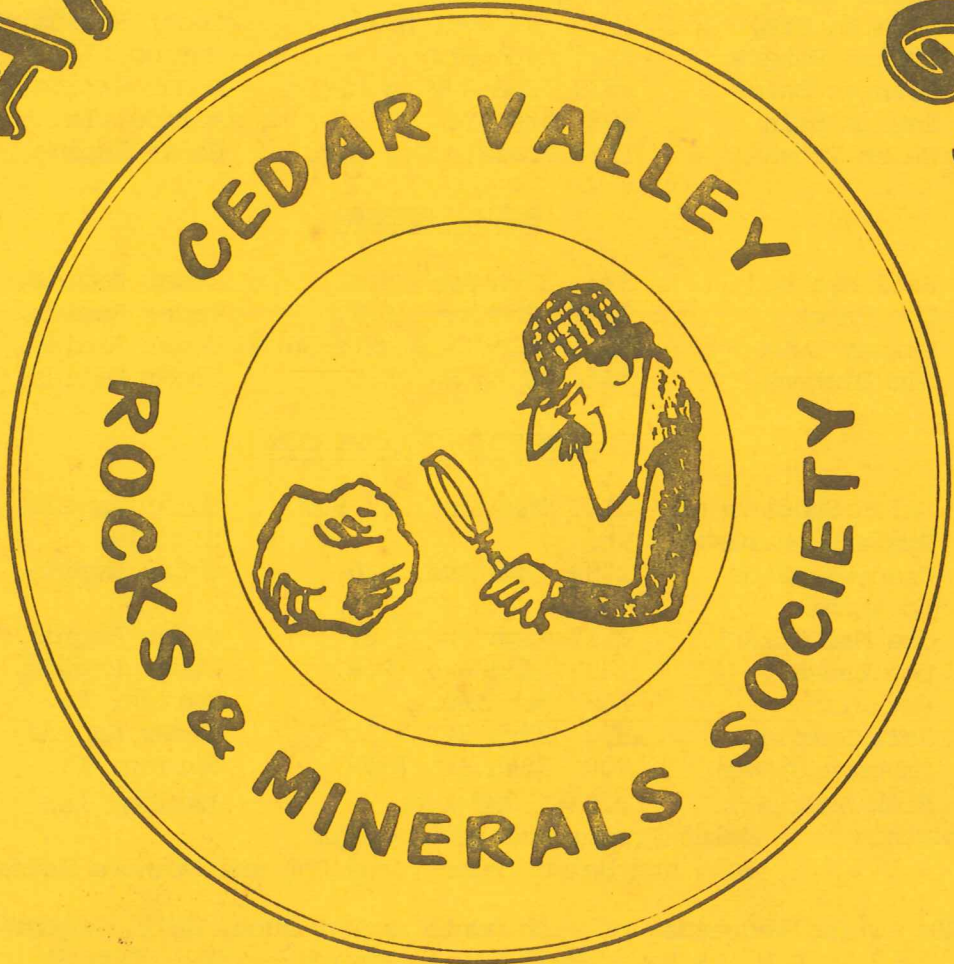


CEDAR VALLEY
GEMS
ROCKS & MINERALS SOCIETY



FEB 1978

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA



CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS AND MINERALS SOCIETY, INC.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

This corporation is organized for the purpose of studying the earth sciences of mineralogy, geology, paleontology, and the arts of lapidary. We were organized on June 12, 1951, incorporated on June 21, 1956, as a non-profit organization.

OFFICERS

President	Larry DeSotel	247 Sussex Drive N.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	377-1641
Vice-Pres.	Alice Brown	360 Tonga Dr.	Hiawatha, Ia.	393-7193
Secretary	Alberta Cray	1125 J. Ave. N.W.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	362-5530
Treasurer	Marian Peters	1475 24th St.	Marion, Ia.	377-2839
Liaison	Frances Bates	2739 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	366-6012
Editor	Leslie Blin	505 5th Ave.	Marion, Ia.	377-3339
Co-Editor	Helen Troxel	1138 Prairie Dr. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	365-3451

BOARD MEMBERS

Term ends:				
Dec. 1978	Bill Myers	335 27th Ave. S.W.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	362-7080
Dec. 1979	Don Bates	2739 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	366-6012
Dec. 1980	Skinny Lutz	Wiley Blvd & Rogers Rd. NW	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	396-6194
Past Pres.	Jim Dickens	531 30 th St. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	363-7693

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Membership	Helen Shedenhelm	2111 Chandler St. S.W.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	365-3089
Hospitality	Rosie Richardson	Rt. 1,	Ely, Ia.	848-4040
	Frances Bates	2739 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	366-6012
Telephone & Sun shine	Ora Mae Cozart	2117 High Dr. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	362-3471
Display	Don Bates	2739 2nd Ave. S.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	366-6012
Supply	Pat Blin	505 5th Ave.	Marion, Ia.	377-3339
Librarian	Jeff Nekola	800 25th St. N.E.	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	363-9792
Historian	LaVonne Grove	700 35th St. #309	Marion, Ia.	377-3614
Field Trips	Rick Austin	2233½ 3rd Ave.	Marion, Ia.	377-4741
Resource Materials	Helen Troxel and Leslie Blin			
Pebble Pups	John and Helen Troxel, and Don and Frances Bates			

CLUB MEETINGS: Third Wednesday of each month except June, July, August, and December 7:30 P.M., R.E.C. Building in Marion -- 999 35th St.

BOARD MEETINGS: Fourth Wednesday of each month except June, July, and August -- 7:30P.M.

CLUB DUES: Due and payable January 1st of each year. Deadline is March 1st.
Regular membership -- \$6.00 per adult couple; \$4.00 per single adult; \$6.00 per family membership.
Junior or Pebble Pup Membership -- \$3.00 (A member under 18 years of age.
Associate Membership -- \$4.00 per family (associate members will receive the club bulletins but may not vote or hold office.)
 Persons joining during the year will pay dues to the nearest quarter.

Members are requested to contribute articles to be published in the bulletin. Articles should be given to the Editor by the FIRST of the month to be in that month's bulletin.

Articles may be reprinted if credit is given the author and the bulletin.

CEDAR VALLEY GEMS
CEDAR VALLEY ROCKS AND MINERALS SOCIETY
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

FEBRUARY, 1978
VOL. 5, ISSUE 6
PAGE 1



FEBRUARY MEETING

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 7:30 PM

REC Building in Marion

PROGRAM- "Plant Life Thru The Ages" a MWF slide program.

DISPLAY TABLE- Plant fossils, a good time to bring some you need identified. If you have no plant fossils please bring anything you'd like to display or have identified.



PROGRAMS- by Alice Brown

At our February meeting we will have a Midwest slide program entitled "Plant Life Thru The Ages". We have already viewed some of these slides and find them to be very good. A very informative lecture follows through the program. This is a fairly long program; so please try to come early so we will have more time. I'm sure you won't want to miss this one if you are at all interested in fossils.

As many of you remember March has become our "White Elephant auction date." All profits go to make up the needed amount for our yearly 100% in the Midwest Federation Scholarship fund. This auction is really becoming a fun thing and an event where you can buy WHITE ELEPHANTS, potted plants, jams, relish, cake, cookies, rocks, craft items, scratch pads, magazines and I don't know what all. Please plan ahead for March and don't forget your elephant!

BOARD MEETING- Wednesday, February 22nd, 7:30 PM

At the home of Don & Fran Bates. Board members please contact Pres. DeSotel if you cannot attend. ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 10... Pebble Pups---Troxels

Feb. 25-26..Albert Lea, Minn.--Show-Skyline Mall

Feb. 26....Pebble Pup meeting--DeSotel's home

March 4...Fossil Club meeting-2:00PM-Augustana College, Rock Island, ILL.

March 10-12...Kansas City, Mo.--Show-K.C. Trade Mart

March 11.....5-8:15 PM---Potluck & Silent Auction-Verona, Wisc.

March 10-12..Grand Haven, Michigan-Show

March 31-April 2....Lincoln, Nebraska--Show--Fairgrounds

April 8-9...Mason City, Ia.--Show-North Iowa Fairgrounds-four clubs

*The Waterloo Show has been changed to April 22 & 23. It had been listed as Feb. 25-26.

DUES are due, NOW!!!! If you don't pay your dues by March 1st you will NOT receive the March newsletter.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - REGULAR MEETING



Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society met at the REC Building, Marion, Iowa, January 18, 1978, at 7:30 P.M.

Larry DeSotel, president, called the meeting to order, and extended a welcome to members and guests. Fran Bates introduced guests Shirley Murray and Mr. Thompson. (There were other guests who arrived a bit later.)

Fran asked for volunteers for cookies or ?? for future meetings. She passed a clipboard for members to sign up for their most convenient date.

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Larry read thank you notes from two of the recipients of Christmas baskets.

Alberta Cray read two or three advertisements, which were placed on the table for member's use.

Marian Peters read a very nice, newsy letter from Bill and Betty Beranek. Beraneks have moved to Florida. They have joined the Gold Coast Gem and Mineral Club at Ft. Lauderdale.

Marian also read a note from the Willsons at Vinton, stating that due to the distance to meetings, they would like to be associate members.

Norman Brown, 1978 Show Chairman, exhibited our flyers. He announced there would be a show meeting, Sunday, Jan. 22 at 1:30 P.M. at the Marion Community Center. Everyone should plan to attend.

Alice Brown announced that Helen Lutz had fallen and broken her leg. Helen Shedenhelm reported on several of the members who are in the south. She reported that Jim and Mary Dickens had found it necessary to return to Iowa due to an illness in their son's family. Merrill and Lavonne Grove are in Yuma, Arizona.

Helen Troxel announced Don Bates will be teaching the Pebble Pups how to make cabs for the next two Saturdays at 1:30 P.M. They have 9 pebble pups in the group at present.

The meeting was adjourned.

A slide program of last year's show was enjoyed by the members.

Respectfully submitted
Alberta Cray, Secretary

Oh, what a blamed uncertain thing
This pesky weather is;
It blew and sned and it thew,
And now, by jing, it's friz!

From PICK & SHOVEL BY Philander Johnson



SECRETARY'S REPORT - BOARD MEETING

The Board of Cedar Valley Rocks and Minerals Society met at the home of John and Helen Troxel, Jan. 25, 1978, at 7:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Larry DeSotel. It was noted that all board members were present except Jim Dickens and Skinny Lutz.

Treasurer Marian Peters gave the treasurer's report. She read a bill which had been presented by Leslie Blin, as follows:

duplicating paper - \$35.54, rent for the Marion Community Center - \$7.50, Postage for the newsletter - \$17.50, Postage and envelopes for mailing Resource books - .95, Postage to mail bulletins to bulletin contest - \$1.12, Postage to mail Resource book to Merit Award contest - \$1.77, additional postage - .39 - for a total of \$64.77.

A motion was made that the bills be paid. It was seconded and carried. Marion also reported on our savings account and interest accrued on Certificates of Deposit.

The report was approved as given.

There was a question as to the dues for Pebble Pups. Pebble Pup's dues are \$3.00 for the year whether they are a member of the club or not - up to age 18. (If they are a member of the club, by virtue of a family membership, they do not pay general membership dues. Only those youth who's family does not belong to the club, are required to pay dues. This covers the cost of receiving the bulletin.)

The February Board meeting will be held at the home of Don and Fran Bates.

Alberta Cray reported she had been contacted by Gladys Zobac as to the Science Fair contribution. The consensus of opinion was that we give the same as last year - \$25.00.

There was a discussion on the bulletin covers. Leslie announced that she does not have enough covers on hand for the February mailing. It was decided to make a few minor changes on the inside cover. Don Bates will check on the cost of having the covers printed at Collins. Alberta Cray will check on the cost of having it printed at the Light Company.

Marian Peters reported that the covers had cost \$31.00 last year.

Alberta Cray inquired if we should be making reservations for summer picnics. Cedar Rapids charges \$5.00 per reservation so we will schedule both picnics in Marion. Alberta will call for reservations.
(June 21, 1978 - 5 - 9 green pavillion at Thomas Park)
(July 19, 1978 - 5 - 9 green pavillion at Thomas Park)

Field trip chairman was at issue since we would like to include his or her name on the bulletin cover - Rickey Austin was suggested. Larry will call him. continued..... next page

SECRETARY'S REPORT OF Board Minutes - cont'd.

Programs for meetings were discussed. Alice explained the problem she had had, in that 'hoped for' speakers failed to respond in time for her to secure an alternate speaker.

Don Bates made a motion that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried.

Respectfully submitted
Alberta Cray, Secretary

MIDWEST FEDERATION SHOW -August 10-13, 1978

The plans for the Midwest Federation convention and show to be held in Cedar Rapids this August 10-13 are coming along nicely.

Our committee heads are writing feverishly for programs, exhibits, open house field trips and outdoor field trips. These field trips will be hosted by museums, colleges and/or dealers. You may wish to visit one or more of these on your route to or from the Cedar Rapids area in August. Information will be mailed out in May containing a schedule of these activities or write Helen Troxel at 525 Valley Brook Dr. S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403.

Mail is arriving almost daily with questions on exhibiting, camping, pre-registration sheets and motel information.

Several programs are already confirmed and we have over 140 ft. of exhibitor space filled at this writing.

If you plan to exhibit please contact Dorothy Shoemaker (competitive) 320 Medill, North Lake, Illinois 60164; Frances Ling, (non-competitive) 305 N. 15th Ave. W., Newton, Iowa 50208 or Alice Brown, 360 Tonga Dr., Hiawatha, Iowa 52233 (non-competitive). Everyone must fill out an application before bringing an exhibit. In planning for table rental and electricity it is imperative that we know the footage and watts of electricity to be required.

All those planning to camp must fill out an application. The Cedar Valley club members will be required to pay the same fee as those coming from elsewhere.

Our first bulletins have been mailed out to all Midwest clubs listing some of the already signed speakers, programs and exhibitors.

All of our demonstrating dealer, retail dealer and wholesaler space has been filled. We surely are looking forward to a really good show and we hope each of you, in your own way, can and will have a part in making it a success.

Show Chairman,
Norman Brown

For those attending the Midwest Federation convention and show that have extended vacations or retirement couples who will be in our area for a longer period of time; you'll find a hearty welcome at the "ALL IOWA SWAP" hosted by the Mineral Study Club of Muscatine. This will be held in Grandview, Iowa on AUGUST 26th and 27th, 1978.

continued next page.....

MIDWEST FEDERATION SHOW-continued.....

The "ALL ILLINOIS SWAP" listed as a Triple Crown event combines the Edwards River Earth Science Club annual show, the All Illinois swap and the National fossil exchange. The Edwards River Earth Science club is hosting this event and it will be held at Aledo, Illinois fairgrounds on July 14-16, 1978.

Both these clubs have a reputation for putting on an excellent swap. I'm sure you won't be disappointed if you can fit one or both in your schedule.

Norman Brown

A NEW FOSSIL CLUB.....by Alice Brown

Saturday February 4, 1978 twenty people gathered at Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois in the geology building. These people represented 7 clubs in the Midwest Federation; all having an avid interest in fossils and a strong desire to increase their collections. This formative meeting came up rather suddenly and just by chance, these few people became aware of it and so, gathered together. The Browns and Crays attended from C.R.

The next meeting will be held at Augustana (geology building) on March 4th at 2:00PM hopefully we will have many more people who will hear of the meeting and have a desire to gain more knowledge in the paleontology field.

Those attending the February meeting were from LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Donnellson, Iowa, Cedar Rapids, Iowa and the Quad City area.

A short period was spent viewing the museum. It is truly an outstanding fossil collection. You will surely want to see it even if you don't choose to join the fossil club.

The meeting was called to order with Donald Good, the Paleontology director of the Midwest Federation officiating. Much was accomplished to form a club; with many motions acted upon. A committee was formed to work up a set of by-laws to be presented at a later meeting. As of this writing, we determined to hold the meetings at Augustana the 1st Saturday afternoon (2:00 P.M.) of each month excepting June, July, and August. We will probably hold an informal meeting at a swap or show during that period. It is understood that members might miss a number of meetings due to distance, weather, health and etc.

Don was elected as temporary chairman until the by-laws are completed. Then a regular election will be held. This club's purpose will be to further our own interest and knowledge in the paleontology field.

A contest is being held to name this paleontology club. It will encompass people throughout the midwest. A prize will be given for the name selected.

The March meeting will be a "show and tell" with each member bringing (one only) fossil, unusual, if possible. Each member will elaborate on his specimen or learn from others more about it.

Since our own secretary, Alberta Cray, was the first one caught taking notes; she was given the honor of writing up the minutes for the first or organizational meeting of this club.

Wouldn't you like to join in the fossil fun at Augustana in March?

PEBBLE PUPS POST.....By Helen Troxel

Welcome to new paid P.P--Jeff Nekola, 800 25th St. N.E., C.R. 52402. That's our boy!

Next meetings: Febuary 10, Friday, 4:00PM at Troxels (525 ValleyBrook Drive S.E.) and Febuary 26, Sunday, 1:30 PM at Betty & Larry DeSotels (247 Sussex Drive N.E.,-Bowman Woods) for an Indoor Field Trip to see their collection.

Question: How does one entertain Pebble Pups who are confined in cars for a few hours going on field trips??

Answer: Choose a very cold frosty day such as last Jan.15th for the Des Moines trip. Wait until passengers' breath has frosted over the windows. Then arm each Pup with an ice scraper and play "indoor snowball fight!"....3 points for a nose hit, 5 for an ear, etc. Guaranteed hilarious with creative Pups as passengers, amusing, and



harmless. By the way, the D.M. trip was GREAT. What a collection is the Straight display at Drake! And the internationally-famous crinoid and starfish slabs in the State Historical Museum---incredible! Nor do some of us believe, even yet, the grain-by-grain skill needed for the sand-painting at the Historical Museum entrance. They just can't be for real!!

If you see Pebble Pups sporting new jewelry, it may be because of their successful cab lessons with Don Bates. Don will continue to work with them on individual bases whenever they ask him for help. Good deal, eh?

Thanks to the Blins and Hatfields for rides to D.M. for Pups, and to Alberta Cray for material for labels.

Scientist: Tell me how fast light travels.

Assistant: The same way slow light travels.

Teacher: We start class at exactly 8 o'clock.

Student: That's OK with me, but if I'm not here by then, just go ahead without me.

Science teacher: Light from the sun reaches the earth in only 6 seconds. Isn't that marvelous?

Student: Not really. It's downhill all the way.

Teacher: Name two pronouns.

Cranshaw: Who? Me?

Man on Phone: Hello, weather bureau? What are the chances of a shower for tonight?

Weatherman: I'd say go ahead and take one if you really need it.

Come join the Pebble Pups if: 1. You're interested in rocks. 2. you're under 18. 3. you have \$3.00 for the 1978 dues. 4. you want to have fun learning.

PEBBLE PUP POST

HAVE SOME FUN, FIND THE MINERAL NAMES--From ILLOWA NEWS GRINDER

A C Q U A E T I T A M R A M	AGATE
L G H O P E T I N E F L U W	ALMANDINE
M A R R F L U O R I T E Y E	ANKERITE
A G A F Y Z Q S I T E M F L	AUGITE
N B S I T S Z A P O T E O R	BARARITE
D U W L A P O H M A T R O N	BARITE
I Z E T I R Y P H I C A O P	BISMUTH
N R P E L M N O R C I L T R	TIGEREYE
E T I R E K N A G A R O N G	CHRYSOPRASE
O I P E A R R U G S S T A K	EMERALD
R G I A I A O G P A N E T E	FLUORITE
U E E R B A R I T E R A R T	GALENA
B R W E A L Y T E D A J O I	GARNET
Y E E T N E E E J A R N L N	HUEBNERITE
X Y T I D P G A R N E T I I	KAOLINITE
H E I R D I P A H C I O T L	LEPIDOLITE
T S L E N D C L L K S Z E O	MARMATITE
U T O N O O L D O E Z T L A	NATRON
M R T B M L O O Q U N R G K	NATROLITE
S A C E A I C A K E S A L F	OPAL
I U E U I T K N W V T U A J	PECTOLITE
B Q P H D E S P R E U Q S V	QUARTZ
	PYRITE
	WULFENITE
	TOPAZ
	JADE
	RUBY
	DIAMOND

GEMS OF THOUGHT

FROM PIK-N-ROK

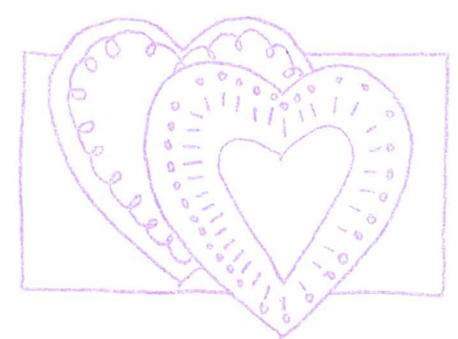
"The man who does things makes many mistakes, but he never makes the biggest mistake of all---doing nothing."

It's your club, get involved!

FROM REAR TRUNK

Try These Tongue Twisters

Round and round the rugged rock the rascal ran.
 Rubber baby-buggy bumpers.
 Black bugs blood.
 A proper cup of coffee in a copper coffee pot.
 Sinful Caesar sipped his snifter, seized his knees and sneezed.



C.V.R.&M.S. HISTORY.....1976 in review. By LaVonne Grove

Officers for 1976 were: President Larry DeSotel; Vice-President Alice Brown; Secretary Leslie Blin; Treasurer Wilma Ramsell; Liaison Frances Bates; Editor Betty DeSotel; Co-Editor Jackie Steiner; Board members: Howard Barnett, Alberta Cray, Ray Shedenhelm and Past-President Jim Dickens. (Howard Barnett was unable to attend Board meetings and so resigned in March. Bill Myers was elected to replace him.)

Standing Committee Chairmen were: Membership-Marian Peters; Hospitality Gertrude Myers; Magazine-Idella Hogan; Telephone/Publicity-Helen Shedenhelm; Beginners Resource-Marian Peters; Historian-LaVonne Grove;Supplies Patty Blin; Field Trips-Robert Blin; Swap-Mel Abernathy; Show Co-ordinator-Truman Ramsell; Scholarship-Jim Dickens,LaVonne Grove & Norman Brown; Christmas Baskets-Marian Peters, Cliff Steiner and Elwin Wolf. Displays-Don Bates. Nominating Committee-Norman Brown, Wally Peters and LaVonne Grove.

Monthly meetings were held in the REC Bldg. in Marion, except for June, July and August. Programs for the meetings were: JANUARY-CV Scholarship recipient, for 1975, Neil Derynck presented a slide/lecture on his summer field trip course in the Wasatch-Uinta mountains. FEBUARY-Paul Garvin, Professor of Geology, Cornell College, gave a program entitled "Gem Substitutes or will the real Ruby stand up?". MARCH-Truman Ramsell conducted a rock and white elephant auction, with members contributing the items, proceeds to add to the AFMS Scholarship Fund. (Enough additional money was added to funds already donated by the Club to become 400% contributors in the fund. That is one dollar per member four times. The Club recieved a Certificate in recognition.) APRIL-MWF film on "Making a Cabachon" was shown and the 1976 CV Show was discussed in retrospect. MAY-James Lucas, SUI Graduate student, showed remote sensing film, from the Iowa Geological Survey Dept. and told about its practical uses. JUNE-Potluck at Bever Park, no program. JULY-Bill & Gert Myers hosted a potluck supper at their summer cabin. AUGUST-Keith and Cheryl Beatty hosted a Potluck/corn roast at their farm. SEPTEMBER Annual "Brag " night. Members brought their favorite finds to "show & tell". OCTOBER-CV Scholarship winner, for 1976, Jerry McGinnis, gave a slide program on the Wasatch-Uinta area and surrounding areas.NOVEMBER Gladys Zobac, former Historian, gave a talk on the early history of the Club and members told some of their memories of past years. Club Memorabilia was displayed. DECEMBER-Annual Christmas Party. After a Potluck supper, T.J. Ramsell presented the annual "Purple Banana" awards for members goofs that they were caught at during the year.(T.J. lost his list so undoubtedly some members escaped recognition, T.J.'s memory not being what it once was and we are still wondering if some enterprising member helped the list get lost.) Members contributed enough canned goods, food, gifts and money, to fill three Christmas baskets, for three needy families.

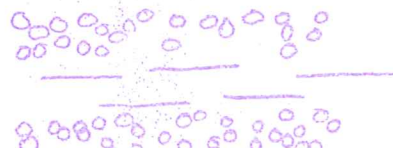
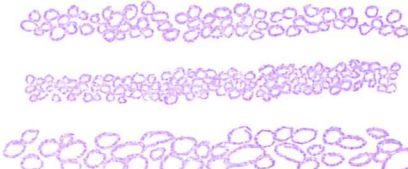
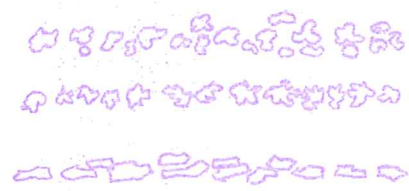
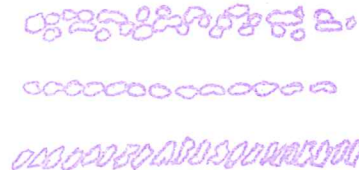
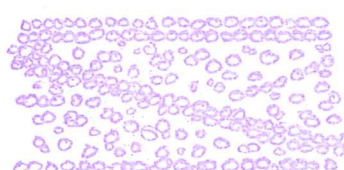
CV was 25 years old in June, 1976. The event was celebrated on October 30, at a banquet held in the Longbranch Supper Club. Seventy-three members and guests attended. Guests of Honor were Past-President Carl Bruckner(1955-1956) and wife Ella, Past-Pres. Harold Heath(1961-63) and daughter Nanette, Past-Pres. Norman Brown(1964-1968) and wife Alice, Past-Pres. William Beranek(1971-1972) and wife Betty, Past-Pres. Jim Dickens (1972-1974) and wife Mary, Charter member Elizabeth Willson(widow of Past-Pres. William Willson(1954-55) (continued next month)

OF SAND AND SANDSTONES---Part I

Interpreted by Helen Troxel from.....Sand and Sandstone by Pettijohn, Potter and Siever

Sandstone consists of a framework of grains, with silt and clay between some of them, chemical cements and an interconnecting network of void spaces or pores. The lack of geometric regularity, and the small size of some of the component parts make it quite difficult to specify the pattern, shape or size of this pore network. The network is of great importance, however, for it is the pore system which permits a sandstone to store and transmit fluids----ground waters, oil, gas and mineralizing solutions.

The "porosity" of sandstone is a function of the five characteristics sketched below: composition (the chemical analysis of the particles within the sandstone), size (the size of the grains), shape (the shape of the grains), orientation (the direction in which the grains lie), and packing (the way the grains fit together, leaving either large or small spaces or void among the; the "density" of the fabric elements.)

<p>Composition: c</p> 	<p>Size: s</p> 
<p>Shape: sh</p> 	<p>Orientation: o</p> 
<p>Packing: p</p> 	<p>Porosity= f(c,s,sh,o,p)</p>

Absolute (Total) Porosity is different from Effective Porosity. The total volume of the pore space is the Absolute Porosity, but since all the spaces may not be connected, the effectiveness of the material may be considerably reduced. Pumice and foam plastic have large Total or Absolute Porosity, but low Effective ratings. Sand, on the other hand, can have both large Absolute and Effective Porosities.

The type of packing also influences the porosity. Spherical grains may be tightly packed and yield a Total or Absolute Porosity of 25.9%, But.....
continued next page.....

OF SAND AND SANDSTONES---continued

the loosest packing of the same spherical grains will allow an Absolute Porosity of 87.5%.

The amount of compaction and cementation can reduce porosity from 50% or more in sand to 0% in quartzite.

And finally, another term, "permeability", is related to Effective and Total Porosities, yet is different from them. "Permeability" is the hydraulic conductivity of a material, and is different for porosity because of the small scale roughness on the walls of the pore system(s) and also is determined by the length of the paths through which the liquid or gas must flow.

PART II.....next month.

FIELD TRIP TO DES MOINES

Eighteen members attended the Open House at Drake U. in Des Moines on Jan.15th to see the Straight Collection. The Blins & Jeff Nekola, Troxels & Roxanne Meeks & Curtis Thorton, and the Hatfields left C.R. at 8:00AM that Sunday morning. It was a frosty, cold morning but the temperature rose from -9° to 0° when we left downtown C.R. The sun was barely visible thru the fog and frost. Took a lot of scraping the frost off side windows so we could see the beautiful frosty landscape. After stopping at every rest stop for one reason or another we made it to the Historical Museum about 10:30. The rest of the morning was spent looking at the cases and cases of fossils and minerals and a few made it to other parts of the museum. Bud & Alberta Cray arrived, they had taken a side trip past Marshalltown. We especially enjoyed the crinoids and the sandbottles at the entrance. The Troxels and Hatfields went to see the Capitol while the Crays and us headed towards Drake in search of a McDonalds. Finally found one but the rest of the group never did find us till we all got to Drake at 1:00. Met each other hunting for a parking place.

If John doesn't get a Purple Banana for this it isn't his fault! He drove into a campus parking lot and ask a student directions to Ingham Hall., it was pointed out....."that away", so...he drove.... ."that away", not noticing for a while that he wasn't on a street but a sidewalk(those VW's do fit on sidewalks) but Hatfields big station wagon looked sort of out of place following them we heard. Played follow the leader for quite a while before we all found a spot to park.

The Straight collection in Ingham Hall is displayed beautifully and is an outstanding collection, many rocks and minerals we had never saw before, many unusual and brilliantly colored ones. We hope all club members can get there to see them sometime.

The Browns, Alice & Norman joined the group soon after we arrived. The Central Iowa Mineral Society and Drake were hosts and served coffee and cookies and we enjoyed visiting with them. We got to talk to the Campbells who are members of our club but live in Des Moines.

We left to come home about 4. A very enjoyable field trip, only we wished more members could have gone along. All who went agreed we should do it again.

The Blins

REMEMBER this little thought as you begin another day along life's golden path: If you woke up Sleep and Grumpy this morning, you must be Snow White.

From Achates via Little Gem

SANDING DISCS



Instead of throwing away worn sanding discs, one should mix a small container full of $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of grit- 100, 200 or whatever size you want - with $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon water- glass (sodium silicate) mixed with $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon water, and apply to used sanding discs. Let dry for two hours, and your discs will be as good as new.

From The Nishna Valley Grindstone- Via Pick & Chisel

Sad fact of life: Square meals make round people.

From Pick & Chisel

LAPIDARY TIPS VIA THE TULLY

Over and over, in the various exchange bulletins, I have read the tip that you should put a few drops of rubbing alcohol in the bottle of water in which you keep opals. It is supposed to keep them from turning a black and the water from turning stagnant.

WE TRIED THIS TIP and wish to report the results. The matrix on most of our Mexican Opal turned black. It had not done this in plain water. As for the water not turning stagnant -- well I guess you might say it did not get stagnant. Actually what it did was to go beyond "stagnant." Bill has orders never to open those jars of opals in my kitchen again. Betty Myers

(via Gem City Rock News) From Fulton County Rockhounds

HIDE THAT CRACK:



The secret of the art of healing fractures in a cab with epoxy is to shade your stone and semi-polish it. To get rid of that nasty crack, heat the stone to 200 degrees in the oven. Gradually apply the resin, working slowly from one end of the crack to the other. This is very important. You will notice that the epoxy becomes very liquid when it touches the hot stone, and it flows right into the crack. By applying the epoxy at one end and working towards the outside edge of the cab, the air flows in the fracture is driven out and the epoxy replaces it. Then put the stone back in the oven and let it remain there for another 20 min. By the time the epoxy will harden. Scrape off the surplus and proceed with your final polish. If you do this right the fractures will be very difficult to detect.

From THE ROCKSLIDE via Mesabi Media.

If you do your best ---- you will feel good

If you leave it to someone else-- you will feel guilty

What category will you be in when the show is over?

From THE ROCKSLIDE

ROCKS, MINERALS & FOSSILS OF IOWA

From the April 1977 IOWA CONSERVATIONIST...By Lee Olson

One usually doesn't associate rock, mineral, or fossil collecting with conservation. However, it is an outdoor activity and hobby which can involve the whole family and provide one with the opportunity to see and appreciate some of the natural beauty found in Iowa.

Despite the fact that Iowa lacks the type of geography conducive to finding valuable minerals, as in mountainous regions, it does not seem to hinder ardent explorers or enthusiasts in their search. Depending on the area, Lake Superior agates, jasper, siderite, dolomite, calcite, petrified wood and geodes can be found throughout Iowa. Fossils abound in eastern half of Iowa, in the large limestone deposits and in the quarries found in abundance in that section of the state.

Western Iowa is not an extensive gem area, although there is a deposit of polishable chert known as "rice agate" located near Red Oak in Southwest Iowa. The silicified stone overlies a limestone quarry just west of Red Oak along Walnut Creek.

Many streams in Western Iowa offer good specimens of conglomerate, a sedimentary rock composed of small pebbles and bits of rock. The gravels will also yield good specimens of Lake Superior agate, especially those areas North of Highway 30 along the Raccoon River. Also, moss agates and good specimens of petrified wood have been found in the same gravels.

As in the case with all private property in Iowa, permission to hunt and collect must be asked and rules of safety and courtesy obeyed.

In northern Iowa, especially in Fayette, Black Hawk, Bremer, and Benton counties, good quality Lake Superior agates have been found in creek beds.

The Mason City area has some good quarries for collecting marine fossils of many species. The best bet is the Rockford Brick and Tile Co., at Rockford. With permission from the company, one can find the ground covered with brachiopod fossils. The creek beds between Elgin and Clermont yield good trilobite specimens. Nearly all of Northeast Iowa has limestone outcroppings which will yield many fine pelecypods, gastropods, corals, and crinoid stems.

One of the most unusual rock specimens from northern Iowa comes from near Webster City, in Hamilton County. This is an exceptionally attractive, well-developed cone-in-cone calcite. This strange kind of calcite resembles tiny cones nested one inside the other.

The exact location is near the small community of Stanhope. Go north from Stanhope on Route 17 to the second crossroad. Turn west until you come to the end of the maintained road. Here you will see a well-traveled trail heading north. Follow it until you reach a bridge and park on the right side of the road. From where you park, look back across the bridge and you will see the veins of cone-in-cone. (continued next month.....)

FLORDIA PALEONTOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER ---free

If you are a "genuinely interested paleontologist" and wish to receive a newsletter of general interest, the purpose of which is to "circulate authoritative material on Florida paleontology and to foster communications among enthusiasts of this subject", please send your questions, announcements, and other communications to the address given below. The issue of Oct., 1976 is removing specimens from the field without damage. "The Plaster Jacket", Florida State Museum, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611. Contributed by Helen Troxel. (Editors note...Neva Shaw gave us some copies of this newsletter to go to the club library, so you will be able to check them out soon.)

ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM HELEN TROXEL.....

Dr. Jeffry Schablian, Fossil Plant Department in the Botany-Chemistry Building, next to Trowbidge Hall, will assist anyone in identification of vegetable fossils. In fact, he commented recently that he enjoyed talking with rockhounds--that they sometimes have new locations and discoveries to tell him. He seems quite congenial, so write him at the University of Iowa if you wish to make an appointment to see him.

FOR SALE --Showcase, regulation size, Rotating Timex case, casting plaster, sand and powdered colors, 12" rock saw. Don & Neva Shaw 377-2612

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!! HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!! GET WELL SOON!!!!
All this can be said to Skinny and Helen Lutz. They celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on Sunday the 5th, that was also Skinneys ? birthday and Helen needs the GET WELL as she well on some ice on Jan. 11th and fractured her left ankle in two places so will be wearing a cast for a while. She said last nite that it doesn't hurt as bad as it did and she is learning to get around better and hopes to make it to the meeting this month.

WE HAVE A FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN!!!!

Rick Austin has agreed to be Field Trip Chairman this year, says he will need some help, so lets all call him with good ideas for places to go on field trips. Won't be long now(hopefully) that the snow will be melting and uncovering all those pretty agates.

PLEASE give Ora Mae Cozart a ring if you hear of any member who is ill and would appreciate a card. She can't send cards unless she knows.

Thanks to Geraldine Brown for the gummed labels, we have talked about them for years, I'm sure they will be a timesaver.
NEW MEMBERS-Please add to your directory

Shirley Murray
615 26th St. N.W.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
366-7030

Lumir & Elma Dlack
1531 Ellis Blvd. N.W.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
362-4594 Res.
363-7731 Store

Alan Weber
4435 F Ave. N.E.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
393-4977

WANTED- "White Elephants" for the auction at the March 15th meeting.
Remember this as you clean house.

Thanks to Alberta for typing and to everyone for the articles, too many for this month, will get them in next month. *Leslie, Helen, Bob + Pat*

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