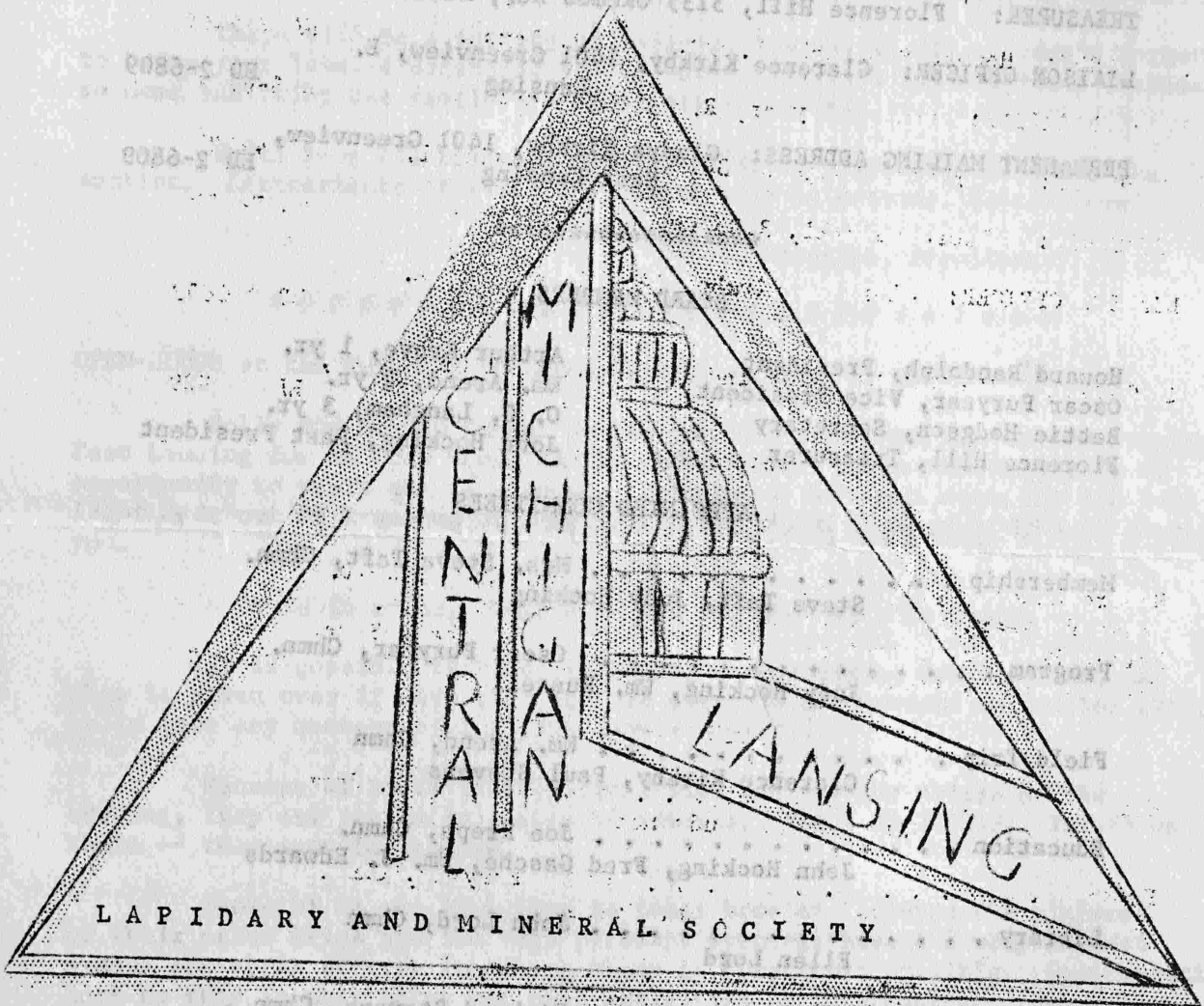


ROCKHOUND NEWS

Volume IX *Oct.*
No. 9 1965



AFFILIATED WITH MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL
AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

AND
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGIST SOCIETIES

Meeting Place: Walter French Jr. High School Cafeteria each third
Thursday night monthly, except July and August - 7:30 p.m.
Dues: \$2.00 for adults; \$1.00 for students.
(under 18 years of age)

October, 1965

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Let's have an indoor field trip. Yes, you read correctly. Let's pretend that our next meeting which will be Auction Night on our October 21 meeting will be a field trip -- come dressed accordingly. Don't worry -- just remember that it is almost Hallowe'en time too, so you can just say that your outfit is your costume! This will lend atmosphere and fun to our meeting.

There will be a variety of material for you to bid on (don't forget to bring your labeled donations -- for both adults and the childrens' tables), so come and bring the family ---- and join in the fun.

We'll keep the business meeting SHORT to allow more time for the auction. Refreshments of cider and donuts will be served. Ya-all come!

Howard Randolph, President

#

OPEN-HOUSE at the Kunkel's -- Sunday night, October 19 at 7:00 P.M.

Dolly and Norman Kunkel invite you to their home, 435 Durand Street, East Lansing for an Open House on the above date. There will be plenty of opportunity to visit and talk rocks. Norm has a new lamp shade for the hall light made out of Translucent Brazilian Agate which they would like to show you.

A movie in color, "Mexico -- Old and New" will be shown.

It is possible that the following Sunday night, October 26th, may also be given over if more sign up than they can accommodate on October 19th, or in case any members of the club have a conflict.

Because of their limited facilities and for the nature of the evening, they ask you to call them in advance. Phone ED 7-9338. Try to be there -- they want to see you.

Those of us who have been to their home and enjoyed the pictures of their other trips and the very pleasant evenings have the very highest praise for their efforts in making these get-togethers possible. Opportunities such as this is what makes our club activities so interesting.

NEW MEMBERS: WELCOME

Donald Lohrer, 335 Hungerford, Lansing, Michigan
Mr. and Mrs. E. Devereaux, 724 N. Verlinden, Lansing, Michigan
Anna Davarn, 633 Whitehills, East Lansing, Mich.
Mrs. Fred Perry, 633 Whitehills, East Lansing, Mich.
Mrs. Pat Harlow, 810 N. Logan Street, Lansing.

MIDWEST FEDERATION'S NEWSLETTER October, 1965

Professor Richard M. Pearl honored by AFMA Scholarship Foundation --

The AFMA Scholarship Award for 1965 was presented to Professor Richard Maxwell Pearl, Professor of Geology at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, co-founder of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

This award is given annually to an individual for outstanding contributions to the understanding, acceptance, methods, or knowledge of earth sciences.

Mr. Johnnie Short, President of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, presented the award to Professor Pearl at the Federation in the Chinook Hotel, Yakima, Washington, on Sunday evening, September 5th.

The Award consists of a plaque and \$300 grant annually for a two-year period. The grant will be given to an institution selected by the award winner to establish a scholarship in his name, sponsored by the AFMA Scholarship Foundation, Inc., and is to be used to aid post-graduate student who is specializing in Earth Science towards a Master's Degree. The recipient will also assist in the selection of the student.

Professor Pearl, who has received this year's award is a graduate of the University of Colorado and Harvard University. At present he is Professor of Geology at Colorado College. A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Gemmological Association of Great Britain, and the Meteoritical Society, he has received honorary titles from national gem societies in a number of countries.

Professor Pearl was born in New York, May 1913, and brought up in Michigan. Upon graduation from the University of Colorado, he was employed by E. I. duPont de Nemours and Co. and was geologist for the Shell Oil Co. After receiving his degree from Harvard, he became associated with Colorado College in 1946.

He was the second president of the AFMA as well as the first president of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. He has also served as president of the Colorado Mineral Society and Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society.

Professor Pearl is the author of twenty books on geology, minerals, and gems, including "Rocks and Minerals", "Guide to Geologic Literature," "Successful mineral collecting and prospecting," "Popular Gemology," and the famous paperback, "How to Know the Minerals and Rocks," which has wide circulation.

Professor Pearl, a scholar, teacher, author and an attractive man in the field, and a major contributor to the training of geologists and earth scientists, was selected by the Jury of Awards to be the first to be honored. Professor Pearl has selected the University of Colorado to receive the grant. The student recipient will be chosen after careful selection and review of candidates.

Both Midwest Federation President, Merton Young and Midwest Federation President-Elect, Mrs. Katharine Steinbrenner were in attendance at the Yakima meeting.

The Scholarship Foundation has reached \$16,384.97 toward its goal of \$50,000.

KEEP TIME OPEN: for the 1966 Field Trip Convention of the Midwest Federation in Houghton, Michigan. There will be an auction to help defray the expenses of the field trip meeting so save a rock to bring along for this. More details on this as time goes along.

October 2 - 3 - Racine Rock and Gem Show, Racine, Wisconsin.

October 16 - 17 -- Michiana Rock and Gem Bluc, Inc. Rock and Gem Show.
New South Bend Armory, Kemble and Calvert St., South Bend, Ind.

Oct. 9 - 10. Flint Rock and Gem Show at Northwestern High School, G-2138 W. Carpenter Road. Dealers will be in the large gymnasium.

Nov. 6 - 7 -- Michigan Mineralogical Society, Gems, Mineral and Earth Science exhibit at Community Arts Center, State Fair Grounds, Gate No. 2, Detroit, Michigan. Between 8-Mile and 7-Mile Roads, off Woodward.

Dear Mrs. Kirkby: Thank you for taking your time and showing us your rocks. I liked the smooth rocks and I really like the one I got. I don't know why but my teacher told me why. I thank you again for giving your time and showing us your rocks. Signed.

Dear Mr. Kirkby: Thank you for those wonderful rocks. They were very shiny stones. I brought them home and shined them more. Our whole thanks to you for everything. Signed.

Dear Mrs. Kirkby: The rocks with yellow crystal in it -- I wonder how it got hollowed out. My granddaddy is a rock collector and he has a few machines. I think you were generous for the two rocks you gave us. Signed. (I wonder if the grandfather is one of our club members, Ed.)

Mrs. Kirkby: I wish I could have been there but I wasn't there. It sounds like it was fun. It also sounds interesting. Signed.

Dear Mrs. Kirkby: Thank you for inviting us to your beautiful home. I very much enjoyed the visit to your "factory for rocks". The display took genius and patience. I very much want to come again. This was a wonderful experience. Signed.

(It is impossible for me to type these letters as they were written, which really made them so interesting. Nel.).

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Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together. Woodrow Wilson.

SOLILOQUY

"The Old Rockhound"

By Sigrid Anderson - Earth Sci., Feb., 1959.

Once again alone, but not lonely, the Old Rockhound tramps through the still, fragrant woods, the melodious song of hidden Hermit thrush the only sound, as the aged rockhound cautiously follows the winding path, leading to the old fluorite mine. Gradually it grows steeper, but determinedly he trudges on, past formidably looking boulders and dark caverns, finally reaching the mind, an awesome, seemingly bottomless hole dropping into the heart of the mountain.

The breath-taking sight of green, glittering fluorite around the rim of the abandoned mine meets his astonished gaze and exultingly he scoops up the clearest and greenest crystals, stuffing his pockets. Not enough! Exhausted, he sits down on the moss covered slope, wondering how to get it all home with him. An old water pail laying under a bush gets him scrambling to his feet and methodically he fills it with only the best, realizing the impossibility of getting it ALL home.

With the pail brimming over and his pockets full he starts his triumphant descent, carefully treading his way over loose stones, afraid to lose even the smallest of his precious find. At last he reaches even ground and then tries to hurry, as the sun already has gone down, but the load is growing heavier and he must use his entire will power to resist the temptation to sit down and rest.

Cleaning Specimens (continued)

Algae and Lichens -- Can be removed from a specimen with a dilute solution of ammonia.

CAUTION: In using the above chemicals, use the following precautions:

1. Use a pyrex dish for heating.

1. Use a pyrex dish for heating or boiling.
2. Use in a well ventilated room.
3. Don't let a solution boil dry. Add hot (not boiling) water when necessary.

If you have never worked with chemical solutions, get expert advice or work with someone who understands them. Lola Naatus via Moses Lake Rockhound and The Rock Rollers Club, Inc. Vol. 6, No. 8, page 7.

ISN'T NATURE WONDERFUL?

Ethel W. Rathke

Sept., 1965

Whether you study plants, animals, or rocks, there is no end to the wonders revealed.

This summer I read a book by an English colonel, P. W. Rawcett and his son Percy, that dealt intimately with South American natural features and its various human groups. What surprised me most was to learn about limpet fossils in the highest peaks of the Andes. It reminded me of the tiny starfish fossils I saw at Digne, France in 1936, only the Andes are so much higher.

If you want a vivid glimpse of the jungles and crags of Brazil, Bolivia, Chile and Peru, you will do well to read it.

At an elevation of 14,000 feet above the sea level, coal has been found. It is stated that at a comparatively recent period, the peaks of the Andes were submerged. Little is said of the kind of rock formation there, but we were told that along the Eastern coast, from a point in Argentina to Rio de Janeiro there is a range, about three degrees wide of continuous conglomerate, rising abruptly from the ocean in that semi-monolithic style called "sugar loaf". It is hard for me to see the resemblance to lumps of sugar on end because of the edges in the illustrations are rounded off considerably and remind me of robed monks standing in a row with slumped shoulders. And what surprised me was to learn that there was a long range of them, instead of just a couple in the remarkable harbor of that city. Diamonds are found in the conglomerate.

Brazilian black diamonds are used in drills that dig oil wells and railroad tunnels. Extremely small holes are bored in diamonds to be employed to regulate size of tungsten wire for electric light filaments.

In 1964, General Electric succeeded in producing a diamond 1/16-inch artificially by heating the necessary carbon to 5,000 degrees F., and applying pressure of 400 tons to the square inch (I can scarcely imagine how they could achieve such pressure). They implied that even with such pressure and heat, it took 16 hours to shape the diamond.

Cleaning Specimens (continued)

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It is actually irrelevant to add the next item, but I cannot resist. Originally, practically all the rivers of South America flowed in one direction. But when the great earthquakes and eruptions took place, they shook the entire continent so thoroughly that practically all the land was tilted in such a way that the rivers flowed at right angles to their original course. And, it is believed that for a long interval the only part of South America that was above water was a limited portion of Brazil.

E.W. Rathke.

DON'T FORGET:

Call the Kunkle's for your viewing and visiting.
Bring the specimens to the rock club meeting for sale.
Wear your rockhunting outfits. -- Remember Hallow'een in nigh.

*Field trip Sun 24th
Grand Ledge Clay Products
Meet at Fitzgerald Park at 1:00*

PLEASE SEND EXCHANGE BULLETINS TO:
Mrs. Nel Langham, Ed
Central Michigan Lapidary and Min. Soc.
410 S. Park St.
Mason, Michigan 48854



THIRD CLASS

Rich & Lila Stevens
5889 W. State Rd.
Lansing, Mich.

October, 1965