

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

FIRST CLASS

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



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, 1982:

President	Rod Hickle	Center	794-3342
Vice President	William A. Buresh	44 Capt. Marsh Dr. Mandan	663-5397
Secretary	Ted Giese	Rt. 1, Box 83 New Salem	843-7005
Treasurer	Ronald P. Wandler	336 Shady Lane Bismarck	255-4947
Chairmen:	Program Blossomae Campbell	1134 N. 28th St. Bismarck	255-3658
	Hospitality Mary Beth Osborn	310-12th Ave. NW Mandan	663-1056
Clip stamp on reverse side	Field Trip Melvin Anderson	1521 LaForest Ave. Bismarck	223-3558
	Annual Show Jane Lanz	600-13th St. NW Mandan	663-8621
	OTHER APPOINTMENTS, 1982:		
	Bulletin Ed. Gen Buresh	44 Capt. Marsh Dr. Mandan	663-5397
	Early Class Harold Brady	1401 Sunny Road Mandan	663-3903
	Federation Rep. Bill Buresh	44 Capt. Marsh Dr. Mandan	663-5397
	Greeter Carol Hickle	Center	794-3342
	Librarian-Hist. Glenn Michaels	1700 N. 4th St. Bismarck	258-8417
	Parliamentarian Al Hartl	1111 North 1st St. Bismarck	258-0761
	Publicity Edna Mausehund	Rt. 2, Box 30 Linton	782-4291
	Stamp Chr. Blossomae Campbell	1134 N. 28th St. Bismarck	258-3658

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. 24 - 25, 1982

DIGGINS FROM DAKOTA

Vol. 17, No. 9

September 1982

NEXT MEETING: 7:30 P.M., October 3, 1982; (Early Class, 6:30 P.M.)

PROGRAM: "Paleontology in North Dakota," Slide Show prepared and to be presented by the North Dakota Paleontological Society

LUNCH COMMITTEE: Clara Muggli, Agnes Boyd, and Edna Mausehund

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Club Members,

Our annual show is only about a week away. Are you ready?

Our theme this year is "Gems and Minerals on Parade," so let's get on the band wagon and get our cases ready, offer our help to the many committee chairmen, and tell our friends and neighbors about the show and invite them to attend.

If we all work together, this can be our best show yet!

Also be thinking about next year. The Executive Board met after the September business meeting to select the Show Committee for 1983.

Rodney Hickie, President

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 17-19 Denver, CO--Rocky Mountain Federation Show, Merchandise Mart,
I-25 and 58th Ave., Denver, CO
- Sept. 17-19 Williston, ND--Williston Rock & Mineral Club's 16th Annual Show
- SEPT. 24-25 MANDAN, ND--NORTH DAKOTA'S EIGHTH ANNUAL SHOW, "GEMS AND MINERALS ON
PARADE," MANDAN COMMUNITY CENTER, sponsored by the Central Dakota
Gem and Mineral Society. Show Chairman: Jane Lanz,
600 - 13th St. NE, Mandan, ND 58554
- Oct. 1-3 St. Paul, MN--Upper Midwest Lapidary Assn., Annual Gem & Mineral Show,
Minnesota State Fairgrounds
- Oct. 3 Bismarck, ND--7:30 P.M. Regular Meeting, Central Dakota Gem & Mineral
Society, Capital Electric Building, Highway 83 North of Bismarck
- Oct. 9-10 Great Falls, MT--Arrowhead Faceters Club, 5th Annual "Big Sky Faceters
Gem Show," Heritage Inn
- Oct. 16-17 Grand Island, NE--Grand Island Earth Science Society, Inc., Annual
Gem and Mineral Show, Fonner Park
- Oct. 23-24 Roseville, MN--Anoka County Gem and Mineral Club, 3rd Annual Show
at Rosedale Center
- Nov. 12-14 St. Louis Park, MN--Minnetonka Mineral Club, 2nd Annual Show, at
Knollwood Shopping Center

1983

- Feb. 11-13 Tucson, AZ--Tucson Gem & Mineral Society, Inc., 29th Annual Show,
at Tucson Community Center

AT THE LAST MEETING--Sept. 12, 1982

The meeting was called to order by President Rodney Hickle, with all officers present. A moment of silence was observed in honor of former member Joel Ramberg, who passed away since our last meeting.

The following Committee Chairmen gave brief reports:

Blossomae Campbell, Program Chairman, announced the programs for the rest of the year: October--"Paleontology in North Dakota," Slide Show by North Dakota Paleontological Society;
November--Silent Auction
December--Christmas Dinner

Glenn Michaels, Historian, showed a sample of a book with several kinds of inserts for possible use for the club scrapbook. A motion was made and passed for him to purchase the book and needed inserts.

Jane Lanz, Show Chr., reported that the Show Committee and sub-committee chairmen met on Sept. 1. Everything appears to be in order except for more workers to sign up for the various work stations.

Betty Mautz, Cookie/Coffee Bar Committee, asked volunteers to sign up for two-hour shifts, with two workers for each shift. Cookies, bars, or cash to buy goodies will also be welcomed.

Emma Brady, Ticket Chr., also asked the editor to request volunteers for the ticket booth.

Bill Buresh, Show Exhibit Chr., reminded members that a work committee would start preparing dealer booths and exhibit tables at 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, Sept. 23. Tables will also be "skirted" at this time. Extra workers will mean a shorter work day.

Edna Mausehund, Silent Auction Chr., and Duane Robey, Swap Chr., also discussed those areas and requested volunteers to help. Duane also solicited for specimens for the "Touch and See" table.

Jane Lanz, Show Chr., announced that the committee could use more door prizes. She asked that these be turned in to Gen Buresh, who is chairman for door prizes and voting for "Best of Show" cases.

(The committee hopes to have sufficient prizes to draw names each hour.)

Carol Hickle, Greeter, announced that 31 adult members and 7 juniors attended the meeting, with 17 adults and 3 juniors present for the pre-session. Guests included Keith Brady; and Calvin and Arlene Henry, Bismarck.

Pres. Rod Hickle reminded members that a policy had been approved in May, 1981 that a book be purchased for the library rather than sending flowers at the time of death of a member. The Librarian was instructed to select a book to be purchased in honor of Joel Ramberg.

At the suggestion of the editor, the club approved donating the space for the recent ads in the "Diggin's" for the sale of lapidary material and equipment of two deceased members, Stanley Fairaizl and Emil Hilken.

Door prize winners were Duane Robey, who won a Brazilian agate necklace donated by Norman Mautz; and Patrick Osborn, who won the junior door prize, a necklace with a cross.

President Rod Hickle called attention of members to several interesting articles in the magazine, Gems and Minerals, distributed this month. Of particular interest were "Beauty in Faceted Stone Display," showing a case arrangement; and "Gold on Silver: Making a Belt Buckle with Lots of Class," by Tom Harmon of Crane, Mont.

For the Early Class, Blossomae Campbell spoke on the topic, "How to Prepare a Show Case," discussing background, use of color in both case lining and stones, selection of exhibit material, sizes of specimens, crowding, and lighting. She also showed slides of cases taken at shows, showing both good features and things to be avoided.

The regular program consisted of a slide show, "Knife River Indian Village," prepared by the Theo. Roosevelt Nature and History Assoc. It shows the culture of the three tribes in the Knife R. area--the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara.

Lunch was served by Verna Giese, Gen Buresh, and Mary Beth Osborn. A 3-lb. can of coffee was donated by Al Hartl.

IN MEMORIAM

Joel B. Ramberg, 79, 1325 North 15th Street, Bismarck, ND, died on August 25, 1982 at St. Alexius Hospital. Joel was a retired farmer of the Tioga area.

Born August 6, 1903 in Brainerd, MN, he moved with the family in 1905 to the Tioga area, where his parents homesteaded.

Joel married Ida Mae Jensen, an area teacher, on May 7, 1932. They set up farming operations near Tioga and lived there until 1954 when they moved to Bismarck.

As a charter member of Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society, Joel attended many of the club functions with Ida Mae.

Survivors include his wife, Ida Mae; two daughters, Mrs. Clair (Lola) Huwe, Bismarck, and Mrs. Carl (Jean) Bartels, Anchorage, Alaska; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three brothers, Laurence, George, and Ernest, all of Tioga.

The sincere sympathy of the members of Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society is extended to the family.

1983 SHOW COMMITTEE SELECTED

Rodney Hickie, President, has advised the editor that the following persons were appointed to serve on the 1983 Show Committee: Jane Lanz, Chairman; Harold Brady; and Norman Mautz.

The committee members were chosen at an Executive Board meeting held on September 12 following the regular business meeting.

SHOW EXHIBITS 1982

It's that time of year again--SHOW TIME. The Mandan Community Center will be available and open at 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, September 23. I will be there with a hammer and other supplies that will be needed to set up tables and booths for the dealers and exhibitors. Carol Hickie will bring the plywood for the risers, and I hope that at least a dozen of the rest of the members will come at that time to get things ready for the show--the more the merrier!

You may also bring your case at that time and claim a spot.

Bill Buresh,
1982 Show Exhibits Chairman

THIS-N-THAT

Rosella O'Neill is hospitalized in the Bismarck hospital following a heart attack. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Delegates Bob and Sue Randall are on their way to Denver for the RNFMS Regional Show, where Bob is entering a case of Thumbnaill Minerals in the competitive class. Alternates, Melvin and Viola Anderson went early to visit their daughter in Denver before the show. Andersons transported the Club Case which will be displayed in the Hall of States at the Show.

TRIP TO THE NORTHWEST FEDERATION SHOW,
POCATELLO, IDAHO--August 20-22, 1982,
with Ewald, Clara, and Holly Muggli

Our week-long trip to the Northwest Federation Show at Pocatello, Idaho and side trips was enjoyable even though the weather was extremely hot. Our trip to Idaho led us through Yellowstone Park, with the trip from Livingston, Mont. to Gardiner being especially interesting to us because we have always taken another route to the Park.

At Idaho Falls we stopped at the Spencer Opal Mines Shop. We did not intend to go out to the mine but did purchase a little opal. We expected it to be a much larger place than it was. From Idaho Falls we drove out to the Craters of the Moon. This volcanic region is a must for everyone to see if they are at all interested in geology.

In the desolate area out of Idaho Falls the government is doing a lot of testing of nuclear power. We toured one place which was the first one built, in 1951. It was not in operation but it was much the same design as the one on Three Mile Island but on a smaller scale. They were not producing energy for use, but the large area was called a National Reactor Testing Station Site.

We arrived at Pocatello on Friday, August 20th to see the show. The attendance on Friday was not that good, but on Saturday they had a good attendance even though the Hindome was not air-conditioned, and the temperature was 95° and 97° those days. They had a number of very good demonstrations, of which the wood and metal inlay, scrimshaw, wood carving, chain making, and rock painting appealed to us the most. There was also a garnet mine at the show where you could pick out garnets as you would sapphires when you buy a bucket of material. It seemed that the two big things featured at the show were fire opals and Bruneau Jasper, both of which were outstanding material, and many cases of both were shown.

The trading area was small and the silent auction not very active. The auction material was from clubs of the Federation and the funds were given to the Scholarship Fund.

On Sunday we drove to Jackson and toured the Grand Teton National Park. Leaving the Park, we drove through Dubois, Wyoming and were able to purchase some Wiggins Wood. The area for collecting this wood is now closed, and people who have picked up a few pieces in the streams have been heavily fined. The shop where we purchased a piece of local petrified wood had very little to sell.

We planned our travels to go through Riverton, Wyoming because we wanted to stop at a large business which dealt exclusively with jade when we toured there a few years ago. It has gone out of business, but we did stop at the Prairie Gems shop, and they also deal in jade. The jade work done on small pieces and on large slabs was outstanding.

At Greybull, Wyoming we again visited one of our favorite museums. The fossils and rocks there are ones which we have enough knowledge about to thoroughly enjoy.

All the places we toured in Wyoming were experiencing an extremely dry and hot summer. In addition, most shop owners reported that the tourist trade was worse than it had been for many years.

Arriving home, we turned our thoughts to the advice given by a Park ranger when he said that many tourists plan twelve events for one day. Instead, he said that to make a trip more enjoyable, one should plan one or two things each day and take your time at those.

Clara Muggli

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FAMOUS FOSSIL: Kevin Birchfield didn't realize he'd become famous when he took a walk on his family's farm last spring in Seaman, Ohio. While walking along a creek the 8th-grader said he just looked down and saw a 10½-inch fossil trilobite lying in the creek. It was estimated by Smithsonian Institution that the fossil is 220 to 450 million years old. Typical trilobite fossils measure from ¼-inch to 4 inches long. A geology instructor at Shawnee State College said the odds of finding such a large trilobite fossil are probably one out of a trillion.

From Arkansas Rockhound

Via S.I.E.S. Club News

MINNESOTA FIELD TRIP---Aug. 14-15

By Mel Anderson, Field Trip Chr.

On Thursday afternoon, August 12th, the Randalls and Mel Andersons left Bismarck and traveled to the Buffalo River State Park in Minn., where we stayed over night. The next day we went on east to an area near Barnum and Cloquet, Minn., where we spent most of the day looking for Lake Superior agates. Hunting was slow and Vi was the only one lucky enough to find a fair-sized stone. The rest of us had to settle for a few small pieces of agate. That evening we stayed at the City Campground in Cloquet.

On Sunday we stopped for a short time in Duluth and then drove up along the North Shore to Grand Marais. While we were checking in at the City Campground, we happened to see Merle and Jane Lanz, so we found out where they and Ray Jensens were staying in the camp. The camp was crowded, but we managed to get space in the overflow section.

That evening the four of us were invited over to the Lanz-Jensen hideout to enjoy their campfire and some delicious popcorn. We also heard about their stay in Winnipeg and about their travels on east into Canada to Thunder Bay and then s. to Grand Marais. They had already been to the Thomsonite mine for a short time before we arrived.

On Sunday we spent part of the morning at the Thomsonite beach south of Grand Marais looking for loose gemstones in the beach gravel. In the afternoon the Randalls and Andersons spent several hours in the mine, digging and pounding and always looking for that special gemstone. We soon realized that rock mining was too much for us retired people, so we loaded up our finds and returned to Grand Marais.

Sunday evening Andersons and Randalls celebrated Bob and Sue's 41st wedding anniversary by going out for dinner. We had a very enjoyable meal at a quaint old restaurant that had originally been a fur trader's home in the early 1900s.

On Monday the Andersons left to visit relatives at Silver Bay and near Gooseberry Falls before returning to Bismarck on Friday.

The Randalls toured the northern iron fields near Ely before heading home.

It is rumored that the Lanzas and Jensens spent some time and money at an interesting rock shop in Little Beaver, Minn., on their way home to North Dakota.

We hope that there will be another Minnesota trip next year and that a larger number of club members will be able to participate.

* * * *

THOMSONITES; were named in 1820 by Thomas Thomson, a Scottish chemistry professor, who published a description and chemical analysis of the mineral in 1820. Known by other names, they were called "Good-luck Stone," and British sailors carried them for that reason. Minnesota Indians called them the "Gem of Many Eyes," and they used them for ornaments and trade.

Thomsonites were formed when surface waters mixed with chemicals, acids, and gases filled gas bubble cavities in basaltic lava along the shore of Lake Superior. The "eyes" formed from the fine compacted chemical composition, causing radiating masses of needlelike crystals. Copper played a part in their varied coloration.

About 90% of the world's supply of Thomsonite is found on 10 acres of land near Grand Marais, Minn. Interestingly, these gemstones are found no farther than two miles from Lake Superior, which indicates that they appeared on the surface of the earth after most glacial activity was over, about 11,000 years ago.

LINTONITE: is a form of Thomsonite that is translucent green in color. Miss Laura Linton painstakingly made the chemical analysis and is honored to be the first American woman to have a gemstone named for her. --Adapted from ROCKHOUND NEWS and PEBBLE PUSHER via THE GEO-LOGIC, 10-82

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Learn from the mistakes of others, you don't live long enough to make them all yourself.
(Strata Gems)

ASBESTOS

The silk-like fibers of asbestos are so flexible that they can be spun into threads. They are fireproof, acidproof, and very resistant to electricity and heat. The silky fiber is a chrysotile variety of serpentine found in veins of green rock.

A variety found in South Africa is blue asbestos, which when oxidized to brown colors by silica is the tiger-eye, which also has splintery fibers that make it hard to cut.

In ancient times the Romans used asbestos for lamp wicks and wove it into cremation cloths, which were purified in fire.

In 1725 Ben Franklin owned a purse, a curiosity made and woven from the silky mineral fibers of asbestos. --from
ROCK CHIPS by Olive Breau, via THE CYCAD 9-82

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CHALCEDONY

The mineral chalcedony occurs in almost every county of every state in America, and no two forms are ever alike.

The chalcedony family includes all of the quartz members--amethyst, topaz, Herkimer diamond and many more--as well as agates, jasper, opal, petrified wood, tiger eye, flint, and chert. All except the opal have a hardness of 7 on Moh's scale and are extremely durable.

The agate forms of chalcedony are translucent and include banded, fortification, sagenite, dendritic, and moss or plume types. The opaque members include jaspers, flint, and chert. --from GATES
ROCKHOUND & GEMS & MINERALS OF AMERICA by Jay Ranson, via THE CYCAD 9-82

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"Don't you know what a red light means?" blustered the cop to a woman driver.

"Certainly do," said the student nurse. "It means 'Hurry up with the bedpan.'"

BOOKS

By Russell MacFall

For too many years all of us interested in fossils have felt the need for an up-to-date and relatively comprehensive book as the newly published Pictorial Guide to Fossils, by Gerard R. Case. While it does not entirely supplant the overaged Index Fossils of North America by Shimer and Schrock, it far surpasses that reference book in pictorial quality, widened scope by including vertebrate fossils, and use of modern terminology.

Case, a resident of Jersey City, has been engaged for a number of years in paleontological research with fossil sharks as his specialty and has written intensively in the general field. From this experience he has made the contacts both in the United States and abroad that have enabled him to bring together the 1,300 excellent photographs and line drawings that illustrate his systematic description of the invertebrates from the minute protozoa to the giant family of the arthropods as well as the plants, and then to the fishes, reptiles and mammals that have carried on the vertebrate line. The brachiopods, trilobites and insects, many of the latter in amber, are particularly well represented. Among vertebrates, the dinosaurs as well as some of the mammals that roamed the earth after them are extensively discussed and pictured.

Now that many of the American Federation clubs are more closely involved with fossils, this book would appear to be an indispensable reference work for their libraries.

It is published by the Van Nostrand Reinhold Company in a large format volume of 514 pages, priced at \$29.95. --AFMS NEWSLETTER, 9-82

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NEW MEMBERS--Please add these names to your list:

61. Henry, Calvin/Arlene 223-0887
1214 N. 17th St., Bismarck, ND 58501