr.	Mandan	663-5397
	Greeter Mel Anderson	1521 LaForest Ave.	Bismarck	223-3558
	Librarian-Hist. Glenn Michaels	1700 N. 4th St.	Bismarck	258-8417
	Parliamentarian Al Hartl	1111 North 1st St.	Bismarck	258-0761
	Publicity Leota Jensen	1400 - 5th Ave. NW	Mandan	663-8217

All members are encouraged to submit articles/news for publication during the year. Advertisements from members will also be accepted for the bulletin. Material for the bulletin should reach the editor by the 10th of each month. Permission is given to reprint any article if proper credit is given.



North Dakota's Annual GEM AND MINERAL SHOW Mandan Community Center

SEPT. 25 - 26, 1981

DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA

Vol. 16, No. 5

May, 1981

NEXT MEETING: June 7, 1981, 7:30 p.m. (Discussion Class, 6:30 p.m.)

PROGRAM: SHOW AND TELL, by Members (Bring specimens from field trips or any unusual or interesting specimen)

LUNCH COMMITTEE: Don Campbell, Fred Springer, and Glenn Michaels

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SPECIAL NEWS FLASH, Brien, N.D. May 10, 1981

In spite of frosty weather on Sunday morning, May 10, seventeen hardy rockhounds gathered at the Heart River Bridge in Mandan for a field trip to the Cannonball River. The sun brought warmer temperatures as the day progressed. The best "finds" were a variety of petrified wood pieces and pine cone casts on the Cannonball sand bars, a 1901 Indianhead penny near the Cannonball Bridge found by Elsie Campbell, and pine cones at the Huff site on the way home.

Members on the trip included Dave and Ruby Jensen; Norman and Betty Nautz and their three children; Earle and Blossomae Campbell; Don Campbell; Glenn Michaels; Merle and Jane Lanz; Mary Beth Osborn and Patrick; and Alvin and Elsie Campbell. --Jane Lanz and Mary Beth Osborn, Reporters

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(*Federation Show)

- May 16-17 Hot Springs, SD--South Dakota State Gem & Mineral Show
- May 30-June 2--Field Trip, sapphire mine, Helena, MT (See enclosed details)
- *June 4-7 Salt Lake City, UT--"Gemboree of the Rockies" Show, American Federation and Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies
- June 7 Bismarck, ND--7:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society, Capital Electric Bldg., Highway 83 North of Bismarck
- June 13-14 Great Falls, MT--Montana State Council Gem & Mineral Show, State Fairgrounds
- *June 26-28 Lexington, KY--"Blue Grass State Gemboree" Show, Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies
- June 27-28 Newcastle, WY--Wyoming State Show, Armory in Newcastle
- July 2-5 Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada--12th International Gem and Mineral Show, Winnipeg Rock and Mineral Club
- *July 23-26 South Bend, IN--Show, Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
- Aug. 8-9 Mitchell, SD--Gem and Mineral Show, Holiday Inn, Corn Palace Rock Club
- Aug. 15-16 Rapid City, SD--Annual Show, Civic Center, Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society
- *Aug. 21-23 Midway, Wash.--"Nature's Rainbow of Jewels" Show, Northwest Federation
- Sept. 5-7 Omaha, NE--Nebraska State Show
- Sept. 18-20 Williston, ND--Annual Show, Williston Rock and Mineral Club
- Sept. 19-20 Aberdeen, SD--Annual Show, Lakota Glacier Rock Club
- SEPT. 25-26 MANDAN, ND--NORTH DAKOTA'S SEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW, Mandan Community Center sponsored by CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY. Show Chairman: Don Campbell, 1119 Memorial Highway, Bismarck, ND 58501

AT THE LAST MEETING--May 3, 1981

by Blossomae Campbell and Gen Buresh

Field trips on May 10 to the Cannonball River and on May 30 to the El Dorado sapphire mine near Helena, Montana, were discussed. (Details for the Montana trip are enclosed for members.)

Don Campbell, Show Chairman, reported that rent for the Civic Center for the 1981 Show has been paid. He urged members taking trips this summer to take show flyers with them to distribute along the way.

The Program Committee announced that the program for June will be "Show and Tell." Members are asked to bring specimens found on field trips or any unusual specimens they have and be prepared to discuss them.

Forty-three adults and 4 juniors were present at the meeting; 32 adults and three juniors attended the discussion class.

Three guests were also present--Virginia Barta, Bismarck, a guest of the Fred Springers; and Ed and Helen Birkmaier, Mandan, guests of the Bill Bureshes.

The club was invited to participate in the second annual Oktoberfest in Oct. at the Bismarck Civic Center. Only handmade items can be shown and sold; an 8 x 10' booth will cost \$30.00. No action was taken. (Individuals interested may see Jane Ianz, sec. for an application form for a booth.)

Members voted to invest in another C.D. with the balance left after cashing the current C.D. to purchase an amplifying system for use at meetings.

After discussing guest memberships, members voted to continue to issue guest memberships for the remainder of the calendar year for guest speakers.

A motion was approved to purchase a book for the club library in memory of each deceased member. The family is to be notified of each book placed in the library.

Gen and Bill Buresh were named as delegates to the Rocky Mountain Federation convention at the show in Salt Lake City in June. Blossomae and Earle Campbell

were named as alternates.

Ted Giese was the lucky winner of the door prize--specimens of fire agate, horn coral, and sodalite, donated by Don Campbell.

The program consisted of a discussion of "The Geology of Coal" by Dr. Gordon Bell. (A summary is included below.)

Lunch was provided by Nettie Nelson, Henry Solberg, and Edna Hausehund.

Volunteers for the lunch committee for the June meeting are Don Campbell, Fred Springer, and Glenn Michaels.

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SUMMARY OF PROGRAM, by Bill Buresh

The program in May consisted of an informative talk on "The Geology of Coal" by club member Dr. Gordon Bell.

Dr. Bell related the formation of coal to the evolution of the continents and to the changes of the land forms on this continent.

Bell identified two different major coal basins in the United States. The eastern basin was formed during the Pennsylvanian Age, also known as the Carboniferous Age. The coal formed there was from luxuriant tropical plant life such as Lepidodendron, Sigillaria, and Calamites. It was changed from the original lignite form to the present bituminous and anthracite coals by pressures created by the changes in land forms, such as the formation of the Appalachian Mountains.

The other basin is found in our area and in neighboring states south and west of North Dakota. It was formed more recently, during the late Cretaceous and early Tertiary Ages following the land upheavals that formed the mountain ranges of the western states. The lignite to sub-bituminous coal that is found here was formed from a coniferous type of plant life that prevailed in the low-lying terrain of that time. The swamplands with vegetation were covered with common sediments at different geologic time intervals, forming layers of coal beds, shales, and sandstones that are evident in this area.

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PARLIAMENTARY TIPS, by Al Hartl

WHY PARLIAMENTARY RULES?--The object of Rules of Order is to assist an assembly to accomplish the work for which it was designed, in the best possible manner. To do this it is necessary to restrain the individual somewhat, as the right of an individual, in any community, to do what he pleases, is incompatible with the interests of the whole. (Preface, 1980 edition, Roberts Rules of Order)

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From the Federation via The Rocky Mountain News, May, 1981

Approval was given by the 1980 AFMS Officers for the use of the AFMS logo on the cover of the Mineral Classification List printed by the California Federation. This approval contained a provision, "That an introductory statement be used that while the chemical classifications listed therein were acceptable, different classifications may also be acceptable for the same minerals." Belatedly, this information was finally passed along and - the Mineral Classification List, with the AFMS logo, is now available. Copies may be purchased for 75¢ each, first class postage paid, by writing to: Fred Sellers, CFMS Executive Sec./Treas., P.O. Box 312, Castaic, CA 91310.

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Earle Campbell is listed as a nominee for State Director for North and South Dakota in the report of the Federation Nominating Committee, along with nominees for all other offices of the Rocky Mountain Federation.

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Ruby Lingenbach, editor, wants to know if the checkout packets of exchange bulletins are being used by our club members. All the editor can report is that the three packets made available so far have been checked out by members. None have been returned yet. Has anyone read any of the bulletins? G.B.

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CLUB MEMBER RECEIVES RECOGNITION

It is always interesting to read about our members, such as in the article below:

"OLIVER COUNTY'S MASTER LAMB FEEDER"

"Rodney Hickle of Center is North Dakota's 1981 Master Lamb Feeder. Hickle annually feeds out about 1,000 lambs. He's been in the lamb feeding business for 11 years. Besides feeding lambs, Hickle also runs about 700 commercial ewes on his Oliver County farm.

"Hickle is a member of the Oliver County Farm Bureau, NDLPWA, Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society and a past director and president of the Oliver County Livestock and Crop Association. He and his wife, Carol, are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church at Center." --"Dakota Family," Official Publication of North Dakota Farm Bureau, April, 1981

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ANOTHER JUNE FIELD TRIP PLANNED

Merle Lanz, Field Trip Chairman, has asked us to inform members that another field trip is being planned for June, to either the Little Badlands or the McClusky Canal. Details, still pending, are to be announced at the June meeting.

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WANTED

Used Grinding Wheels

100- & 200-Grit, 6" or 8" Size

Ron Wandler 255-4947
336 Shady Lane, Bismarck, ND

* * * * *

Fond mother: "I hope my little darling has been as good as gold all day."

Baby-sitter: "No, ma'am, he went off the gold standard about ten o'clock."

--ROCK TALK via THE ROCK VEIN

THIS-N-THAT

MANY HAPPY RETURNS to Joel and Ida Mae Ramberg, who celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary on May 7.

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PAT BRADY, daughter of Harold and Emma Prady, Mandan, was listed recently on the Honor Roll for the previous quarter at Moorhead State University. Pat is a third-year student majoring in Medical Social Work.

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WINNERS at the Mandan centennial needle arts show held May 1 and 2 included JANE LANZ, first for afghan; and MARY BETH OSBORN, first for needlepoint.

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BILL AND GEN BURESH and guests, Ed and Helen Birkmaier, took part in the State Historical Society tour on Sunday, May 3. After lunch and a business meeting in Beulah, the group toured the Beulah Museum (new), the Big Hidatsa and Sakakawea Sites of the Knife River Indian Village National Historic Site near Stanton, and the Ft. Clark Historical site. All sites were very interesting. (As archeological sites they are of course off-limit for hunting rocks.)

The Knife River Indian Village sites are now under the jurisdiction of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park staff.

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THE NORTH DAKOTA HERITAGE CENTER on the Capitol Grounds in Bismarck will have its long awaited grand opening soon-- May 30 - June 30, 1981. Regular hours are Sundays, 1-4; Weekdays, 8-5; and Saturdays, 9-4. During the grand opening period, several special programs

MEMBERSHIP LIST -- Please add these names to your membership list:

55. Bell, Dr. Gordon (H)	515 N. 22nd St.	Bismarck, ND 58501	223-5146
56. Campbell, Alvin/Elsie		Elgin, ND 58533	
57. Hafermehl, Louis F. (H)	707 N. Washington	Bismarck, ND 58501	222-1318

ADDRESS CORRECTION; Please correct the address on your list as follows:

54. Zenker, Gerald	1119 S. 9th St., #919	Bismarck, ND 58501
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are scheduled, mostly on weekends at 2:00 or 8:00 p.m. Members may wish to schedule time to visit the Center when in Bismarck. A program folder for the opening month's activities may be obtained by writing to the State Historical Society, North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, ND 58505, or by calling 224-2666.

DENDRITE STRUCTURAL COMPOSITION DETERMINED

What chemical compounds make up dendrites' black crystalline delicately fern-like patterns that fascinate rock collectors--finally has been deciphered by geochemists Russel M. Potter and George R. Rossman of CA Institute of Technology. The textbooks, it seems, have been dead wrong all these years.

The crystals in dendrites are too small for standard X-ray diffraction, so the presumption has been that they are formed of the common manganese dioxide mineral Pyrolusite. Potter and Rossman, however, discerned the true composition by infrared transmission spectroscopy. Dendrites are manganese oxides, they say, but in such crystalline forms as romanechite, hollandite, todorokite, and cryptomelane--everything but pyrolusite. None of the dendrites examined were mixtures. Each contains only one form of the mineral.

--CHEMICAL & ENGINEERING NEWS, via AFMS NEWSLETTER, March 1981

"Recipe for speeches: Add shortening."

"Recipe for marriages: Add sweetening."

TO MEMBERS:FIELD TRIP TO EL DORADO SAPPHIRE MINE, YORK, MONTANA (near Helena), MAY 30-JUNE 2

Field Trip Chairman Merle Lanz and Committee Member Don Campbell have provided these additional details for the field trip to the El Dorado Mine at York, Montana (near Helena) for the weekend of May 30-June 2 (or however long members wish to stay).

Your actual destination will be York, Montana, a small town northeast of Helena. York should be on all highway maps. From Helena, take the Canyon Ferry Road to York. Find the York Bar, where you should find the mine owner, Bill Goodman. He will take you to the mine. (If Bill Goodman is not at the bar, someone else there will take you to the mine.) The mine is about ten miles out of York on an unpaved road.

Information just received indicates that camping facilities are available at the mine area, with showers. Camping fees: \$4.00 per day without hookups, \$6.00 per day with hookups. For non-campers, lodging is available at Helena or East Helena (about 35 miles away).

Campers should bring food for the number of days they plan to stay at the site. Non-campers should bring food for each day. (Don't forget drinking water.)

Rock-hunting fee: \$10.00 per day per adult; \$15.00 per couple

The area is mountainous and everyone should be prepared for the possibility of cool weather, especially at night. (Snow is predicted there as this is being written.) Also, Lanz's have been advised that the water in the gravel beds where you will be digging may be very cold. Waterproof footwear and warm gloves may be in order. You will be screening gravel from an old river bed.

As indicated last month, you will also need:

--Equipment you normally take on a field trip, plus:

--Pick or shovel or both

--5-gal. bucket with handle (smaller pails for smaller people?)

--Set of screens (Shaker wire mesh)

Top--1/2" or 5/8" wire mesh

Bottom--1/8" wire mesh

NOTE: Screens are available for rent at \$3.00 per day if you don't have your own.

SPECIAL NOTE #1: We have been asked to extend an invitation from Neil and Ida Brandon, proprietors of Ennis Rock House, for all club members to stay overnight at Ennis, Montana. The Brandons have been dealers at our Annual Show in Mandan for several years. Members should find it very educational to tour their shop. Camping space is available there. Thank you, Brandons!

Ennis may be reached by traveling west of Bozeman to Three Forks, Mont. Take the Ennis exit and drive south-southwest about 40 miles.

SPECIAL NOTE #2: Don Campbell has provided the information that Mr. & Mrs. Harry Houtari, Glendive, Mont. (former members and frequent exhibitors at our Annual Shows), maintain a summer home and work shop in the York area and will be moving out to York in late May. They have offered to assist members during the hunt. Many thanks to the Houtaris.

WATCH YOUR ROAD MAPS! DRIVE CAREFULLY! WE'LL SEE YOU AT THE MINE!!!

SAFETYLIGHTNING NUTS AND BOLTSSAFETY:

When a thunderstorm threatens get inside a house or large building, or inside an all-metal vehicle or truck cab--not a convertible or an open truck bed. Don't take shelter in a small, isolated shed or any other small structure in an open area. Inside a house, avoid using the telephone. If you're caught outdoors with no chance to reach shelter, follow these rules:

- * Don't stand under a tall, isolated tree in an open area.
- * Don't let yourself project above the surrounding landscape--as you would do on a hilltop, in an open field, on the beach or in a small boat.
- * Get out of and away from water.
- * Get off of and away from motorcycles, golf carts, bicycles.
- * Stay away from wire fences, railroad tracks, metal pipes and other metallic paths that can conduct lightning.
- * In a forest, find shelter in a low area under a thick growth of trees. In the open, go to a low valley or ravine; but, be on the lookout for flash flooding.
- * If you feel your hair stand on end, drop to your knees and bend forward.

FIRST AID:

- * Give a lightning victim immediate mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and heart massage.
- * If a group is hit, treat any apparently "dead" victims first. Anyone who is unconscious but breathing will probably recover spontaneously.
- * Victims who seem stunned but otherwise unhurt should see a doctor as soon as possible. The physical effects of a lightning strike are not always obvious.

For further information about lightning and lightning safety, a pamphlet entitled "Thunderstorms" is available for 35¢ through the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. 20402. (Order stock no. 003-017-00386-8, Minimum order, \$1)

(Signed)

George

George Hunter, RMFMS Safety Chairman

(Editor's note: George said in his letter, "...Personally, I always thought lightning struck when your number came up; but I see now it's when your hair stands on end.")

--THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, May, 1981

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POLISHING THUNDER EGGS

After lapping flat stones (such as thunder eggs), with 600 grit, wash them and leave them under a heat lamp or 100 watt bulb for about 5 minutes. When the stones are warm, polish them on a flat wheel with tin oxide. By pre-heating them, the polishing is almost instant. Otherwise the felt wheel has to heat the stone before the polishing action begins. --from THE PEGMATITE & EUREKA NEWS via COLOR COUNTRY CHIPS, March 1981

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THE DIFFERENCE, they say, between a thunder egg (which is a nodule) and a geode is that the thunder egg has 100% fewer cavities. --COLOR COUNTRY CHIPS