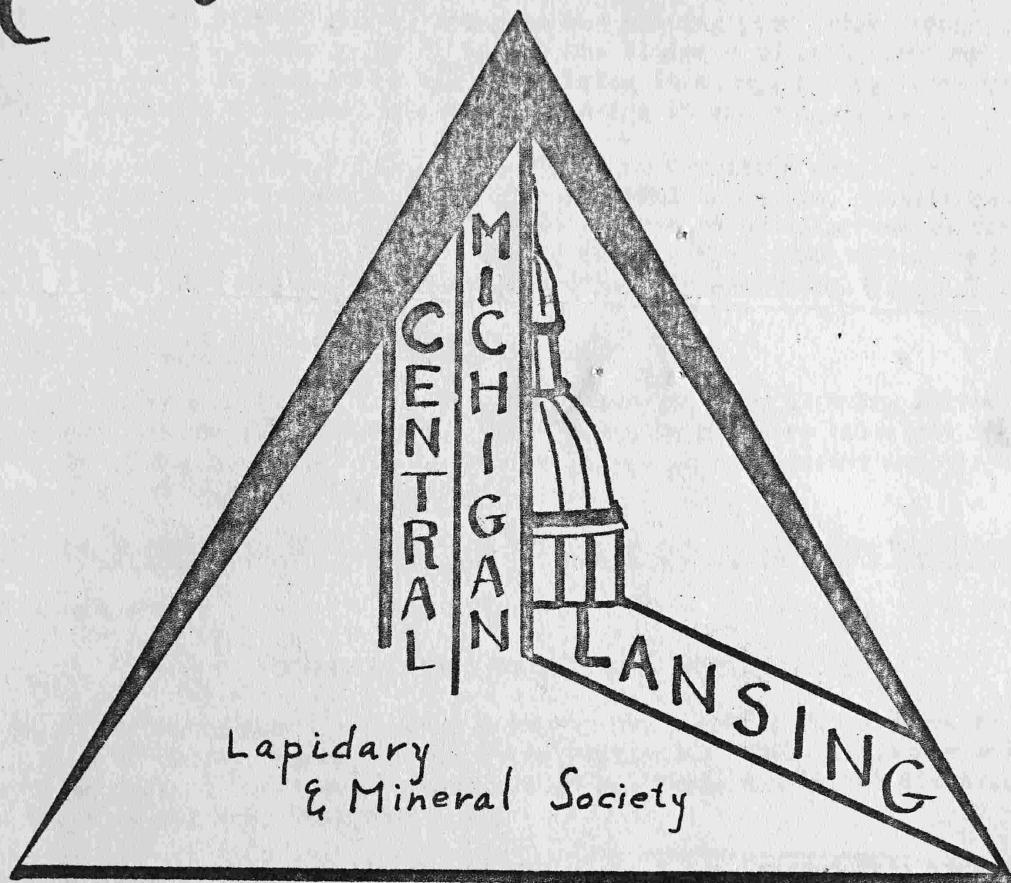


Rockhound News



VOLUME 5 - Number 6 7

September, 1961

Affiliated with the Midwest Federation

Meeting Place: Walter French Jr. Hi. Cafeteria

Third Thurs. Monthly except July & August.

Dues: \$2.00 annually. Students under 18, \$1.00 annually.

* OFFICERS *

PRESIDENT - Harvey Eustrom, R. 1, Okemos, Mich

FE 9-2300

VICE PRESIDENT AND PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Elmer Eckhardt, 1726 Springfield Lane, Lans.

IV 5-2457

SECRETARY - Marie Fisher, 619 Community St. Lansing

IV 4-4081

TREASURER - Norma Stuck, 3311 N. Cedar St. Lansing

IV 9-0451

EDITOR - Norman Kunkel, 435 Durand St., East Lansing

ED 7-9338

SEPT 21 - 7:30

SUPPLEMENT MEETING.

SEPT 21 - 7:30

ANOTHER BIG BRAG AND SWAP NITE. COME!

Its an "Annual Affair" folks! Bring to the meeting your prize specimen collected this past summer. Maybe it is not the ultimate in rock hounding - but it has a special value to you, so by all means bring it along. Perhaps some special event was associated with your specimen - so bring it and brag.....

And while we are on this subject, Our Display Committee needs material for our Display Case in down town Lansing. This material of course, must be good - many people see this display. Either they are impressed or unimpressed. Yes, we need good material on loan. The display is changed from time to time and you can always have your material returned if you have special need.

Please see Ruth Eckhardt in regard to this.

And we do have a speaker for our opening meeting Sept 21 - Mr. Kelford, a charter member of the club, who will give a short talk on the industrial application of some of our minerals. David Eckhardt, one of our student members also will give a short talk on "RADIOACTIVITY"

LETS EACH ONE OF US MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO GET TO THIS FIRST MEETING.

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

PROGRAM NOTES ON THE JUNE MEETING.

One of our honored and respected members, Dr. Theodore Werle spoke to the club on June 15 on the Geology of the Upper Peninsula. While it is not possible to report in full all that was brought out in Dr. Werle's talk, he did make several points which we may well keep in mind.

At one time in the earth's history, an ancient sea covered this area for a period of perhaps 300,000 years. This explains the great depth of limestone to be found here. It also helps explain why the eastern part of the upper peninsula is mostly fossil material, whereas the western part is mostly mineral. An ancient ice mass covered this area and it was about 6,000 years ago that the last of this ice disappeared from Lake Superior.

Dr. Werle called attention to a map which can be purchased from the Mich Department of Conservation for 50¢ which shows the mineral and glacial deposits. He also referred to a "Mineral Guide" which too can be purchased from the Department of Conservation.

Tourists may stop at an abandoned copper mine near Hancock, which is regarded as safe. You may also stop at the School of Mines at Houghton and visit their museum which contains an excellent collection of the rocks and minerals of Michigan. Allow yourself plenty of time when in the Upper Peninsula.

Dr. Werle presented to the library of the Club a book "Identification of Trilobites" by the Univ of Mich Dept of Paleontology.

In conjunction with the program Mr. and Mrs. Kirkby, Mr. Kreps, Miss Maier and Mr. Bennett had displays from various places in Michigan. Each gave a short talk about their display, telling the areas where the specimens were gathered.

REPORT OF OUR DELEGATE TO
THE MIDWEST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Saginaw, Michigan, July 1, 1961.

The 21st annual business meeting was called to order by the President, Floyd Mortenson. Present were 122 members including 27 members of the Executive Meeting and guests.

Chairman R. Lake of the Membership Committee reported that 15 new clubs had joined the Midwest Federation during the past year. There are now more than 100 clubs. The Treasurer, Orval Fethers informed the committee that the cost of car emblems and lapel pins at 50¢ each was not enough to cover the cost of the pins plus mailing. It was decided to raise the price of each to 75¢.

Chairman Tolson Radloff of the Show Rules Committee explained that nine months had been spent in preparation of uniform show rules, which now are in agreement with the rules adopted by the American Federation in 1960.

Chairman Max Hillmer of the Constitution Review Committee stated that there were a number of changes to be made in the constitution. The Board felt that there were so many articles on which there was no agreement that they should not be presented to the council at this time.

Des Moines, Iowa was chosen as the place for holding the 1962 Convention. The new president of the Federation, Leo Yansak, who also is chairman of the Convention Committee, reported that the dates would be July 27 to 31 inclusive. The Convention will be held jointly with the 1962 American Federation Convention, and will be known as "The National Gem and Mineral Exposition". Its theme will be "America The Beautiful".

The Mesabi Rock and Mineral Society has extended an invitation for a field trip convention on the Mesabi Range in 1963.

The roster of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee was elected unanimously and is as follows:

President - - - Leo Yanasak, Des Moines, Iowa.
Vice President Bernice Rexin, Milwaukee, Wis.
Secretary - - - Mrs. Walter Steinbrener, Des Moines, Iowa.
Treasurer - - - Wm. H. De Neui, Minneapolis, Minn
Historian - - - Ben Hur Wilson, Joliet, Ill.

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

DISPLAYS BY OUR CLUB AND MEMBERS.

Our Club had an excellent display at the Midwest Convention last July. In addition, there were eight individual displays by members as follows:

Mr. Frank Reichert in the Fossils Classification with a white sand background had on display - blastoids - brachlopods - gastropods - branching coral - agatized coral, sea urchin - crinoid stem and head.

Mrs. Frank Reichert in the Fossils Classification using a white sand background had on display - trilobites one half to 3 inches in length, excellent quality.

Mrs. B. Horton in the General Classification had on display - pyrite - celenite hourglass crystal - quartz crystal - half breed - fluorite, beryl crystal velvet tourmaline.

Mr. W. Kirkby also in the General Classification had on display - Azurite - Malachite - stebnite - selenite rose - bladed pyrite - glauberite.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Stevens in the General Classification, non-competitive - displayed - with blue cloth background - amethyst - garnet - quartz crystal - azurite - sulphur.

Jim Philbrick, Junior Division in the Crystals Classification received the first award for crystals in the junior division. He displayed - aragonite orthorhombic - beryl crystal - vanadinite - adamite - garnet - gypsum - wulfenite - fluorite - smoky quartz - realgar and watermelon tourmaline.

Bonnie Eckhardt, Junior Division in Fossils Classification, received the first award for fossils in the junior division and the trophy for the junior group/ for an Archeological Time display of fossil life.

David Eckhardt, Junior Division, in the General Classification received the second ribbon for his display of - beryl crystal - copper crystal - fossil jaw - stalagmite (hangup from the ceiling) cinnabar - geothite.

The Display Committee of our local club wishes to thank all who made loans for the club display. We also wish to thank the individuals for taking the time to create individual displays. Our club made a good showing.

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

By action of the club, it was decided to present to Mrs. Fred Chapman, a book as a memorial to her late husband, Mr. Fred Chapman. Our secretary received a letter from Mrs. Chapman which reads as follows:

"Thank you for your kind invitation to the June 15 meeting of the Society. The presentation is indeed an honor to my late husband and I sincerely regret not being able to be present at the meeting. I am hoping, however, that some member of our will be able to be there."

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Fred Chapman.

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

Welcome to two new members of the club:

#255 Jerome W. Bouchard

#256 Pepi Alonso

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

It's not too early for you to start preparing for our November Meeting. This is our Annual Auction Night. Each member of the club who can possibly do so is asked to bring some rock or mineral object of value, to be purchased by some other member of the club or anyone who needs or wishes to have it. Auctioneers will be present to auction things off to the highest bidder. Proceeds go to the Club treasury to carry on our work. Your dues alone will not do this.

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

And in this bit of space which is left, maybe it isn't too early to tell you that the editor and wife Dolly have returned just a few days ago from a seven week tour of South America. They expect to hold Open House probably October 22 (and October 29 if there is a demand for it) when their picture in color "CONTINENT OF CONTRASTS - SOUTH AMERICA" will be shown. Also on display will be three mosaic table tops just made. More about this in the October NEWS. N.W.K.

MIDWEST FEDERATION'S L E T T E R - A - M O N T H
For September 1961
Subject: "WHERE ARE WE HEADED?"

The 1961 Midwest Convention is now past history and we may focus our attention to the coming year. The question is, "Where are We Headed For?"

In a recent letter to Ken Kyte of the Rolling Rocks Club Newsletter, Dr. H. C. Dake asked the same question. He was quite critical of the trend of most clubs to become social organizations, knife and fork gatherings. He states, "I have always been saddened by the fact that most of the many clubs all over the country have overlooked opportunities to engage in the more worthy "educational" phases of the hobby, even if in a small way".

Our own June Zeitner of Mission, South Dakota gave what Dr. Ben Hur Wilson termed the best lecture ever presented at a Midwest Convention. Those of us who heard the lecture agree with Dr. Wilson. June recommended very strongly that Midwest Clubs wake up to the many opportunities that arise for the promotion of education....that is, education related to our hobby.

Our articles of Incorporation state that The Midwest Federation is created exclusively for education and scientific purposes. Yet the income tax people refused to accredit the Midwest Federation as an educational organization, social - yes, educational - no.

Now then, what are we going to do about this? When accepting the President's gavel at the Saginaw Convention, I stated that the theme for the Midwest for the coming year was going to be "Education". It is my hope that every one of our 115 clubs will take an active part in some form of education in their community. Further, I hope that whenever such activity takes place, the club secretary or liaison officer will mail a report of it to the chairman of the Education Committee. Unfortunately I have not yet received a reply from the person I have asked to be Chairman and cannot give his name until he accepts. However, this should not keep us from going ahead.

May we have a pleasant and exciting year working toward our goals.

Sincerely yours,

Leo W. Yanasak, President,
The Midwest Federation.

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

BASIS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN THE CLUB ESTABLISHED

Not previously reported in the ROCKHOUND NEWS is a basis for Life Membership in the Club established at the May meeting of the Board of Directors. After discussion at considerable length, the Board finally came to an agreement as follows: "Any member of the club who has been a member of the club for three consecutive years prior to reaching the age of 70, at the age of 70, by action of the Board of Directors will be granted a "Life Membership" in the Club. This action will be taken in May of each year, known to us as Anniversary Month for the Club. The secretary of the Club will try to bring all cases deserving action to the attention of the Board at their meeting in May. Should there be any omission at any time, any officer of the Club can be informed, and proper consideration will be given.We now have 145 names on our membership roster, of which 27 are students. For the balance of the year the dues are \$1.00 for adults, 50¢ students.

FIELD TRIP NOTES

Our first field trip for the fall season is to Silica, Ohio at the quarries of Medusa Portland Cement. We have permission for Sept. 16 & 17. You can plan on both days or either day that suits you best. At their pits you will find several different kinds of fossils but the ones most sought after are the trilobites, crinoid or stone lily and the different types of brachiopods some of which have turned to pyrite and gives you a golden fossil when cleaned with acid.

To get there take 127 south through Jackson to 223. Follow 223 to Sylvania, Ohio. At the first traffic light you come to in Sylvania turn right on to Erie, go west on Erie for two miles to Centennial, turn left on Centennial and go south one mile to Brint. Turn right on Brint and the first drives you come to, about 300 ft and on both sides of the road will be the entrances to the pits. Park along side of the road not in the driveways because they use these drives most of the time. You must sign a waiver before going into the pit. Some of you signed this at the last meeting. We will have someone there with the waiver for you to sign. The following rules must be followed by all persons entering Medusa Portland Cement Co. property to collect mineral specimens. 1. A permit must be obtained for each day and a duplicate copy carried by the responsible person of the party at all times. 2 No children are permitted on Medusa quarry property north of Brint rd. (Children may dig in the south pit). 3 No one shall go within 100 feet of any high wall. 4 No swimming is permitted. 5 No fire arms are permitted. 6 No one is permitted on or near quarry equipment. 7 Safety precautions must be observed at all times. 8 No one is permitted in section of quarry that is operating without special permission. 9 The release must be signed before entering the quarries.

WOODVILLE? OHIO

October 8 we have a trip planned to the Woodville Lime Co. pit at Woodville, Ohio. Here you will find fossils and megalomas. With an Ohio map you can find your best way to Woodville and once there you can probably see the pit or ask any one there where the pit is located.

BELLEVUE, OHIO

October 22 plan on a trip to Bellevue, Ohio where you can collect fossils and Dog Tooth Calcite crystals up to two inches in length.

This trip is being planned for us by a most gracious Rock Hound, Edwin Stephens of Bellevue, whom we met on our trip to Clay Center. He is working out the details of permission, maps etc. and will even go with us to show us the best places to dig. He has one pit lined up and is seeking permission for the second.

Watch for more about this trip in the October issue.

On these trips, unless a time is specified for going into the pits I would suggest that you get there as soon as you can and stay as long as you can. Permission has been granted for the day or time specified so don't stay away because you can't get there early, there are usually some of our groups to be found there most any time of the day. Also if you wish to travel with some one you can make your own arrangements to do so. I think it is too hard to meet here as a group and trying to go together as a group. So go at your own convenience but do go.