

CENTRAL MICHIGAN ROCKHOUND NEWS



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NO. 5

"AFFILIATED WITH THE MIDWEST FEDERATION"
MEETING PLACE: EAST LANSING'S NEW HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM A132
THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH EXCEPT JULY & AUGUST
DUES: \$2.00 ANNUALLY. STUDENTS UNDER 18 YRS. OF AGE, \$1.00 ANNUALLY

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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY DIGGING IN 1958

President's Message

Here we are, almost to the end of our first year as a society!! Hard to believe, isn't it?

In case you've missed out on why our society was organized, here are some of the reasons:

1. To promote fellowship, and an exchange of ideas among members and visitors.
2. To increase all members' knowledge of geological mineral and related hobbies, and to permit exchange of learning and knowledge among the membership
3. To familiarize members with the geology of their local communities, and that of the state.
4. To promote Lapidary, Mineral or Treasure hobbies, for the pleasure, as well as the information which they give.
5. And to permit the hobbyist to learn and do so many things he or she could not accomplish in pursuit of the hobby alone.

We have had some growing pains while organizing, building membership and getting acquainted, but thanks to an interested and most co-operative membership, we have made real progress too. Now in 1958 we will really be ready to roll.

I'm sure that you will give your new officers your full co-operation on committee work, just as you have given it to me. Please continue to help, and keep on coming to the meetings.

We will have a potluck dinner (or a Bohemian) on January 16 for our annual meeting. Bring pictures taken on field trips this past year to show. We also hope to have a few pictures of gem hunting in the west. Full details will be announced at the December meeting.

And now----A very happy Christmas to all from your president and officers.

Preview of Coming Meeting

Meeting - December 19, 1957
East Lansing High School, 7:30 P.M.

A DO-IT-YOURSELF PROGRAM

New and exciting information on our Lapidary Hobby!!

Come and learn how to build needed equipment. See a demonstration of gem-tumbling by Roger Kirkby. Find out how to build a trim-saw and see how faceting

is done by Max Nusbaum. Learn the best ways to cut and grind Gem Stones, as demonstrated by Mr. Fulton.

There will be specimens of rough stones and finished gems shown.

Also ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS. Check with the slate of officers as selected by your nominating committee.

STOCKING STUFFERS and LAST MINUTE GIFTS

1. A car emblem - A. F. N. S. to put on your bumper - only 50¢
2. Midwest Federation Directory-- only 25¢

Clarence Kirkby has these for sale and will have some at the meeting.

"ROUND ROBIN" Field-trip

Not to see birds, this time, but collections. "Doc" Langham reports that there will be a trip the first Sunday in January to see collections owned by several of our own members. He will have complete details at the next meeting.

CLASSIFICATION OF ROCKS
(Continued from last issue)

IGNEOUS ROCKS

Molten material which has its origin within the earth is called magma. This magma is deep in the earth (probably 5 to 10 miles below the surface), and is very hot, with temperatures of 1300° C. or higher. When this hot magma under great pressure moves upward into the earth's crust, or to the surface, both pressure and temperature are lowered. Solidification of this magma produces igneous rock.

The rate of cooling has much to do with the texture of the rocks. If they cool very rapidly, there is no time for crystals to form, and the resulting rocks are glassy (obsidian). If they cool slowly, crystals have time to form, and sometimes grow to a considerable size.

When most of the mineral grains or crystals making up the rock are of approximately uniform size, and readily visible to the naked eye, the rock is said to have a granitoid texture (Granite). If the grains are too small to be seen, it is called dense or felsitic (felsite or basalt). A rock of this type may be partly uncrystallized.

Porphyritic rocks contain well-defined, relatively large crystals in a fine-grained or glassy base or ground-mass.

Porous, or cellular texture, is where the lava near the upper surface is filled with cavities where gases and steam have escaped. If these porous lavas are older, and the cavities have been filled by other minerals, then they are amygdoloidal.

The term fragmental texture may be applied to an accumulation (loose or consolidated) of fragments of igneous rocks which have been explosively ejected from volcanoes (Breccia and Volcanic ash, or Tuff).

Some substances in the magma are gaseous; others are oxides. The oxides in numerous combinations of two or more produce the minerals of igneous rocks.

Almost no fossils are found in igneous rocks.

Next month, Metamorphic rocks.

FIELD TRIP TO CRANBROOK
By Elmer R. Eckhardt

On Sunday Dec. 1, twenty-one of our members visited the Cranbrook Institute of Science at Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, ten miles north of Detroit.

The rock and mineral displays are enclosed in glass cases. All specimens are systematically arranged and clearly marked. There would be too much detail if an attempt were made to tell of the various displays, so only a very few of the details will be given.

As one enters the room where the mineral collection is kept, it is difficult to determine just which way to go and what to look at first. On closer examination one finds that the display cases are numbered, making it easy to take notes by case number.

Many specimens can be readily identified, but many more cannot be, and it is very convenient that an identifying card is placed by each specimen.

There are many fine specimens of calcite (some colored), gypsum (Selenite), fluorite, various iron ores (Magnetite Hematite), silver ore, iron pyrites, quartz (Opal, Agate), sulphur, celestite, native copper, native gold, tourmaline, pyrolusite, and natural diamonds.

Of special interest is a 100 pound topaz which is a remarkable example of crystal perfection. Other items not to be missed: a case of transparencies, thin slabs which show internal structure and patterns, a dark-room showing fluorescence of various minerals when exposed to ultra violet light, a gem room, the first synthetic diamonds, and their industrial application.

Some of the members attended a short lecture in the planetarium where our starry universe was briefly described.

The visit was very much enjoyed by all in attendance and many are planning a return visit.

Nominations 1958

Max Nusbaum and his nominating committee have come up with the following nominations for the year 1958:

-FOR-

President-----Joe Kreps
Vice President-----Leon North
Secretary-----Grace Shappell
Treasurer-----Laura Kreps

Directors;
Dr. Stonehouse-----1 Year
Elmer Eckhardt-----3 years

Fred Gashe has two more years to serve as director and Clarence Kirkby as past president will automatically serve on the Board of Directors for the next year.