

DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA



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 Minerology 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. 7:30 April to Oct., 2:30 rest of year

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME: at the club functions, meetings, field trips, Annual Shows, etc.

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| & 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.

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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

OCTOBER 18 & 2, 1977

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

The Second Annual North Dakota Gem and Mineral Show is history and from all indications was again a great success. Thank you, Show Chairman Earle Campbell and everyone else involved in this great effort.

Earle has a detailed report on the results of the show elsewhere in this bulletin.

The machinery for the 1977 show has already been put into motion. The show will again be held in the Mandan Community Center. The date will be October 1 and 2, 1977, according to Earle.

I would also like to complement the Williston Club for putting on a fine show on Sept. 16, 17, & 18, 1976. The Campbells, my wife Genevieve and I entered exhibits in their show. The nearness of the City of Williston to Montana was in evidence by the many beautiful Montana agate displays.

Quite a number of the Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society members were seen throughout the three days. The Hilkins, and Frank Herr assisted by Roy Schubert, were among the dealers present.

Genevieve was especially elated about the Williston show as she came home with a new silver ring made by Jody Barclay while Gen watched. The Barclays now make their home in Williston and will be distributors for silversmithing supplies.

-- Bill Buresh

TID BITS FROM THE OCTOBER MEETING There was no September meeting because of the Show. PEBBLE PUPS will try to meet next time. We hope that there will be a few out for this.

PROGRAM NEXT TIME-- SILENT AUCTION-- NOTICE NEW TIME 2:30 P.M. AFTERNOON TILL April

A letter from BETTY WATTS was read. They want a copy of our contract as Rocky Mountain Federation members. Some discussion and history came from this. STAN will take care of it

EARLE CAMPBELL reported the Show was a great success. His story is in another part of the paper. He also reported that Governor Link and Grace were out of town and sorry that they were unable to attend again this year. BOB RANDALL reported that on the financial end we did all right also.

Many names were added or renewed: SPENCER BOBB and ADOLPH NELSON paid up for 1977 renew. New Member present were: MR. & MRS. FRED SPRINGER AND FREDDIE(SHARON) 1119 8th #1307, Bis. MRS. ALICE SPRINGER, Fort Yates, ND 58538; LAWRENCE AND LOIS THIEL & TERRY, McClusky 58463 CAROL AND RODNEY HICKLE, Center, ND 58530; New members not present were: MR & MRS. KENNETH HUCK & FAMILY, Box 89, New Salem, ND 58563; MR. JAMES KNUTSON, ????????? (had to hunt for addresses, and couldn't find this one?????) MR. RALPH LINDVIG, R.R. 1, Williston, ND 58801; JEAN & MARCUS SILBERNAGEL, 515 N. 18th, Bis. (The above memberships were taken at the Show, but no addresses taken-or telephone numbers.) Ida Mae reported visiting with MR. & MRS. NORMAN IVERSON at the show. They are planning to organize in Williston and took out a subscription. (549 6th St. W. Dickinson 225 3597) They also talked with BETTY WATTS. Good luck to them. If there were any more names of new members, please let us know!!!

The president appointed the nominating committee of JOHN DOSCH, SUE RANDALL, AND JULIUS THIES. He also appointed the auditing committee of KENT HIGGINS, ERNEST KNUTSON, AND ALBERT ANDERSON. A delicious lunch was served by SUSIE HIGGINS, GEN STRAND AND IDA LAVACHEK. The door prize was won by HAROLD BRADY and donated by EMMA FISCHER, a brouch.

SECOND ANNUAL SHOW A SUCCESS !!

North Dakota's second Annual Gem and Mineral Show is now History! By all standards it was a good show. Our dealers were excellent. Our displays were excellent. The Swap Area was very busy all through the show. The Silent Auction participation was very good. The "swapbuck" idea was well accepted, if redemption by dealers is any indication. The "Touch Table" attracted much attention. The Demonstrations- cabachon polishing, jade polishing, faceting and silversmithing- all drew good participation. Speaking of faceting- Mrs. Ernie Knudson tried her hand and finished a beautiful faceted stone during the show- ask her if you may see it.

Attendance was good. We registered people from TWENTY STATES-- Maryland, Texas, California, Washington, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Arkansas, Virginia, Indiana, Idaho, Iowa, Wisconsin, Montana, Minnesota, Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, and of course, North Dakota. We also had Canadian friends in attendance- from Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Our nine dealers also represented seven states.

Financially we were able to pay all our bills and have enough left to plan for our THIRD ANNUAL SHOW. The date for the 1977 show has been set for October first and second. The reason for the later date is that this is the only time we could reserve the building. We have signed a contract for that date in the new Mandan Community Center. Dates for 1978 and 1979 have also been reserved in order to have the building. Their calendar is filling fast. No deposit has been made for 1978 and 1979 shows, however.

I personally want to thank EVERYONE participating in the show. The Exhibitors, The Committee Chairmen, the Security People, The Ticket Sellers- EVERYONE!!! The long hours during the show to keep things going, such as the Silent Auction, the Swap Area, The Society Booth- Everything went well---THANK YOU!!! A special THANK YOU to Bob Randall for his excellent publicity job and also for keeping the cash recorded and disbursed. These two most important tasks were very well done. Bob was always available when needed.

Plans are being formulated for the 1977 Show. We already are receiving from dealers asking for contracts. This is a good sign. !!!

EARLE CAMPBELL, SHOW CHAIRMAN

**From AMERICAN FEDERATION NEWSLETTER
PACKET INCLUDED A PHONOGRAPH RECORD**

The packet of information sent out by the Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society to promote their gem and mineral show on September 11 - 12 at Mandan, North Dakota in conjunction with the North Dakota Tourism Department included a phonograph record telling about the virtues of North Dakota. Packet also included a road map of North Dakota plus city maps.

THANKS

THANK YOU, ART

The projectors used in the
Film room at the
SHOW were provided by

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His cooperation was
greatly appreciated
THANKS, ART !!!

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for
for Jade Polishing- for the silver-
smithing; and our own Fairairzl for
his work with cabachons.



FIREFLOWER GEMS

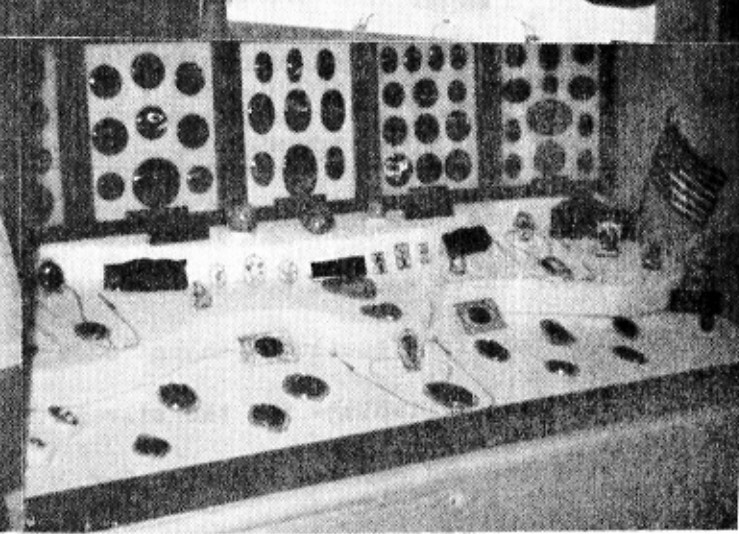
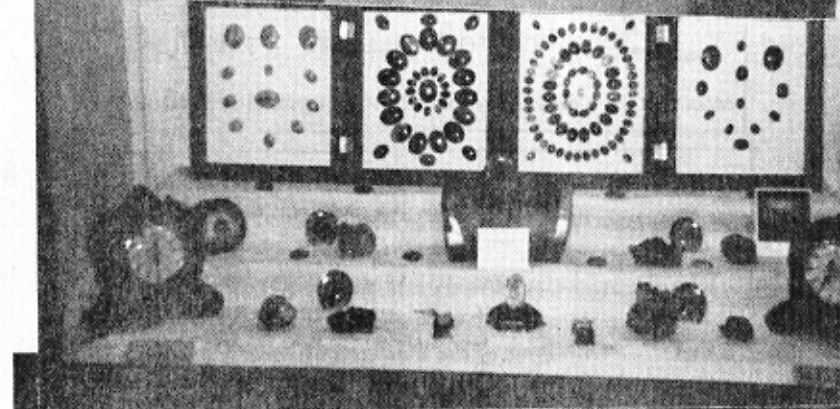
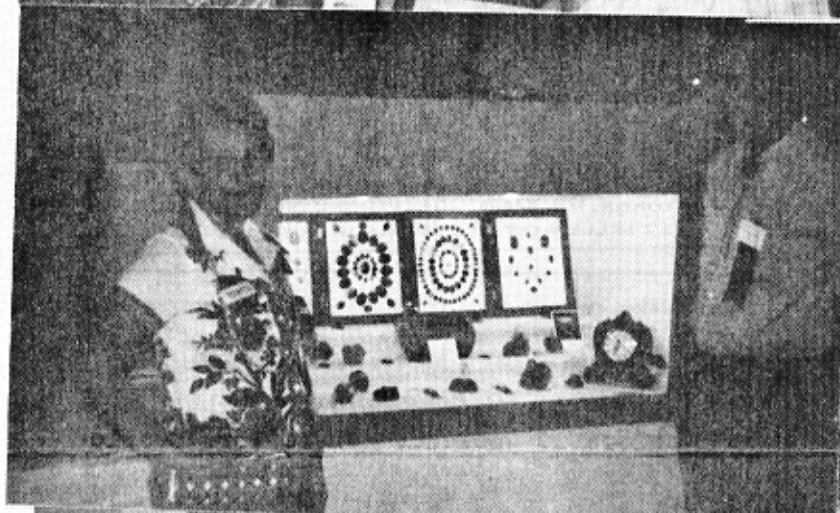
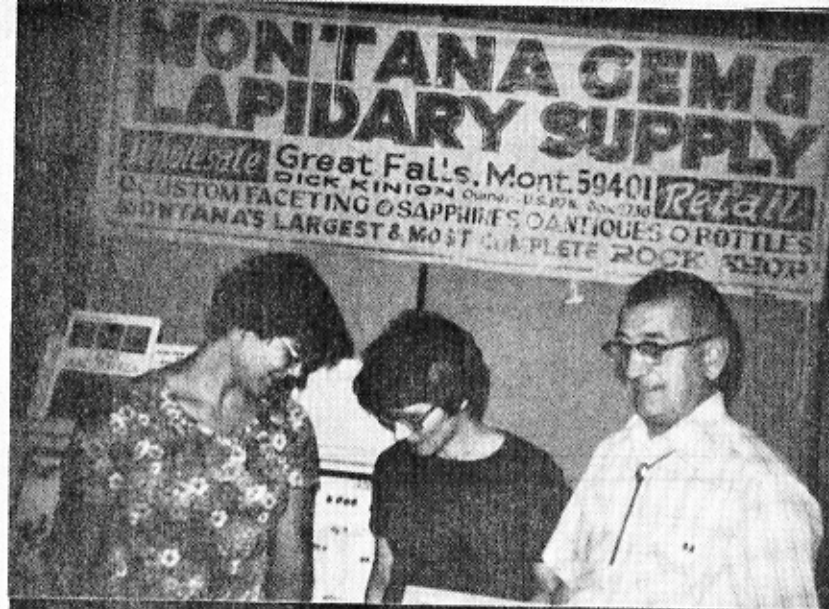
WORLAND

WYOMING

BEAUTIES GALORE TO SEE
AND BUY

FIREFLOWER GEMS!!!!!!





SHOWS OF '76

Ewald Muggli Family

The first show of the season that we attended was at Hot Springs, South Dakota on the 15th and 16th of May. We took part in the field trip and did some swapping at the trade table. There were a lot of people trading and we did very well, including a couple of Fairburn Agates which was a good trade. Hot Springs has a site where Cadron College Students are doing excavation. Several 20,000 year old mamoths are burried here. Interesting slides and lectures were given on the student work at the Mamoth Site.

We had a good time trading at Hot Springs so we took a lot of material along to the next show, which was at Casper, Wyoming in June. They had a trading table but we were the only people at the table. We did get to trade for a good piece of jade, but that was the extent of our swapping. It was a good show- some of the jade we saw there was about the most beautiful jade display we have ever seen. The attendance at the show was poor which was too bad, because the displays were good.

In July we went to Winnipeg. Their title this year was "The Wonderful World of Opal". Opal did take over the show and was very interesting. The slides and lectures were about Opal and Australia, which were fascinating to listen to. The trading table was good but not as active as we found it a couple of years ago. We did go out on the field trip to dig for Selenite Crystals, but gave it up after about an hour of digging, without any luck. We enjoy Winnipeg very much with its gardens, museums and friendly people.

The end of July, Ewald spent some time at the Mayo Clinic at Rochester. that weekend there happened to be a Rock Swap at Medford, Minnesota, which is near Watonna and about 40 miles from Rochester. There was registration fee of one dollar per family. Then you could set up your table any where in the park and trade or sell. The weather was just beautiful so it turned out to be a most enjoyable weekend. There were people from many different states so there was a good variety of material. We did hope to get some good Silkstone or other material from the Iron Mines, but were not able to at the Rock Swap. We did stop at a Rock Shop close to Minneapolis and bought some good Silkstone. The trading and seeing at the Rock Swap was good and we would like to try again.

The next show we attended was our own show at Mandan. Trading here was good but could have been more active. The show was good and the displays were excellent.

The last show we attended was at Williston. The drive to Williston in September is beautiful. We drove north of Dickinson and Killdeer on the way there. On the way back we drove 85 to Belfield. Both drives have beautiful scenery. At Williston we took part in the Silent Auction. This table was very active which made it interesting. The area was small so it was hard to get to it. Activity and a lot of participation in a trade or Silent Auction table brings excitement and interest in a show. The Williston show was good and so gracious- Everything was free. They could have had more displays. Especially needed was more local and more variety. The Montana Agates shown had beautiful scenes and certainly Montana Agates add to any show.

We had a good summer at the shows. We sometimes judge the shows as to how active the trading. The trading is what keeps us at the shows for a couple of days while otherwise we could see the show in a couple of hours. We would like to encourage everyone to take trading material along to every show they attend, whether it is poor or good quality doesn't make much difference. You can meet many people and feel like you are a part of the show if you are willing to swap.

(Editor's Note--Thanks to the Mugglis for such a fine article on their interesting trips. There must be others who have had some experiences to share with the Club- Maybe not as many places-- but at least one or two. Let's hear from YOU!!!)

ANNOUNCEMENT -- NORTHWEST IOWA ROCK CLUB OF SUMNER, IOWA will be holding their eighth GEM & MINERAL SHOW OCTOBER 23,24.



The above certificate was one of three awarded to clubs in the Dakotas during the 1976 Rocky Mountain Federation Convention in Roswell, New Mexico. Accepting the awards was Betty Watts, the Federation Director for the Dakotas.

One of the other two awards went to the Black Hills Mineral Society, Rapid City, South Dakota for a slide program prepared by that society. The Picture City Gem and Mineral Club of Hot Springs, South Dakota was the recipient of an honorable mention in the All-American Club Award.

PRATTER FROM HERE AND THERE!!!!!!!

From T-TOWN ROCKHOUND, Via Alaska Pebble Patter, AP Anchorage Times. Veterinarians in Halifax, N.S. came up against another breed of rock-hound in a 6-week-old pup. He had eaten a pile of beggles-53 to be exact. A mixture of laxative and mineral oil did the trick and the pup instantly gained the name "Rocky".

From PIK-N-ROK -- Every one knows that Terredo Wood is the state's official fossil, but how many know what the North Dakota State Memorial Stone is? It is the stone sent by the State to be placed in the Washington Monument.. The full story is in the July-August issue of this Grand Forks Club RED RIVER GEM & MINERAL CLUB, Sorry there wasn't place to print it all.

From MINERAL MINUTES, "Thank you for taking such good care of Howard and Alwyn Mueller when they were up your way. Let us repay the favor some day, regards , John" (the editor



DON'T FORGET!!!!!! THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT 2:30 PM
ON NOVEMBER 7. BRING YOUR GOODIES FOR SILENT AUCTION

RAMBERGS TO ALASKA

We again went to Alaska in our pick-up camper. We were gone seven weeks this summer. This was our fourth trip by car or camper. We drove both ways except once when we took the train from Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, and the Ferry from Skagway to Seattle. The highway went through the prairies of Canada with the vast wheat fields and almost level terrain to Edmonton-and to Dawson City- with a few hills and valleys to add to the scenery.

Shortly after crossing the Peace River and passing St John, the road begins winding and climbing to mountain passes- then descending into wide river valleys. Some times we were riding a winding ridge with deep valleys and canyons on both sides. The ever-changing panorama was greatly enjoyed. The gravel road (1200 miles of it) made for slower travel and gave us a chance to enjoy the surroundings. We commented many times on how much better the highway was than two years ago.

The mirror like lakes reflecting purple and twisted mountains; the long bridges, crossing wide meandering rivers and slow sluggish ones; Doll sheep grazing high on the mountain side; moose wading and eating in the sloughs; bears at night, rattling garbage cans; town like Fort Nelson with wide paved streets-and the same camping site we have used each time; Watson Lake with its huge sign board of name places (we placed a sign for Bismarck once); Whitehorse with museums, railroad, and shopping malls; Dawson City, with memories of Robert Service and Jack London all added to the variety. In Dawson we saw the "ollies, 1890 style. After crossing the Yukon on a ferry, we drove on a mountain ridge where for miles either way mountains and valleys could be seen.

Alaska, our largest state was entered on a mountain top- all that was there were a couple small buildings housing the United States and Canadian customs. The road from there, past mining dredges and signs of gold mining, led to Tok, Delta junction a terminus for the pipe line, Glennallen and on to Anchorage has many breath-taking views of mountains, glaciers (including Matanuska and Taglina) and rugged mountain roads. Going through Palmer, we saw the Matanuska Valley where homesteaders settled and tried to clear out the muskeg (untotted foliage) for raising crops. Some of the farms are still there but cattle raising and truck gardens (with 50 pound cabbages etc) are the products. The muskeg ridges of a few years are nearly gone.

Another interesting product from this area is soap stone which is used for carving. It has a slippery, satiny feel and is soft enough to carve. Many eskimo artists as well as others use it to create beautiful figures.

In Anchorage, we stayed with our daughter and family. There are many museums and rock and gift shops that feature Alaska made jewelry of jade, ivory, gold, furs and other products of this far western and northern state. The walrus ivory is carved into animals flowers and figurines, as is the jade- then made into jewelry. Many beautiful things are done with gold nuggets. Walrus fur is used in making bill folds etc., and of course, fur coats and parkas.

On the visit to Kenai we again stopped at Portage Glacier and saw other glaciers and snow capped mountains- even though it was the last of June. We went to Homer where one of the Standard Oil Platforms had collapsed. That was quite a sight! We drove out on the Homer Spit to Land's End to the big lodge and fishing wharves where there were many campers. From there you can go to Kodiak and other islands by air or boat. We bought native jellies in Homer- low bush cranberry, rose hips, and salmon berry.

In Kenai, which is a town stretched for miles along the coast and highway, we visited a "foster daughter" and family. She stayed with us a lot when she was young. Her husband and three sons work on off-shore drilling rigs and son-in-law in related activities.

We tried to find some jade in this part of Alaska, but rock shops were few, let alone to find it in the rough. We did pick some interesting pebbles from the beach. These polish beautifully, as told to us by a rock hound friend there.

On the way back to Anchorage we drove the camper onto a flat car at Portage and rode to Whittier, through two long tunnels, then took the ferry to Valdez. On the way we passed a rookery where millions of birds had made nests. We also passed Columbia Glacier, which is seven stories high and covers hundreds of acres. The boat stopped to give us a good view, then revved the motors and blew the whistle, causing large ice bergs to crash

(continued)

RAMBERGS TO ALASKA(continued)

into the water, to be used for the seals for napping. Our ferry was very small along side this huge mountain of azure blue ice.

We camped near the foot of Valdez Glacier, near Valdez. This is the start of the controversial pipe line. It was the starting place for many miners who were heading North for gold-up the Abercrombie and Richardson Trails. It was destroyed in the 1969 earthquake, but this ice free port has been rebuilt into a thriving, modern city with an area of 274 square miles, which includes all surrounding mountains to the timberline, some rising 6000 feet- and 33 square miles of Chugach National Forest.

The pipeline starts at Valdez and Keystone Canyon with bedrock of graywacke and greenstone and was one of the most difficult parts of the construction. Here and there on the trip we spotted pipe line activity and pump stations.

Leaving Valdez on the Richardson Highway, Alaska's first highway, we went through magnificent Alpine scenery of the Chugach and Alaska Ranges, past numerous waterfalls, spectacular glaciers, emerging from the green spruce forest to the tundra line, where we crossed areas of perma frost, then down to crossing five big rivers. We had the pleasure of seeing one family that had been on the boat many times before getting back to Anchorage. Being vacuumed under a semi kept us in Anchorage another two weeks for repairs.

We left Anchorage on the modern, well-engineered George Parks Highway, running through some of the grandest and most rugged land Alaska has to offer. On many places, on a clear day, North America's highest peak, Mt. McKinley shows in the distance. The best spot was Mary's Mountain View Lodge-famous for pie and built by a school teacher. Jean bought the book for us that tells of her life in Alaska. We crossed 40 bridges, Hurrican Gulch, 550 feet long was most spectacular. We stopped many places to photograph snow covered mountains, reflecting lakes and unique bridges.

We had beautiful weather approaching the park, but the next day, on our way to the Summit in the Park Shuttle bus, we had dense fog so couldn't view the awe-inspiring mountain itself. We enjoyed the bus, which was the only way you are allowed past the camp sites-we stayed at Teklanika- The narrowness and steepness of the 97.6 road explains why. Building roads for all who come would be impossible. It's a beautiful drive with wild-life- bears, fox, coyote, dall sheep, and caribou seen from the bus, which stopped to let people take pictures.

Our daughter and granddaughter, who had accompanied us to the Park parted with us here. We stayed in a trailer park near Fairbanks, made in an old gold mine, with dredgeings all around us-we didn't find any gold though. That night we went to Malemute Saloon, a museum of gold-mining days, and heard the recitings of Robert Service Poetry. The record purchased there many years ago is now a collector's item. We had planned to visit friends in Fairbanks, but headed toward home instead-to the Border and a wayside campsite- then the 1200 miles of gravel and the beautiful scenery from the other side-our seventh trip on the Alcan and we enjoyed them all-Going Again.

GONE AGAIN-- We (Ramberg's) also took a trip to Western Montana to visit a niece at Darby. I spent a lot of time in the Hot Springs and Joel went fishing. The highlight of the trip was the week-end. We went to Lake Coco on Friday. Saturday we went to Painted Rocks Reservoir, which they have had to drain many times to repair the dam. We saw the Alta Pine, largest known and Alta Ranger Station, first one built. We wound around and climbed mountains to Horse Trail Hot Springs. We took a dip and had lunch before going on. We have been in many mountains, but never a wilderness area such as that. Words can't describe the awe-inspiring and breath-taking scenery high in these rugged mountains. We were happy that we met only four outfits on the mountain trip.

We reached The River of No Return (Salmon) and followed it to North Fork, where we camped. Donna's girls always like to go camping. On Sunday we stopped at some rock shops and purchased some beautiful agatized and opalized wood. We followed the twisting Salmon River to the Pass and Montana- Then descended to the Bitterroot River, past the Ski Resort and scars of bad forest fires. A wonderful week-end!!!!!! *Ida Mae -*

A great Big THANKS to BILL BURESH for taking over and editing the DIGGIN'S so we could go!