

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a thrill to see so many participating in making a success of our 11th annual show, "Minerals on the Move!" Thursday afternoon everyone was buzzing around getting everything in readiness for Friday morning when we entertained the school children and their leaders. After the school children left, the dealers set up and the rest of the displays were completed. We all enjoyed a lunch put on by Sharon Davis and her committee just before the doors opened at five o'clock. From then on until the closing of the show at six o'clock Sunday evening there was plenty to do and plenty to see. A great deal of enjoyment and satisfaction was derived from being an active part of it all. I want to thank one and all of you for the wonderful response and cooperation in putting on this year's show. A special thank you to Chairman Walt Davis and his wife Sharon. Also, a special thanks to the Junior members who were right in there pitching.

Larry Tripp has been appointed as chairman of next year's show, which will be October 21, 22, and 23, 1977. Give him your help and cooperation.

Eva Whipple

PROGRAM - Wes Manley

On November 18 we will have as guest speaker Arthur Johnstone, curator of minerals at the Cranbrook Institute of Science. His topic will be "Minerals of Michigan." Mr. Johnstone will illustrate his talk with slides. Bring a friend to hear this expert.

On October 15, Jon Reed, a geology major at Michigan State University, gave a talk on geology as the students find it in the field. The well-chosen slides accompanying his talk showed very clearly the features he described. We thank him for a most interesting presentation.

Guests at the meeting were Keith and Darline Diener, Ron and Niki Widmayer, and Lois Shirey.

New members, and visitors (or members bringing visitors, rather), please stop at the Welcome table and introduce yourself. We want to know you.

FIELD TRIP - Sharon Davis

This month's field trip will be a mini-swap for members only at the home of Iral and Donaline Nutt, on Saturday, Nov. 20, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Due to a limited amount of basement space, swappers are asked to limit the amount of swapping material to about 6 flats. Materials to be swapped can be minerals, crystals, slabs, fossils, cabs, and finished jewelry pieces. If you can think of any additional things pertaining to the rock hobby, ask about them. This type of field trip is one that can be enjoyed by members of all ages and with all types of interests. Refreshments well be served. If you are interested in attending, please let me know before or at the meeting November 18.

What a good idea, Sharon! Now we won't have to travel so far to swap for choice items we have envied.

ROSTER SECRETARY - Sally Barber

All of you wishing to renew your membership for 1977 may do so at any time. Make all checks payable to the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society. Regular Memberships are:

Adults 18 and over, \$3.00
Students under 18, \$1.00

Students under 12 must have an adult relative member.

A reminder to our senior citizens. Our constitution states in Article I of Membership, (d):

Life Membership shall be given to those members reaching the age of 70 years and being a regular member 3 years. Upon application to the Board of Directors, Life Membership shall be available to any member who has been a regular member for 10 years at age 65, or 5 years at age 67.

Mail dues payments to Mrs. C.T. Barber, 3215 Karen, Lansing, MI 48910.

MEMBERSHIP - Ruth Hillis

We welcome these new members whose applications were approved by the Board:

Keith and Darline Diener, 315 Shepard, Lansing, Mi 48912. Ph 484-7053

Ronald and Niki Widmayer, 924 Loa, Lansing, Mi 48910. Ph 882-6501

Gordon Lewis, 2046 Sandhill Road, Mason, Mi 48854. Ph 349-2263

Timothy Lay, 6014 Loretta, Lansing 48910. Ph 393-5418

Renewals:

Floyd and Yvonne Castelein, 5761 Hartel Potterville, Mi 48876. Ph 645-9791

Wilbur and Margaret Law, 5419 W. St. Joe Sunfield, Mi 48890. Ph 566-48890

Phone number change:

Al and Mary Fox, 337-0707.

News just received -- Thelma Taylor is in the Hastings Hospital, a heart attack.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Eleanor Owens

We have sent cards and get well wishes to Ernie Fulton, Jack Thompson, Nora Delashmutt and Eleanor Owens. We wish you all well and that you will be back with us soon.

Our sympathy goes to Florence Hill and Marian Slusser.

Tony Slusser died November 3, after fighting a losing battle against a lung condition. We sincerely regret that he did not have the opportunity to enjoy a longer retirement.

EDUCATION - Bill Gardiner

The Education Committee will be seeking signups for winter classes at the next club meeting. If you're interested in getting into a class, please see me at the November meeting.

DISPLAY - Nancy Smith

A note has been received from Rod Cranson of Lansing Community College, thanking CML&MS for arranging a display at LCC for the Earth Science Teachers' Association meeting October 30.

LIAISON OFFICER - Bettie Patterson

All officers and committee chairmen should be getting their folders and inventories in order. I will need them at least by December and will accept them any time.

Word has been received that Lloyd and Irene Conklin have returned to Quartzite, Arizona, with the mailing address given in the Directory. Lloyd is better, following his siege in the hospital, but Irene is not so well. They will appreciate cards and letters.

LIBRARY - Preston Whipple

New Material: "The Sea Traders"-- Another book in the Time-Life Series, "The Emergence of Man," by Maitland A. Edey and the Editor of Time-Life Books. It goes back 3,200 years and is based on the archaeologists findings in the Mediterranean. So much of their findings are in the rocks used in many ways in that period. I am sure that you will enjoy these findings and the beautiful illustrations.

Going through the library cards I note there are some overdue books. Please try to return them at the next meeting. Others are waiting to enjoy them also.

SAFETY - Sharon Davis

"Charlie ran through a red light telling his kid to sit down before he got hurt.

Harry ran to catch the bus after taking the electrocardiogram for the mysterious flutters in his rib cage.

Joe got skinned jaywalking while taking his kid to get a polio shot.

Sally left the sleeping pills on the coffee table by Bobby while running to the kitchen to get Tony away from the hot pan on the stove.

Jim killed 9 million foliage-eating crawling grubs, 4 1/2 million flying pests, and 17 million 6-legged nuisances in a massive spray assault -- then wondered why his pipe didn't taste right, his beer seemed flat, and his stomach was fluttery.

Sam slowed down from 55 to 40 going through the 15 MPH school zone on his way to get his car safety-checked.

The Doc told Abe to quit drinking beer so he switched to martinis.

With people like this around, you wonder if it's safe to get outa bed!"

-National Safety News, December 1971

DUES ARE DUE!

SHOW - Walter Davis

I want to thank everyone who helped on the rock show. Without the help of everyone the show would not have been possible. It takes not only the people who work at the show itself, but it takes all of the others who help in getting all of the material ready, the flyers distributed, and the hundred other jobs, combined, to make our show what it is.

Larry Tripp is the Show Chairman for the 1977 Show. He is going to need the assistance and help you gave me in the organization and planning for next year's show. Don't wait until he contacts you. If you want to help on some project, let him know.

I would like for all committee chairmen to turn in a written report of their area of responsibility in the show operation. I will then prepare a report which will help in the planning and coordinating of future shows. If the various chairmen will also report on the quantities of supplies presently on hand, and the quantities used at the show it will be greatly appreciated.

The Geology Club at MSU was very pleased with the results of their snack area at the show, and really appreciated the chance to make some money for their organization.

Marian Henderson reports a total ticket sale figure of 2413, which she says is about normal.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - I.J. Brett, Nancy Smith, Ken Kurtz

The committee presents this slate of officers for 1977, election to be Nov.18:
President-Wes Manley
Vice-President - Lola Pearson
Recording Secretary- Wilma Hopkins
Corresponding Secretary - Bonna Roberts
Treasurer - Richard Saxman
Director - Walter Davis

AROUND THE NORTH SHORE OF LAKE SUPERIOR ON THE 1976 MWF GEOLOGY TOUR

- Irene Brett

The second week of our geology field trip began September first in Thunder Bay, Ontario. We had left Copper Harbor Friday, August 30, going to Washburn, Wisconsin, where we camped in Memorial Park that night. I called our niece who lives in Bayfield a short distance north of Washburn. She invited us to breakfast the next morning. It was fun going out to breakfast, seeing some very special people, and getting acquainted with their three months old baby girl.

It was a short visit, as we planned to get to Thunder Bay Saturday evening. We made it, and set up camp in the KOA campground. Wayne and Marian Henderson, Mac and Mary McMahon, and Florence Hill were there to greet us.

As the field trip did not really begin until Monday morning we decided to take the harbor boat trip on Sunday afternoon. After getting directions from the camp office people, we found our way to the pier from which the boat would leave. There was an art exhibit in what appeared to have been an old store building. I spent part of our waiting time looking at paintings and other art objects like we might find at our Ledge Craft Lane at home. I bought some hand decorated stationery and then joined Walter on the pier.

It was interesting to watch a number of small sailboats maneuvering in the area inside the breakwater. This surrounded a large area of the harbor, and made the water quite calm within its limits. We learned later from our guide on the sight-seeing boat that we had been watching a school of instruction for sailors.

Soon our boat came into port and discharged a load of tourists and we boarded ship. The boat was large enough to carry fifty to seventy five people.

We first passed the grain docks. According to our guide, this port ships more grain than any other port in the world. It is sent to many foreign countries as well as to other parts of the United States and Canada. The harbor was lined with huge elevators. A small elevator holds a million bushels of wheat, the larger ones up to eight million bushels. In the past, grain elevators had many dust explosions. The cost of protective devices to prevent explosions was prohibitive, and many of the older elevators had been replaced. We watched ships being loaded with wheat, and listened to interesting bits of information given by our guide.

After leaving the wheat loading areas we headed up a river where we saw the largest jack knife bridge in the world. This bridge carries two roads, one above the other. It is so well balanced that in winter snow has to be shovelled off it before the three hundred horse power motor can lift it. We watched it open and close when a boat came through.

It was a very enjoyable trip, and we recommend it to anyone who has the opportunity to go.

We got back to camp just in time to get dinner in the dining room at the camp. It was quite a surprise to find that the daughter of the manager cooked a delicious dinner for the campers, and at a very reasonable price.

We had our first group meeting with Wayne that evening. He told us about the places we would see on the trip, geologic features of the country to watch for, and interesting things about Lake Superior. This big lake is so cold that it never gives

up its dead. It is too cold for bacteria to live and produce the gas that causes a body to float.

Our meeting moved on into a Rock Swap. Members of the Thunder Bay Lapidary Society brought in trading material, and we all spent a most enjoyable evening, exchanging material and ideas. We learned that Pat and Agnes Wilson of the Thunder Bay club had taken quite a number of our tour group out on a field trip that afternoon to Kaministiquia. They brought back some very colorful cutting jasper. Rockhounds are the nicest people the world over, and the Thunder Bay folk were truly friendly and hospitable. We appreciate their kindness very much.

Monday morning we started toward the Thunder Bay Amethyst Mine and Nipigon. We packed our lunch to eat while at the mine. The road into the mine was hilly and rough. Each car was on its own and not in caravan. We went into a mine which proved to be the wrong one first. They had some good looking material, and told us we could go back in and look for ourselves if we wished. However, we went back to the main road and found the place where we were supposed to be. We left our camper at the base of the last hill because the road was too steep and rough for trailers and motor homes.

At the mine, truckloads of rock which had been blasted were hauled in and dumped in long piles. We could look through these piles for specimens for which we paid seventy five cents a pound. We also picked up around the area small pieces suitable for tumbling. We found one or two pieces with good crystals and color.

After lunch we drove through a farming area quite a ways back from the main road to see Quimet Canyon. We parked our car and walked a few steps to the edge of the canyon wall. Looking down, we saw a deep, wide canyon with a dry rocky bottom. A guard was present to warn us not to step too close, as a piece of rock or a sapling could break and take us over the edge. It must have been caused by erosion, but seemed out of character with the rest of the countryside.

It was getting late in the afternoon so we went on to Nipigon. We located the group camped at Hillside Acres. It was a business man's holiday, and we were short of bread, milk and ice. Finally we found a little store that was open.

The program that evening was one of the highlights of the trip. "Buzz" Lien was the speaker. He had spent all of his working life in Nipigon, but is now retired and lives along Georgian Bay. He came back to Nipigon for both tours. Mr. Lien made a study of the Indian and pioneer life in the Nipigon area and started the museum where we can see his fine collection of artifacts. We first met with Mr. Lien at camp. He told us about the history of the Indians in that area, but had to finish his talk at the museum as a thunder storm drove us to cover. The museum is unique in its arrangement. Visitors can walk among the exhibits, and even sit down and play the old organ if they wish.

On our way to the next camp at Neys Provincial Park on Lake Superior we stopped at a road cut just a few miles east of Nipigon to pick up specimens of pipestone. Up to this point we had travelled together. Now we split up, with one group going on ahead. Our group travelled a little slower and was lucky enough to spot the road cut near Marathon where we collected fluorite and barite crystals. It was very hard to see the narrow vein of fluorite, and the other group missed it entirely. The rest of the day it was each driver on his own through the wilds.

When in the distance we saw trailers parked near the lake shore, we knew it was time to watch for the Neys Park sign. We found the entrance and drove down a rather

long winding road to the shore of Lake Superior. Our camp was just off the beach on a grassy spot. We could walk the sandy beach, wade in the water, or just relax and listen to the surf as the waves rolled in. By this time we were better acquainted with the new travellers who had joined us at Thunder Bay, and here we had time to chat and walk together. At our evening meeting we had the opportunity to get a specimen of larvakite, a black feldspar with surfaces that reflect the light. A pile of this material had been brought in for us, another service Wayne had been able to provide.

It was quite a long drive to Wawa the next day, through a forest area with many rivers and lakes. In Wawa we camped at the Wawa Tent and Trailer Park. The rest rooms in this park were as clean as you would find in a plush hotel. They were heated and provided plenty of hot water for showers. As we walked around in the gravelled area in the center of the campground, we picked up small stones with siderite crystals in them, and many stones sparkling with pyrite. Some went to look for magnetite.

Quite early the next morning we drove out to an Algoma iron mine. The ore found here is siderite. Some of the ore contains pyrite. When they first began to smelt this ore, the fumes produced killed trees and all surrounding vegetation because of the sulphur in the pyrite. They conquered this obstacle by stockpiling the ore that contains pyrite and then smelting it when the ground is covered with snow. It does no harm that way.

The mine is about three miles from the smelter. The ore is conveyed from the mine by two and a half ton buckets hung on cables moving at about the pace of a brisk walk. The buckets are automatically dumped over stock piles. The mine employs two hundred and fifty men underground. They use a lot of rubber-tired heavy machinery which is too big to go down the shaft in one piece. It has to be taken apart and reassembled underground. The guide told us one of the heaviest expenses in their operation underground is for tires for the heavy machinery. Their bill for tires alone is averaging \$100,000 a month.

At the smelter foreign materials in the ore are removed, so their finished product is about 60% iron. It looks like clinkers. It contains a high percentage of manganese, which makes it very desirable for making steel. It is shipped to Sault Ste. Marie.

From the mine we went to High Falls on the Magpie River. That was a beautiful sight. We parked and followed a trail along the bank and up a few steps so we could look down on the river. It flows into a fault, making a complete right angle turn. Pictures were taken from different angles and then we went back to our cars.

Twin Falls was our next stop. We parked near a bridge and got out to take more pictures. There were falls above and below the bridge. Here again we followed a trail up the slope until we came to another falls. One adventurous man went still farther. He told us there was another falls upstream beyond us, but a smaller one.

We drove on to a little general store at Michipicoten Harbor, where little Indian children from the nearby reservation shyly made friends with us. The store held a wonderful variety of staples and snacks. From there we went on to look at the unusual Michipicoten Formation, a conglomerate-like formation which draws earth scientists from all parts of the world to study it. Then it was back to break camp and head for Sault Ste. Marie. On the way we passed the Indian pictographs on the shore rocks, the falls of the Montréal River, Chippewa Falls with its black diabase dikes, and granite headlands and gravelled beaches. Some of us explored all the places we had heard about; others were willing to enjoy the beautiful scenery unfolding around every curve, and keep going.

Friday night we camped in the Rock Shop Trailer Park a short distance north of the Canadian Soo. Another park adjoined this one so it was hard to tell which park we were in. In fact, part of our group were in the other park. We visited, traded a little with the dealer, and bought a few interesting items. This was to be our last night together, so after the travellers all checked in, tables were set up quickly, tablecloths laid, and a bountiful, delicious potluck dinner was ready. This was our farewell party and also a birthday party for little Heather Hebert who was just five years old.

The next morning we went to the green quartzite mountain near Echo Lake. We stopped at a road cut where we saw an unusual bit of geological history. Thin layers of petrified algae alternating with layers of limestone suggested a change of seasons-- algae from a wet season, then, after a dry spell, covered by limestone. I didn't find a very good specimen until we went back to our cars. I had slid out under the steering wheel when we got out of the car because of the brush on my side. Going back, I decided to go through the brush. Right beside the car was a very beautiful specimen.

Near the last lap of our journey we had to cross a stream. And oh! What a bridge! Steel plates on each side provided a track for the wheels. Between them was an open space where you could look down on the water. I shuddered at the idea of even walking across it, but we all crossed it safely. Believe it or not, we were charged \$1.00 apiece for the privilege. Now the road became more primitive. After seeing cars ahead of us slip and slide through a mudhole, the Bretts got stuck. We had lots of help. More poles from brush along the roadside were thrown in the holes and we got through.

As we rounded a curve, a fairly large tree, maybe a foot in diameter, lay across the road. Now the resourceful rockhounds were at their best. One had an ax and another knew how to use it. Still another had a saw to cut off branches. The rest gathered round to cheer them on. The top of the tree was on the right hand side of the road, the stump on the left, and the trunk across the middle. Chopping and sawing completed, strong arms and backs worked together to move it off the road. (It was an ambitious beaver who arranged this interlude for us. Mac's pocketful of beaver chips are proof of the story!)

Soon we came to the quartzite cliff and found a place to park where we would be able to turn around. The green quartzite, sometimes called Algoma jade, was straight ahead and up a hill. Off to the right were two big hills of puddingstone, or jasper conglomerate. We took back many fine specimens of both. The puddingstone we find in our fields at home was brought down by the glaciers many years ago, some of it from this same area.

Back at camp the group began to break up. Some of us stayed over another night to get some rest and an early start home. Others headed for the Ishpeming show. Still others started on their way home, with other stops in mind. It was hard to say goodby and say the trip was at an end. The experiences we shared and the insights we gained made lifelong friends of short-time acquaintances.

A few years ago Walter and I went around Lake Superior but we didn't know much about the things we saw. Of course we missed the side trips--to the mines, the falls, the roadcuts--and the companionship of fellow travellers. Wayne's telling us of the geology of the country made it much more interesting. We appreciate the planning, the organization and work that made this trip possible. We all want to thank Wayne and Marian, Mac and Mary, Don and Sally, and Florence for the opportunity to take a very interesting and enjoyable trip.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Nov. 18...Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Everett H.S. Cafeteria, Lansing, Mich.
Nov. 20...Field Trip, at the Nutt's, 2008 Ferrol, Lansing. 2-5 p.m. See page 11 for details.
Dec. 2....Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Barber's, 3215 Karen, Lansing.

Shows are moving farther and farther away as the winter closes in. See Lapidary Journal, all you travellers, for possibilities as you go.

I.J. Brett has been appointed director to fill Dave Van Geison's unexpired term. Dave was unable to fill that post because of his work.

AFMS NEWSLETTER

The Maine Federation of Mineral Clubs voted to have their president write their Congressional delegation stating that the Maine clubs favor quartz as a National gemstone, rather than turquoise, which has been proposed by New Mexico. It is felt that quartz would represent the entire nation better, since turquoise is felt to be a symbol of the Southwest. Quartz includes something for everyone. Many of the official state gems are quartz. It is found in igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks, and in some form(s) in every state. It is in the form of fossils, artifacts, crystals and gems, as well as mass.

Mrs. Milton Turner, AFMS Stamp Chairman, says that prospects for a second block of mineral stamps in the near future look very good.... Members of AFMS and their families are urged to keep pushing for the stamps by talking them up and writing whenever possible.

ROCKHOUND NEWS
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TIME VALUE

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