



CENTRAL MICHIGAN ROCKHOUND NEWS

VOL. II

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NO. VII

CENTRAL MICHIGAN LAPIDARY AND MINERAL SOCIETY
"AFFILIATED WITH THE MIDWEST FEDERATION"

MEETING PLACE: EAST LANSING SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL; RM. A 132

DATE: THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH EXCEPT JULY & AUGUST

DUES: \$2.00 ANNUALLY. STUDENTS UNDER 18 YRS. OF AGE, \$ 1.00 ANNUALLY

CO-EDITORS: LARRY KIRKBY AND JOHN FITCH
OFFICERS

- PRESIDENT - - - Joe Kreps, 2605 Delta River Drive - - - LV 5-6947
- VICE PRESIDENT- Leon North, 861 Grovenburg Rd., Holt- - OX 4-8367
- SECRETARY - - - Grace Shappell, 219 Bailey St., E.L.- - ED 2-3885
- TREASURER - - - Laura Yrops, 2605 Delta River Drive - - TV 5-6947

September Meeting

The first meeting of our fall season will be on Thursday, September 18, 7:30 PM, at the East Lansing Senior High School. We can call it Exchange Night, or Swap Night, or Brag Night, but - no matter what the name, bring whatever you have to trade or to brag about, and make it a really enjoyable evening. If you don't have anything to trade, come anyway! Who knows, maybe you will go home with a nice specimen that you and another member have made a dicker on. Let's all turn out and make the night a success.

Field Trip Planned to Gather Gypsum

Sunday, September 28, is the date set for a field trip to the Grand Rapids Plaster Company Mine for the purpose of collecting gypsum. The time is 2:30 PM. Here are the directions: Take the new US 16 at Cascade until crossing the Grand River near Grandville. Just across the bridge, turn north on Butterworth Road. Pass one mine and a trestle. Then take a private road past a row of industrial buildings instead of following the curve on the Butterworth Road (about five miles from the bridge). Look for a green '54' Ford and ask for Mr. Charles E. Johnson. Be sure to bring a flashlight. The mine will be damp so wear a sweater or jacket. Flash pictures may be taken inside the mine. No one under seventeen will be allowed below ground. Bring the biggest rock sack you can find because you may take home all the specimens you can carry.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S ROCK SACK

Summer has slipped by so quickly it seems only a week or two ago that we had our last meeting and all of us were planning places to go and what to look for during the summer. I hope that all of you have had a good vacation and a lot of fun and success hunting rocks.

Mrs. Kropp, Joyce and I were fortunate in being able to spend several weeks traveling and rock collecting, and we ended up with a considerable collection that should keep us sorting and sawing and polishing for some time. We enjoyed our five days at the Mid-West Convention and were glad that so many from our club could attend. Our club won a \$9.00 book on the coal fossils of Illinois for having the greatest number of members from the farthest away at the convention banquet. This book, entitled "The Wilmington Coal Flora," will be in our library and should be especially interesting to those of you who are interested in plant fossils.

We spent a happy week with the Gasches' and the Kirkbys' at Bancroft, Canada. I believe they are preparing a display of the minerals we found to show at our September meeting, and perhaps we can find time for a few pictures. I know that other of our members made summer trips. We would like to hear from you and to have you make a display of your "loot" at one of our coming meetings. Please see me or our program chairman, Leon North.

For our September 18 meeting we have:

1. A talk and demonstration on fluorescent rocks by Mr. Fulton and Mr. Kelford. (If you have fluorescent material you would like to show, or test, or trade, bring it to the meeting and let us see what you have.)
2. Swap night. Will each of you bring some of the rocks that you have an excess of and would like to trade off for something else. Let's make this a "top notch" affair and have a lot of good specimens to offer.
3. We hope that the Gasches' and/or the Kirkbys' will have on display an

- assortment of the specimens collected in Canada.
- b. If there is any time left we will try to have pictures of the bunch at Bancroft, Canada.

I hope that everyone of you can come to the September 18 meeting.

Happy prospecting,
Joe D. Kreps

Who and Where?

Many of our club members went places and did things during their vacations. You may want to check with these members regarding the success of their collecting trips.

The following members roamed the Upper Michigan mine dumps and quarries, and chased the Lake Superior shores for agates: Edson Brower family, John Wilcox family, Coral Bussel family, and the Bill Hooker family. Also received a card from Bob Powers from the Upper Penninsula.

The Allen Little family and the Chlore Morris family went to California. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cable roamed the Black Hills of South Dakota. Merrill Payne scooted all the way to Oregon and back bringing with him some choice ballast. Dr. Harold Stonehouse and several geology students from M.S.U., and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cotton are touring several western states at this writing. Mary Lou Roth flew to Florida where she visited some rock shops. The Gasches, the Kirkbys, and the Kreps went together to Bancroft, Ontario. The Joe Kreps family took an extended collecting trip through Upper Michigan, and west as far as Wyoming and Montana. The Leon North family, the Arthur Kraves family and other members visited the famous collecting areas in the northern part of Lower Michigan for Petoskey Stones, banded chert, and anthraconite.

Hughes Aircraft
Rockhound Club
Tucson, Arizona
June 2, 1958

TO ALL COLLECTERS OF GEM STONES AND MINERALS:

A number of the members of our club are interested in trading rocks and mineral specimens with members of your club.

We are a club of approximately 63 members and on our many field trips we gather such rocks as petrified wood, apache tears, jasper and agate of many colors, crystals and crystal formations of many kinds.

We would appreciate hearing from you, and hope that some of your members will be interested in trading rocks and mineral specimens with us.

Sincerely yours,
Donna Fry
Secretary - Hughes A C
Rockhound Club
3031 North Flanwill Blvd.
Tucson, Arizona

"Rockhound Roundup"

Des Moines, Iowa; October 18 and 19.
At the new Veterans Auditorium, Fifth and Center St.
Admission: 50¢ each day.

Here are some special features:

***** special exciting demonstrations and displays on lapidary grits blasting, stone glazing, mobiles, chain jewelry and V-lock jewelry.

***** a very important feature of this roundup will be swapping and trading. All rockhounds are urged to bring plenty of trading goods.

***** Plenty of items for sale by the club at club prices including crystal specimens, rough rock, quantities of choice slabs, jewelry findings, mounting grab bags, etc.

Going that way? If so, for additional information, write to:

George Wingert
3720 E. 14th St.
Des Moines, Iowa

THE FORMATION OF ROCKS by Wee Willy

Sedimentary Rocks

Sedimentary rocks, in general, are deposits of sediments or rock particles which, under certain conditions, have changed into rock. The formation of these rocks usually involves four steps: 1) weathering- the breaking up of rocks into small particles, 2) erosion - the transportation of the broken rock material, 3) deposition - the deposition of the sediments, and 4) solidification or cementation - the changing of the loose sediments into solid rock. Let's take a look at each one of these steps, one at a time.

Weathering, the breaking up of rocks into small particles, may be either mechanical or chemical. Mechanical weathering involves temperature changes, freezing water, abrasion, plant roots, etc. As examples, most rocks are subject to a continuous sequence of temperature fluctuations which tend to crack the rocks. Also, in the more frigid climates, the expansion of freezing water aids in breaking up rocks. Another example is the rubbing together of rocks in a stream, tending to wear the rocks down. Chemical weathering is any chemical change in the mineral constituents of the rock which would cause it to break up into particles.

After the rocks have been broken up, various erosional agents transport the rock fragments. These erosional agents are running water, groundwater, glaciers, wind, and waves. Running water is the most important for the rivulets, streams, and rivers transport far more material than any of the other erosional agents. Groundwater is not observable from the surface but it is nevertheless present. It serves to dissolve minerals in the rocks and transport them. Limestone caves are formed in this manner. Anyone who has witnessed a glacier, has seen the material which a glacier carries. Winds of above average velocity often carry considerable amounts of sand and dust. This is evidenced in a dust storm.

Conditions often exist where the erosional agents are no longer capable of carrying their previous loads. Here the load is deposited in var-

ious forms depending on the erosional agent carrying the material. For example, when the flow of water in a stream or river is slowed, the water is no longer capable of carrying its previous load and so some of it is deposited. Sand bars, alluvial fans, and deltas are all deposited by running water. When a glacier melts, all the material which makes up its load is dropped. Much of Michigan's soil was deposited by glaciers. An example of a deposit of the erosional agent wind is the sand dune. This is formed when the wind's velocity is diminished, thus decreasing its load capacity.

After the deposition, the sediments will remain as loose sediments unless conditions are favorable to change them into rock. Often, if some types of deposits are sufficiently buried, pressure, created by the upper layers, and heat cause the deposit to become a solid mass. In other deposits, chemical reactions turn the sediments into rock. Examples of sedimentary rocks are sandstone, conglomerate, limestone, shale, chalk, and coal.

In conclusion, the formation of sedimentary rocks generally takes place in four steps: 1) weathering - the breaking up of rocks into small particles, 2) erosion - the movement of these particles by certain media, 3) deposition - the removal of the particles from the transporting media, and 4) solidification or cementation - the change of the loose sediments into solid rock.