

# CENTRAL MICHIGAN ROCKHOUND NEWS



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Affiliated with the Midwest Federation.  
Meeting Place; East Lansing's new High School, Room A 132.  
Third Thursday of each month except July and August.  
Dues; \$2.00 annually. Students under 18 years \$1.00 annually.

OFFICERS

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\* \* \* THE WICHITA SHOW CASE \* \* \*

This summer we visited Mr. C. M. Woolf, President of the Kalamazoo Gem and Mineral Society. He had a display case called "The Wichita Show Case" which impressed me very much and which we think some of our own members might be interested in for displaying their own specimens.

The plan is borrowed from "Quarry Quips" published by the Wichita Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. It is outlined below. Perhaps some of you might wish to make a couple for yourself. Or possibly some enterprising member with carpenter or cabinet-making instincts would offer to build them for other members - at a price!!!

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To fill the need for a low-priced case which every member could own, and to provide a standardized appearance for society shows, the Wichita show case was developed. The case consists of a glass top, masonite bottom, high back panel, low front panel and two side pieces slanted from front to back. Construction details are given as though the case were in its horizontal show position. White pine, white fir or spruce is acceptable.

A 1" x 12" board 14 ft. long will make three cases with no waste if properly cut. Saw this into three boards 23-3/4" long for the sides of the case, and into three boards 30-3/4" long for the fronts and backs. The board must be cut on a saw that cuts absolutely square. Now split the 23-3/4" boards diagonally from one end to the other in such a manner that the larger or back end of each board will be 7-3/4" wide on the inside face of the back panel, and 3-3/4" wide on the inside face of the front panel. All sides should now be grooved for the glass and the masonite. 1/8" non-tempered masonite is used. The glass is 24 x 30" double strength window glass, single strength is too flimsy for the lie-down case.

The groove should be 1/4" for the masonite and 7/16" for the glass. The masonite groove should clear the bottom of each panel 1/4". The glass groove should open at the top to allow the glass to drop in, or to be slid in. Groove in ends of front and back boards 3/8" for the side boards to join the front and back. Put front and two sides together, slide in masonite, then put on back. The glass drops into the 7/16" groove on top. Ten screws, size 8 x 1, hold the case together, three on each side of the back, and two on each side of the front.

Use no glue as it is designed for quick disassembly for transportation or storage. It can be painted, stained, or varnished. Brass corner strips or pieces of wood may be added to the top edge of the back and front to hold the glass in place if desired.

This case may also be used upright in the home. The original back then becomes the bottom and shelves are fitted in. These shelves are 5-3/4", 4-3/4" and 3-3/4" deep by 29" long and are set on 1/8" set in bored holes, Thus the shelves can be removed quickly and the pins pulled out so the case can be used for flat display.

Variations of the above can be used to please.

\* \* \* \* THE SPRINGFIELD CONVENTION \* \* \* \*

The distance from Lansing to Springfield, Ohio is 240 miles! It is just about a six hour trip when traffic is reasonably heavy and with time out for lunch. We, the Kreps left home just after noon and reached the fair grounds where the convention was held at about seven. We set up our tent and got camp organized, got a light lunch and still had time to get over to the convention hall, get registered, and take a quick look around at the displays and the dealer booths.

We quickly found the display cabinet of our club and were well pleased with the material that our members had sent down and with the way Rev. McMillian and Mr. and Mrs. Dravenstadt had arranged and displayed it. The best we could get was an "Honorable Mention", but that was not because our display was poor, but because some of the others were super. We took a dozen or more pictures of various prize-winning cases and later found out that our flash wasn't synchronized with the camera, and not one picture was good.

The Michigan Lapidary Society of Detroit walked off with top honors. I can say they well earned it. Their displays were very beautiful. Our friends in Jackson won second and third place. Our congratulations to them! Looking forward to other conventions and other shows, I think each member of our club should resolve to do a little better - to improve his or her present best. Maybe we can get up there among the winners another time.

Thirty one dealers were present at the show I noted that they seemed crowded with "lookers" at least, but I am sure they also had many buyers. I finally broke down and bought a mineralight and we then had a lot of fun swapping rocks with other rockhounds from all over. I was lucky in finding a rockhound from New Jersey and was able to trade him out of some nice Franklin, N. J. fluorescent stones. I think we had our best luck swapping Petoskey stones and Anthraconite. Swapping was heavy during the entire convention, and everyone seemed to have a good time.

At the business meeting, Bob Markert of Ishpeming was elected President of the Midwest Federation. Harry Sprague of the Saginaw Valley Club was chosen Vice President. I think the Association is most fortunate in having two such capable and enthusiastic go-getters to head the association. Particularly since the 1960 Convention is to be held in Ishpeming, and the 1961 Convention is to be held in Saginaw and sponsored by the Saginaw Valley Club.

Our Midwest Association is also fortunate because our very capable secretary Bernice Refior, our Treasurer Orville Fether, and our Historian Ben Hur Wilson all consented to serve another term, and were unanimously re-elected.

Now our own club must not fail to put its shoulder to the wheel and offer whatever assistance we can in helping with the work of the Conventions. Michigan is favored in having the two men mentioned above, and also Floyd Mortenson of Pontiac representing us in the Midwest Federation.

The show will run from Saturday noon to 9:00 p.m. Sunday. The displays will have to be in place by 11:00 p.m. Friday evening. There will be two of the best dealers of the state on hand. There is no entry fee for exhibitors. Admission charge to the public will be 25¢. Proceeds go to the Tri-County Society for use in the 1961 Midwest Federation Convention in Saginaw at the Fairgrounds.  
G. Kirkby.

\* \* \* FIELD TRIP CONVENTION \* \* \*

The 20th Annual Convention of the Midwest Federation will be held July 1, 2, 3, and 4, 1960 at Ishpeming, Mich. The Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club's "NEWS" "THE JASPELITE" announces that there will be chuck wagon lunches, barber shop and community singing, outdoor bonfire and barbecue, evening programs, trading and swapping and special collecting trips to:

Iron Mountain and Iron River Area:

Rhodochrosite XLS, Hausmanite XLS, Dolomite marble, Feldspar with mica Hematite XLS.

Copper Country

Datulite, Copper, Silver, Prehnite, Agate, Sausserite, Chlorastrolites

Ironwood:

Manganite XLS, Manganite massive, Aragonite, Goethite, Calcite, Needle ore

There will be more news later about the 1960 convention. This is already enough news to make us drool. Rocks and fun! So, Ishpeming, Here we come!

G. Kirkby.

\* \* \* \* CRAFT AND HOBBY GUILD SHOW \* \* \* \*

The Annual Craft and Hobby Guild Show will be held at the Civic Center, November 12, 13, and 14. Admission free. Noon until 10:00 p.m. daily. All rock hound Club members are invited to attend.

\* \* \* THE FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPORTS \* \* \*

A FIELD TRIP, Saturday, October 17 will go to Bellevue, Mich. The place will be the old Cheney Quarry. Leave Lansing any time you can from 8:00 until noon. Go into the old quarry just south of Highway 78, about one quarter mile west of Bellevue. Marcasite and Pyrite to be found here.

The Maumee-Woodville trip was a success. About 10 members and 10 guests drove to Maumee and Woodville, Sunday, September 27. Some nice calcite crystals and nealumus fossils were found..

Will each of you who have had success on a private collecting trip either this past summer or before, please write up the detailed directions on how to get there and what you found and mail it to the field trip chairman.

There's an announcement in the Bulletin regarding an open house given by Norm and Dolly Kunkel. We would appreciate more invitations from other members of the club to an "open house" during the fall and winter monthw.

If you would like to invite your fellow members to your home please call me - the chairman - IV 5-6947. Any time, October thru March.

Joe Krepps, Chairman.

Dear Club Member,

Remember, our Rock Club is organized for you. How can you get the most out of it? By taking an active part in our meetings. Bring your favorite finds to show off. Visit with your fellow members. A few minutes before and after meetings will allow you to make new friends among your fellow Rock Hounds.

We want to give you the kind of meetings and programs you'll enjoy and benefit from. If we please you, tell us so. If we don't, tell us that too. Tell us how we could make our club better and more interesting.

If you want to swap rocks, let the editor know. He'll list your name in the bulletin. If you have a collection you'd like others to stop and see tell that to him too. We'd like to have a list in the rock hound news.

If you know of a good collecting spot, will you write about it for the news, or tell us about that interesting experience you had? In short, you'll get enjoyment out of the club in proportion to the enthusiasm you put into it.

Yours for Better Rock Hounding, Leon North, President.

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OPEN HOUSE

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Norm and Dolly Kunkel, 435 Durand St., East Lansing are inviting the adult members (senior hi and up) to their home, Sunday Night, October 25, or Sunday Night Nov. 1 at 7:00 o'clock.

A full length moving picture in color, taken last July and August - "THE PEOPLE OF THE ALPS" will be shown. Refreshments too. Choose either night most convenient to you, but call before you come by the Friday night preceding each date - ED 7-9338. Accomodations are limited. (Durand Street is at the end of the Boulevard in East Lansing, opposite the SUNOCO oil station)

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\* \* \* GEM AND MINERAL SHOW HIT OF THE FAIR PROGRAM \* \* \*

(From the "News Letter" of the Tri-County Rock and Mineral Society)

One of the most succesful Gem and Mineral shows ever sponsored in the State of Michigan was held Sept. 13-19 at the Saginaw County Fair. Visitors from 25 states and 33 societies were present. 474 people from 127 cities and towns in Michigan and parties from five states signed the register requesting information about the hobby.

We are proud of the Tri-County Rock and Mineral Spociety for their work in sponsoring such a fine show. Our club won third place in fossils in individual displays. Sweepstake ribbons were awarded to all club displays.

The Saginaw Fair Management, through Mr. Clarence Harnden, the manager, has offered the Tri-County Rock and Mineral Society the use of the 4-H Club building, display cases and \$100.00 in prizes if they will sponsor a novice competition in November. The Society has accepted the offer and as soon as a date is announced when the building will be available, invitations will be sent to all societies in the state to invite their members to compete. The only stipulated rule for entries will be that the entrant has never entered a competitive display before.

INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING AUCTION. READ CAREFULLY

1. Each members ia asked to bring one or more of the following items to be donated for the auction;:
  - 1) Specimens of gems or minerals - mounted or unmounted.
  - 2) Cutting material - slabbed or rough
  - 3) Fossils - young or old
2. All donations are to be of good quality material, something which will really sell, something you would be proud to have your name on. Don't take the best specimens from your case. Just bring your spare.
3. Use the attached Auction Form (on the preceding page) for one of your specimens. If you need additional forms, you can have them at the meeting when you turn in your specimens or donations.
4. To be eligible for one of the door prizes, you must be present. The numbers of all members will be placed in a tumbler and drawn one at a time until the winners are picked
5. Finally: Don't forget your pocket book or change!!! COME EARLY!!!!

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\*\*\* THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS \*\*\*

We Wish to Welcome the Following New Members:

- No. 164 Harvey Eustron - R.1 Okemo (FE 9-2300)
- 165 Joseph Bezdik - 2030 Raby Rd. East Lansing (ED 7-7268)
- 166 Gerald Pearson - 319 S. Magnolia, Lansing (IV 4-0371)
- 167 Jan Elaine Pearson - 319 S. Magnolia, Lansing (IV 4-0371)
- 168 Saleem Horaney - 1435 Corbett, Lansing (IV 4-4986)
- 169 Gordon Fisher - 619 Community St., Lansing (IV 4-4081)
- 170 Mrs. Calvin Fisher - 619 Community St., Lansing (IV 4-4081)
- 171 Deborah L. Eversole - 609 N. Penna. Av., Lansing (IV 5-0403)
- 172 Gardner S. Eversole - 609 N. Penna. Av., Lansing (IV 5-0403)

Special Bonus Offer

One beautiful box of mounted mineral specimens will be offered to the Club Member who is responsible for digging out, persuading, and introducing at the meeting the greatest number of dues paying members. (These must be members who were not at the September meeting - and they must testify that they were really dug out and persuaded)

October Birthdays

Donald Langham	Oct. 23	Grace Shappell	Oct. 24	Ruth Quinn	Oct. 31
Merrill Payne	Oct. 7	Pete Jameson	Oct....	Murlowe Stuck	Oct. 18
Norman Kunkel	Oct. 4	Chlore Morris	Oct. 1	Joseph Bezdek	Oct. 4

There are two birthstones for the month of October - Opal for hope and Tourmaline for wisdom. Opal is a common mineral and occurs in many varieties. Some are not attractive at all while others are the most beautiful and costly of mineral specimens. Many different types of Opal are to be found in our western states. Tourmaline is also a very common mineral and is often associated with granite. The black variety is very common in New York, Maine, New Jersey and California. It also comes in green, pink, deep red and blue.

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We have pins with the Mid-West Federation Emblem for sale. Price 50¢ mens or ladies. Also several car emblems for sale.