



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



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:

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Refreshments	Emma Fischer	501 S. 13th St.	Bismarck	223-4362

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 28 - 29, 1979

NEXT MEETING: October 7, 1979, 7:30 p.m. (Beginners' Class, 6:30 p.m.)

PROGRAM: "Gems and Minerals of North Dakota," (Club slide program)

LUNCH COMMITTEE: Ruby Jensen, Emma Richardson, and Emma Brady

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi, Everyone,

It certainly was nice to see such a large crowd at this past meeting. Not many were expected to show up because of the Labor Day holiday, but instead we had a record crowd.

My special thanks go to Blossomae Campbell for her program on the jewels and gems found in the priest's breastplate in the Old Testament. Judging from the interested faces of the club members, I expect to see a few of them attempting to duplicate the breastplate. Of course some substitution would have to be done for the rarer gems, but it certainly would be a challenging project.

I was happy to see a motion passed for a \$50 donation to the federation scholarship fund. With rising university costs, it's nice to see our club represented in even a small way in such a worthwhile cause.

A motion was also made to donate \$50 to Capital Electric Coop. They so generously allow us to use their meeting room free of charge for 12 meetings a year. I think in addition to the \$50, we should give them a big "Thank you" for a very clean, attractive meeting place.

Just a reminder of our Gem and Mineral Show at the end of this month, Sept. 28-29. I'd like to thank the people that have offered their help already. If everyone helps just a little bit, this saves a small group of people from having to do everything.

Also I can't stress enough our need for displays. Most of our members have some beautiful specimens, cabwork they've done, or just interesting things they've found on trips. These things should be displayed so that all can enjoy them.

September is going to be a busy month for all of us and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone or their display at our show. Also don't forget the Williston show Sept. 14-16. In the past it's been a show you wouldn't want to miss and I'm sure you won't be disappointed this year.

See you there!

H. A. Brady

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 26 12:00 noon, Channel 12, KXNB-TV, "Noon on 12"--Earle Campbell, Show Chairman, Publicizing the Annual Show
- Sept. 26 3:30 p.m., Channel 5, KFYR-TV, "Be Our Guest,"--Earle Campbell, Show Chairman, Publicizing the Annual Show
- Sept. 28-29 MANDAN, ND--NORTH DAKOTA'S FIFTH ANNUAL SHOW, CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY--Mandan Community Center
- Oct. 7 Bismarck, ND--7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting, Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society, Capital Electric Bldg., Highway 83 North of City

AT THE LAST MEETING--Sept. 2

Fifty-two members, eight children, and five guests were present at the September meeting.

The guests were Ken and Adele Johnson, Dena Lenhardt, and Donald Wandler, all of Bismarck; and Jane Lanz of Mandan.

Rod Hickie, Field Trip Chairman, reported that a field trip is being planned for October.

Earle Campbell, Show Chairman, reported that everything is in readiness for the Annual Show. He stated that a breakfast for the dealers will be held Saturday morning if arrangements can be made.

Bob Randall, Show Publicity Chairman, reported that he had show posters available and urged all members from towns outside the Bismarck-Mandan area to take posters and display them in appropriate areas in their respective towns. The Bismarck-Mandan area will be posted a week or so prior to the show.

President Brady reported that he had received several contributions to the hospital rock bank and he hoped that more will follow.

Members voted to donate \$50 to the RMTS Scholarship Fund and \$50 to the Capital Electric Coop. for the use of their facilities, with the suggestion that it be used toward the purchase of an amplifying system.

For the program, Blossomae Campbell gave a discourse on "Gems and Jewels of the Bible." She was assisted by her husband Earle, who read passages from the Bible relating to the jewels mentioned.

The door prize, a crazy lace heart pendant, donated by the Ed Muggli's, was won by Melvin Anderson.

Vina Anderson, Verna Giese, and Hilda Metcalf served on the Lunch Committee.

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NEW ADDRESS:

John & Cecelia Dosch  
Lot 2--South  
West Side Trailer Court  
Carrington, ND 58421

WILLISTON SHOW, by Mary Beth Osborn

Bob Randall's "Copper Minerals" and Blossomae Campbell's "Geodes" were among the thirty-five exhibits at the Williston Show on Sept. 14-16. As usual, Montana agate exhibits dominated the show. There were also a number of coin exhibits.

A local club member, Roy Schubert, was one of the eight dealers participating in the show.

In addition to the above mentioned Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society members, the following also attended the show: Harold, Emma, and Pat Brady; Pius and Emma Fischer; Don Campbell; Mary Beth and Patrick Osborn; Evert and Nettie Nelson; Frank Herr; Leo and Bertha Krank; Norman and Winifred Iverson; Alvin and Elsie Campbell; Ewald and Clara Muggli; Melvin and Viola Anderson; and Glenn Michaels.

Evert Nelson won one of the door prizes.

The show was sponsored jointly by the Williston Gem & Mineral Club and the Williston Coin Club.

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SEPTEMBER BIRTHSTONES

The September birthstone is sapphire ( $Al_2O_3$ ), a precious stone. A pure variety of transparent blue corundum (hardness, 9; sp. gr., 3.9-4.1), it is classified among the most valuable of gems. The chief localities of production are Siam, Kashmir, Ceylon, Montana and Australia. The Kashmir sapphires are supposed to be the best and are typically of the valued "Cornflower blue." The Ceylon varieties are paler; those from Montana have a metallic luster; and the Australian sapphires are of a dark blue shade approaching black. The terms yellow sapphire, purple sapphire, and green sapphire are used alternatively with Oriental topaz, Oriental amethyst, and Oriental emerald for other varieties of corundum. Like rubies of similar structure, some sapphires display a six-pointed star when cut to a round-topped cabochon shape and exposed to the direct sunlight.--via CHIPS FROM THE ROCKPILE, Sept. 1979, Pueblo (Col.) Rockhounds Club

DEALERS' BREAKFAST

A breakfast for show dealers will be held this year on Saturday morning, Sept. 29, according to Show Chairman, Earle Campbell.

Club members who wish to partake of the breakfast should purchase their tickets at the club booth on Friday, so that a definite count may be available for the cooks. The price of the tickets has not yet been received from the Community Center manager.

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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Three of the guests present at the September meeting have joined the Society. They are:

Dena Lenhardt, 316 W. Ingals,  
Bismarck, ND 58501 223-2634  
Merle and Jane Lanz, 600 - 13th St. NW.,  
Mandan, ND 58554 663-8621  
Ronald and Mariann Wandler, 336 Shady  
Lane, Bismarck, ND 255-4947

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ABERDEEN SHOW

Wilma Hilgemann, a member of the Lakota Glacier Rock Club of Aberdeen, SD, and also a member of Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society, was in attendance at the September meeting and extended an invitation to everyone to attend the South Dakota State Show, which was held in Aberdeen, SD on Sept. 8-9.

No report has been received to date about this show. Unfortunately, there was a local conflict for those here that would have otherwise attended. It is hoped that the Lakota Glacier Rock Club had another very successful show.

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THIS-N-THAT

Two members who have been hospitalized recently were able to attend the September meeting. Ted Giese was back to serve as secretary after back surgery; and Ida Mae Bamberg was back after tests in Fargo with the welcome report that surgery will not be necessary. We wish them both continued recovery from their recent health problems.

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Pius and Emma Fischer are going to be missed at the show this year. After a trip to Oregon, they will be helping friends move to Florida during show time.

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The editors have a new telephone number as well as a new address. They may be reached at 44 Captain Marsh Drive, Mandan, ND 58554 or tele. # 663-5397.

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WANTED

MORE EXHIBITS  
Bill Buresh--663-5397

SWAPPING MATERIAL  
"TOUCH AND SEE" MATERIAL  
PETRIFIED WOOD FOR "GIVEAWAYS"

Duane Robey--225-0576

SILENT AUCTION MATERIAL  
Ed & Katherine Muggli-348-3103

Bring these items to the show.  
Call if you have questions.

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CLUB SHOW DETAILS

Show Chairman Earle Campbell states that he will be at the Mandan Community Center at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27, to prepare for the show. He asks as many members as possible to come to the Mandan Community Center to help with setting up dealers' booths and display tables. Members may bring their exhibits at this time for setting up as soon as the tables have been readied.

Club members are urged to "talk up" the show as much as possible. "Attendance at this year's shows has been noticeably smaller. We would like our show to be an exception," says Campbell.



TOURMALINE CABOCHONS

Good quality tourmaline that is free of flaws and suitable for facet cutting is not too common, and commands a high price. Tourmaline often occurs in good quality so far as color is concerned, but often the crystal is full of flaws.

Material that is unsuited for facet cutting can be used for cabochon cutting with good effect. Small bicolored crystals, where the colors meet in such a position as to permit finishing a cabochon showing equal portions of color, are especially attractive. Ordinary flaws in the material do not detract from the appearance of the finished stone so long as the tourmaline is of reasonably good color.

Some types of green tourmaline exhibit a fibrous structure and this material will frequently yield desirable cabochon stones, which present a cat's-eye effect. In addition to the various styles of cabochon stones which can be cut from flawed tourmaline, the rough fragments can often be worked into desirable material, by smoothing and polishing. These polished fragments can be drilled and used in necklaces and other mountings. --via THE CYCAD, Sept. 1979, Picture City Gem & Mineral Soc., Hot Springs, SD

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TALES TOLD BY LAVA

One winter day in 1943, a Mexican farmer named Polido was plowing his cornfield. Suddenly the ground shook and began to crack. Out came clouds of steam and cinders. Then large, hot stones shot up into the air.

The farmer stopped plowing and ran into the village. "There's a fire monster in the ground!" he told the people. "It is breathing out steam, ashes and stones that are falling upon my field!"

Polido's "fire monster" really was a new volcano. It was made by hot rock called lava, which had formed as a "pocket" far below the earth's surface. At first the pocket was not truly molten, but was thick and doughy. In fact, we call such

material magma, from the ancient word that means "dough." Magma turns into lava when it erupts, or comes out of the ground.

Although the magma formed far below the surface, it began to work its way upward. Up . . . up . . . up it went, pushing and eating its way through the rocks that covered it. At last the pocket of magma lay only a few hundred feet under Polido's cornfield.

No one knows just how long this took or exactly how it happened. We do know that the magma became softer and softer as it came nearer and nearer the surface. It also took in, or absorbed, a great deal of water, which was turned into steam. The pocket resembled a huge, overheated boiler that was ready to explode.

Explosions came as soon as the ground cracked open. Molten rock was blown into ashes and cinders, which came out of the crack in clouds that looked like black smoke. Steam also blew out lumps of lava which hardened as they sailed through the air. At night those lumps of lava glowed like red balls of fire.

When the cinders and ashes fell to the ground, they built a cone-shaped hill that rapidly grew into a mountain. Lava ran out of cracks on its sides, and flowed from other cracks that opened in the ground. The molten rock covered roads, fields, and even buildings before it cooled and turned into stone.--From the book, "Rocks and Their Stories," via LAKOTA PEBBLES, Sept. 1979, Lakota Glacier Rock Club, Aberdeen, SD.

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NOTICE TO PEBBLE PUPS

Three Timex display cases with lights and rotating capability are available on loan for the show, courtesy of JohnN Dosch and Ida Mae Ramberg. If you are interested, call Bill Buresh at 663-5397.

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ARE YOU SAVING STAMPS FOR THE CLUB STAMP PROJECT ? ? ?