

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

OCTOBER 1988

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PAGE 1

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND CHANGE OF MEETING PLACE

October 26, 1988 will be the date—the fourth Wednesday. We will be moving to the People's Bank, oops, its Norwest now, on 3rd Avenue and 1st St. S.W. You will enter the bank on the 3rd Avenue side. You may take the stairs, or the elevator to the lower level. We will be meeting on the fourth Wednesday until further notice. (This may make a problem in November—the next day being Thanksgiving. Guess we will work that out.) There is a large parking lot just west of the bank, or there is some parking on the street. Please mark your calendars now. It may be a bit difficult to adjust to this new date.

Betty DeSotel, program chairman, reports that our speaker will be a scholarship recipient from Cornell College. The speaker will have slides.

HOST - Milo Cervený.

MEMORIAL for Wilma Ramsell

In a letter from John Ramsell, he states, "I do not recall that Larry DeSotel and Rod and I completed any arrangements for the Rock Club memorial to Wilma. We sent the memorials which were received at the time of her funeral, to Mercy Hospital. If the Rock Club wants to make a memorial to Wilma, I would suggest that it be added to your club's scholarship fund, in her name - rather than to send it to Mercy Hospital."

MEMORIAL for Howard "Babe" Barnett

I have visited with Sylvia regarding Babe's memorial. Sylvia gave me a check which she wishes to add to our scholarship fund in Babe's name. She suggests, if we wish to make a memorial to Babe, to give it to the Linn County Historical Museum. Sylvia has donated a number of items to the museum for the Natural History area. It is good that we can contribute in a small way to the preservation of these articles.

I will be unable to be at the October meeting; so I hope with the above information, these memorials can be completed.

FIRE TRUCKS ARE RED BECAUSE: Fire trucks have four wheels and eight men. Everyone knows that four and eight make twelve. There are twelve inches in a foot. A foot is a ruler. Queen Elizabeth, a ruler, is also the name of the largest ship on the seas. Seas have fish, and fish have fins. The Finns fought the Russians. Russians are red. Fire trucks are always rushin' around, therefore fire trucks are red. If you think this is wild, you should hear some people explain why they don't have time to write a tiny article for the bulletin about their summer vacations or their hobbies.

via Escomo, to us via Fulton County Rockhounds

SHOW MEETING - Oct. 5, 1988

There was a full house at Marv and Sue Hougs for the first show meeting. Marv reported Roger had contracts with three of the dealers and one of the demonstrating dealers. Due to a show in Lincoln, Nebraska on the same date, several of our regular dealers will not be able to be with us.

A sheet was passed for each to sign for his or her favorite committee. Sharon Sonneleitner will be the Show Chairman. Sue Houg will be chairing the kitchen. Many of the other committees have either a chairman or a helper. Call Sharon if you would like to either help on a particular committee or if you would like to chair a particular committee.

You really blew it if you were not there. Pappé brought the treat. A fruit pizza- it was as pretty as a picture with grapes, strawberries, kiwi, pineapple and more. It was so good. When seconds were offered, I surely did not hesitate.

DINOSAUR EXHIBIT, November 9, '88 through January 8, '89. at the SCIENCE CENTER, downtown Cedar Rapids.

The exhibit, EXPLORE-A-SAURUS will be open until 9 P.M. Monday, Thursday and Friday, and until 6 P.M. Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday.

They need interested volunteers to help. There will be special sneak preview tours for all the volunteers to complete their training. These tours will be offered at 9:30 am, 1 pm, and 7 pm. What day???

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27 - 6:30 - 8:30, Dr. Robert Foley, of Kirkwood College will be presenting an informative and entertaining program on dinosaurs. The program will also be presented on Tuesday, Nov. 19 - 11A.M. Dr. Foley will be available to answer questions ONLY at the October 27th program. (Sorry, I guess I neglected to write down where he is speaking. I think it is at the Science Center.) Dale Stout has that information, or you may call the Science Center.

NOVEMBER 13 - 2 P.M. BEEM's AUDITORIUM at the Library

Dr. Gene Hirman of Cornell College, will present a program, "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Dinosaurs....And Don't Be Afraid to Ask." Gene has been to several of our shows and on several of our field trips. You won't want to miss this program.

Dale also brought a long a copy of the SUNDAY MAGAZINE, a section of the CHICAGO TRIBUNE, June 12, '88 which had a really long article on Dinosaurs, entitled, WE HARDLY KNEW YE, by T. Rex. Perhaps it is available at the Library, or perhaps we could get permission to copy it for study purposes, if there is enough interest.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The September 21, 1988, meeting of the Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society was called to order at 7:20 by President Marv Houg at the Linn County Historical Museum, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Twenty members were present.

The Secretary's minutes were read, and Helen Troxel noted that the mineral for which the club donated money was a topaz, not a diamond. Alberta Cray moved the minutes be approved as corrected. Bob Sweet seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer Dale Stout reported a balance of \$147.80 in checking. Larry DeSotel moved the treasurer's report be accepted. Alberta Cray seconded and the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Alberta Cray presented a list of new MWF programs, a catalog of lapidary from Graves Co., Florida, and an offer for "Licensed Rock Hound" patch. Dale Stout had a note of thanks for the auction from John Ramsell. Larry DeSotel presented an offer of party discounts from Domino's Pizza. Marv Houg presented a newsletter, Mineral News, and a letter from Adrian Anderson regarding the new fee schedule for use of the Museum as a meeting place.

The schedule is \$20/mo. for nonmembers and \$10/mo. for members with membership costing \$15/yr. New fees are effective Oct. 1. Following discussion Larry DeSotel moved that we investigate going back to Marion. Helen Troxel seconded and the motion carried. It was also decided to talk to Adrian to try to get the price reduced to \$5/mo. based on our contributions and to investigate banks, the library, and other such places. Marv appointed Helen Troxel, Leslie Blin, Marv Houg, and Papp Phillips to look into the matter.

COMMITTEES--SHOW: Marv suggested that we consider raising dealer costs since other expenses continue to rise and dealer costs have remained constant. After discussion Norm Brown moved that we charge \$125/dealer and \$15/demonstrating dealer. Bud Cray seconded and the motion carried. Marv set a Show meeting for 7:00 October 5 at his house.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sharon Sonnleitner announced a MAPS field trip to Milstadt, Illinois on October 1. Marv announced Allyn Adams had been injured. Bill Myers announced Ott Zobac's brother had died. Marv had an article from Iowa Geology about Iowa's largest crater, which he suggested might make a good program.

The University of Iowa has the film Last Pony Mine. Limestone, Iowa's Buried Treasure is available from 18 localities around the state and was put out by the Iowa Limestone Producers.

Larry DeSotel moved we adjourn. Papp seconded and the motion carried with adjournment at 8:15.

Following the meeting many members shared collections and experiences for Brag Night.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Sonnleitner, Secretary

GIGGLES

An eastern tourist was visiting the arid desert world of southern Arizona. "Do you never get any rain here?" he asked.

The native Arizonan looked thoughtful for a long moment, then said, "Well sir, do you recollect that story in the Bible, where it says Noah built an ark when it rained forty days and forty nights?"

"Well, yes, of course," nodded the tourist.

"We got half an inch that time!" the Arizonan replied.

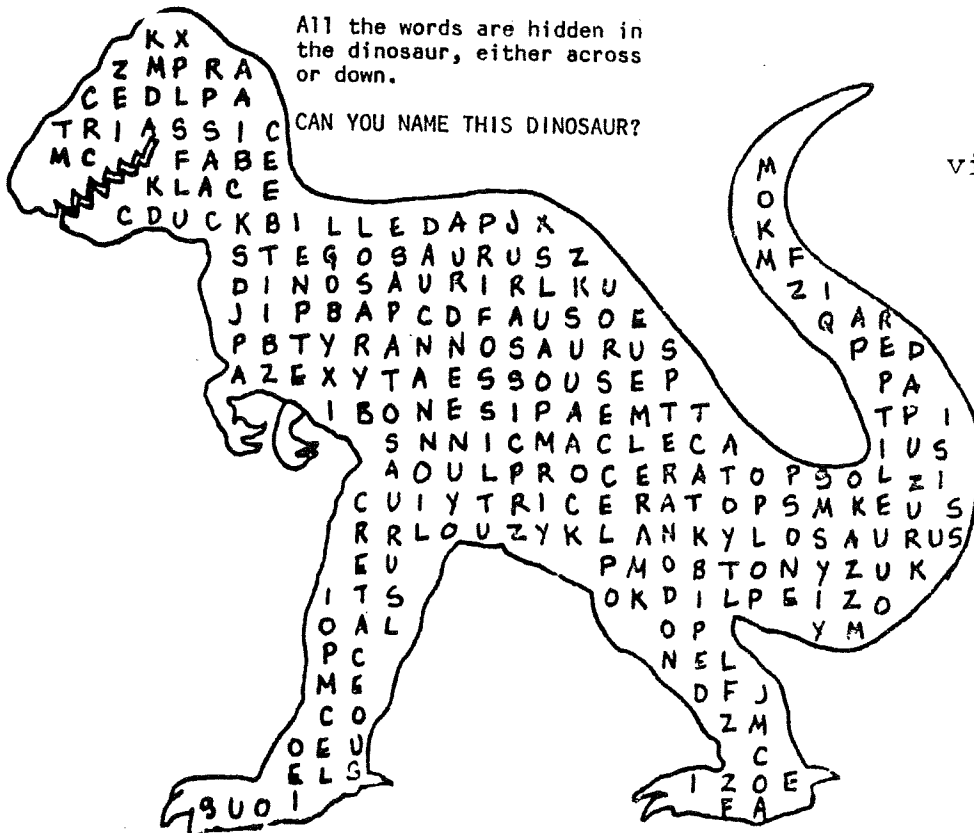
submitted by John Henrichs
via the Grand Island Nugget

via Rear Trunk

PREHISTORIC WORD SEARCH!

Find the hidden words!!

- 1) Tyrannosarus
- 2) Apatosaurus
- 3) Stegosaurus
- 4) Pteranodon
- 5) Duckbilled
- 6) Dinosaur
- 7) Reptile
- 8) Bones
- 9) Triceratops
- 10) Jurassic
- 11) Fossil
- 12) Triassic
- 13) Proceratops
- 14) Cretaceous
- 15) Ankylosaurus
- 16) Biped



--Courtesy of GREATER OAK LAWN DIGGERS, via THE TULLY May 87, Cleo McPherson, Editor

MINERALS IN EVERYDAY PRODUCTS

- TALC - is used in eyeshadow, liquid makeup, rouge, blushes and pressed powders.
- IRON OXIDES - (Magnetite, black oxide, hematite, red oxide, limonite, yellow oxide & goetite) are used in liquid soap, lipsticks, mascaras and pressed powders.
- ZINC OXIDES - used in creams to protect skin from the sun.
- CALCITE - a binder in eyeshadows and pressed powders, in chewing gum bases, antibiotics, antacids and dentifrices.
- QUARTZ - used in scouring powders and toothpastes, coating for pills and capsules, and in ointments, suppositories and lotions.
- BARITE - helps in many X-ray diagnoses.
- BAUXITE - polishes teeth, adds smoothness to lotions and creams, and is a carrier for perfumes in sachets and creams.
- ZIRCON - used in toothpastes.

by Sharon Robinson via Deming Rock Chips & Ozark Earth Sc. News.

HOW TO DO FLAT LAPPING WITHOUT A LAPPING MACHINE

The process of flat lapping without a lapping machine is so simple that you can do it without a flat lap. So go ahead, polish those bookends or make that clock face. Just get a piece of aluminum about 12-14 inches square, Place it on a flat surface. Take a teaspoon of 120 grit (or 90 grit if you have saw marks on the slab). Mix with Vaseline or water (vaseline holds the grit better).

Now take your slab and dop a piece of wood to it so that you have a handle to help hold it down on the grit. Be sure that your grit is always under the slab. Don't run it over dry aluminum. Move the stone in any pattern you wish, adding more grit from time to time. Keep at it until all saw marks are well gone. Wash the stone between grades of grit: wash the aluminum each time also. Use progressive grit, 220, 400 and 600. The slab should be ready for polishing. To polish use a piece of leather about 12 x 12 inches. Stick it to a board and keep it for polishing only. Don't tack it down because the tack heads will scratch your stones. This is the oldest way to polish stones and works well, if slowly. (From the Mid-Tenn. Gem'ers, via Rocket City Rocks, Osage Hills and Fort Hamilton Gems.

All articles on this page via Chip & Lick

CLEANING THE TAJ-MAHAL: To clean the marble of the Taj-Mahal, Indian archaeologists are using "Attapulgit" an absorbent non-acidic clay from the town of Attapulgit in south Georgia, where it is found. Hardly a household name, Attapulgit is, in one form, as common as cats in American households. "It's mostly used in Kitty Litter, now it's used to clean the Taj-Mahal", geologist Norman Herz says, "That's a more noble usage." via Atlantic Constitution, Kiskigem Journal, Summit Gem and Flint Flashes.

GEM OF IDEAS:

1. Disposable diapers are great to protect your specimens "in transit". They come with their own fastening tabs and can be reused. via Summit Gem.
2. Baby wipes are great for in the field hand cleaning too. via Summit Gem
3. To polish metals, from gold to copper and brass, try lipstick, any shade, Use a soft cloth to apply and another to buff. The results are remarkable. the metal glows. via Golden Nugget & Cobblestones & Achates.
4. Dopping cold dop with Elmers glue. It is always ready and will dry enough to begin working the stone in 30 to 40 min. It seldom lets loose, even on a rough wheel. The warmer it gets the tighter it holds. When the stone is finished just soak in water several hours or overnight. Remove stone from dop stick and wash away remaining glue. Try it on opal or any other delicate stone, or even agate. via Mountain Mineral Monthly, Earth Sc. News, & The Rock Box.
5. Silversmiths draw your jeweler's blade through an old candle. It coats the blade, and you can saw faster. Wipe a piece of chalk over your jeweler's files - it keeps metal slivers from clogging the file, and you can blow them away. via Michigan Gem News, Parma Lapidary Club.

SHOWS AND SWAPS

- Oct. 21, 22 & 23, 1988 - SAUK VALLEY ROCKS AND MINERAL -SHOW
Northland Mall, Sterling, Ill - Sat. 10-9; Sun. 12-5
- Oct. 29-30 MINNESOTA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, Mankato, MINN.
SHOW _ Madison East Shopping Center
- Oct. 29-30 OSHKOSH EARTH SCIENCE CLUB - SHOW, Park Plaza, Oshkosh,
Wis.
- Nov. 25, 26 & 27 CHRISTMAS JEWELRY - GEM - MINERAL Show and Sale
Du Page County Fairgrounds, 2015 West Manchester Road,
Wheaton, Illinois. Fri. 2-8; Sat. 10-7; Sun. 10-6.

There are a number of other shows coming up in Minnesota, Indiana, and Nebraska, all in November. For more information, please call.

BLACKHAWK SHOW, at Rock Island, Ill.

Bud and I drove down to Rock Island, October 1. They had a really nice show and we enjoyed seeing some old friends. There were some very nice displays, though there were not very many fossils. We especially enjoyed the kaleidoscope of rocks. It is beautiful. How do they do those things anyway. Carl Dach and his wife, from Rockford, Illinois were there. They were demonstrating beautiful gold wire craft. They used to come to our shows many years ago when we held them at Hawkeye Downs. We relived a few of the good old days. We visited with Shirley Coven, editor of their bulletin. We had enjoyed breakfast with Shirley and Eileen Ferris at the Midwest Show at Macomb, Illinois. We were just leaving when JoAnn Good and a lady friend were coming in. So back we went for another cup of coffee and more visiting. We saw some beautiful amethyst specimens at one of the dealer's booths and some really nice brazilian agates at another booth. We enjoyed watching a man demonstrate wood carving. Mil-Char Jewelry (Char and Milt Charno) were there with their beautiful electroplated articles.

Had intended to tell you a bit about our Colorado trip and a bit about the show there, however time does not permit just now. Perhaps in November or December, I will find time to do that.

HAND IN HAND

It's nice to be needed
and do you know why?
We must all depend
on the other guy.

You can work yourself
right down to the bone,
But you certainly can't
get the job done alone.

If everyone realized
this obvious fact
And elected right then
to get into the act,

What a wonderful place
this world would be
With my helping you
and you helping me!!

via Smoke Signals

PAINTING WITH STONE

We must each paint our own rainbow-- with the colors we've been given.

The first step in painting with stone is collecting suitable colors of stone to be pulverized. This can be very frustrating, as all stones do not retain the same colors when pulverized. A scratch test on the back of a ceramic tile may be made to determine which stone will leave a streak of color. The stone is then broken as fine as possible with a hammer on stainless steel and then pulverized in a mortar of glass, porcelain or ceramic and finally sifted several times through nylon to the fine texture desired. Place in containers and label for future use.

The next step is selecting a suitable subject to be painted. The canvas board, masonite (which has been prepared with gesso, an artist medium) or a suitable material of your choice may be used. After a light pencil sketch is made, you may combine the sifted stone with an Acrylic polymer medium or a binder of your choice, select an artist brush for oil painting and begin. If the consistency is too stiff, a few drops of water may be added. One or more colors may be mixed to get the desired result. Plastic jar covers may be used as a palette and discarded at the end of a day's painting. Do not wash this mixture down the drain as it could give you lots of trouble.

Stones for Color:

Psilomelane..black; Anthracite coal..black; Gypsum..white; Cinnebar..orange; Hematite..red; Minium..orange; Turquoise..blue; Lapis Lazuli..blue; Shattuckite.. blue; Crysocolla.. blue; Azurite..blue; Purpurite..purple; Orpiment/Realgar.. yellow; Sulpher..yellow; Opalized Wood..yellow; Limonite.. yellow; Malachite..green; Goethite..red/brown; Rhodochrochite.. pink.

via PICA PICK

ENVIRONMENT/LEGISLATION

John Boland

Via Midwest Federation Bulletin

It has been widely reported in national newspapers that the National Parks and Conservation Association, a prominent conservation organization has made recommendations to the Interior Department for more parks, larger parks and buffer zones around existing national parks. The NPCA received a \$270,000 grant to study and recommend more park acreage. Their recommendations include 100 new parks, 200 enlargements, and buffer zones around parks where private land borders national park land. NPCA said that buffer zone acquisition is needed to prevent motel and condo construction.

NO COLLECTING IS PERMITTED BY NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Currently much of the land around national parks is supervised by the BLM and National Grassland regional offices and the areas are open for non-commercial collectors. Current collecting rules on BLM and National Grasslands are:

1. Common invertebrate and plant fossils (other than petrified wood) may be collected in reasonable quantities for hobby, recreational, or private use. Collection for commercial sale of these materials is not permitted.
2. Collection of vertebrate fossils is not allowed, except under a paleontological collecting permit issued to professional paleontologists.
3. The collecting of petrified wood is managed under the Act of September 18, 1962, and rules promulgated in 43 CFR 3600 Petrified wood may be collected for hobby use in amounts not exceeding 25 pounds per person per day, plus one piece. The total amount that one person may remove in one calendar year shall not exceed 250 pounds. A permit is required to collect a petrified wood specimen weighing 250 pounds or more. Pooling of quotas to obtain petrified wood specimens larger than 250 pounds is not allowed. Petrified wood obtained from BLM lands is not to be sold or bartered.
4. Mineral specimens may be collected from BLM lands for personal use only. Collection for sale is not allowed. Explosives, motorized or mechanical devices, other than metal detectors, may not be used to obtain specimens. Maps can be obtained from BLM regional offices and helpful suggestions can be obtained.

Continued on page 8

IRS ANTI-LOBBY EFFORT returns as a bill in the Congress. Congressman I.J. Pickle, (TX) has introduced the bill H.R. 2942. It contains the provision that an attempt to influence legislation would cause disqualification for tax-exempt status. The C.F.M.S. Newsletter quotes the 1987 Income Tax Instruction booklet:

"Communications between the organization and its members about legislation or proposed legislation that directly interest the organization and its members" are allowed.

However, if the organization requests its members to: (1) try to influence legislation by communicating with anyone who helps form it; or (2) encourage non-members to try to influence legislation, either by grassroots lobbying or by communicating with anyone who helps form the legislation" It is considered lobbying.

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 * NOTICE !!!!!!!
 * NEW DATE - 4th Wednesday
 * NEW MEETING PLACE
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DETAILS on Page 1
