

# CENTRAL MICHIGAN ROCKHOUND NEWS



III

JANUARY 1959

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"Affiliated with the Midwest Federation"  
Meeting Place: East Lansing's new High School, Room A132  
Third ~~Tuesday~~ of each month except July and August.  
Dues: \$2.00 annually. Students under 18 yrs. of age, "1.00 annually

PRESIDENT--	LEON NORTH, 816 Grovenburg Rd.	OX 4 8367
VICE PRESIDENT	- Rev. Luke McMillian, 742 Comfort St,	IV2-4030
Secretary	Lila Ann Stevens 5887 W. State Rd.	IV7-2662
Treasurer	Mary Coleman 2419 Delta River Dr.	IV 9-3585
Editor	Chlore Morris 223 E. Hillsdale	IV2-1921

## THE VOLCANO - NATURE'S TEST TUBE.

By Ernest A. Kelford

What happens within a volcano?... Intense heat is supplied by the molten rock moving up from the depths of the earth. The burning rock gives off strong acids, superheated steam and fumes. The great pressure from ranges of mountains on the surface, forces the steam and fumes through cracks and fissures in the rocks. They burn out elements and minerals and with their superheated load they come to wider fissures in the earth. There the heat lowers, the pressure is released and the loads of minerals and elements solidify.

Fissures can be found which have become filled with depositions and after cooling they become valuable veins from which are mined various minerals. Rock which has large crystals, the kind we call pegmatites, receive the fumes and acids just as veins do. Therefore pegmatites are good hunting ground for rock hounds.

Close to the volcano the deposits will be high temperature deposits. When mined they turn up in our machine shops. Tungsten, alloy in cutting steel, is one of these. Also what the machinist calls "moly" for molybdenum. Beryl is used in making beryllium steel.

Far from the heat of the volcano the temperature lowers and there you look for Thompsonites - one of the zeolites. Several collections within our club have specimens. Other low temperature deposits are stibnite and cinnebar. Specimens of these are within our club also.

The fissures and spaces in pegmatites are more than receptacles for metals. They are the Test Tubes which Mother Nature experiments in chemistry. The heat, steam, fumes and pressure work the same under the mountain as they do in the laboratory and are equally mysterious.

\* \* \* CORRECTION - TIME OF MEETING \* \* \*

The Club Meeting is on the third Thursday of each month, and not the third Tuesday as stated on the front cover of the January issue of the Bulletin.

? ? ? ? ? ? ? NOTICE ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

You may have noticed in the last bulletin "From the President's Rock Cask" by Joe D. Kreps. (He typed the stencil himself so he can't blame anyone else) Does he mean from his rock skull, or his rock casket, or could he possibly mean that he takes a cask of wine or something along with him on his rock trips. Maybe he got the letters scrambled and meant to say sack.

\* \* \* LOOKING BACK \* \* \*

The January 15th Pot-luck Meeting at the C. W. Otto Junior High School was well attended. About 110 members were present.

The evening was well spent with an interesting program. The featured speaker was John Mihelcic, past president of the Michigan Mineralogical Society of Detroit. His talk was supplemented with Kodachrome slides of some very unusual specimens, shown by his wife.

Miss Helen Martin, 905 W. Allegan St., Lansing, was the distinguished guest of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society. She was honored with a Life Membership in the Society. She has recently retired as a Department of Conservation Geologist of the State of Michigan. The Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society is honored in having Miss Martin as a life member.

Other guests of the evening included Mr. and Mrs. Floyd N. Mortenson of Pontiac. Mr. Mortenson is President of the Michigan Mineralogical Society, and Vice President of the Eastern Region of the Mid-West Federation of Mineralogical Societies...Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Wareing of the Flint Rock Club also were present....Mr. and Mrs. Wolf of the Kalamazoo Rock Club were visitors. Mr. Wolf is President of the Kalamazoo Club.... Mr. and Mrs. John Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Van Buren accompanied the Wolfs.

The 1959 slate of officers was installed. Timely remarks were made by the retiring President Joe Kreps who guided the organization through its second year. Joe spoke without any mental reservation in turning the Rock of Authority in the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society over to the new president, Leon North.

We are grateful to Joe and the other officers for the guidance they have given to the club during the past year. The 1959 officers will sincerely strive to continue the good example established by the retiring members for their faithful service.

\* \* \* \* \* MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS \* \* \*

At the January 28th meeting of the Board of Directors, attention was focused on Article III, section 2 of the Constitution which states: "The Membership Committee shall present all nominations for membership with recommendations to the Board of Directors for final action."

By following this practice we will eliminate the need for members to vote at our regular meetings. So we will have more time for our programs which are our prime interest. The procedure for the admission of new members is as follows:

- (a) The applicant shall make application for membership on forms provided by the Membership Committee.
- (b) The application form accompanied by dues to the end of the current fiscal year shall be presented by the membership committee with their recommendations to the Board of Directors for final action.
- (c) Upon favorable action by this Board, the Treasurer shall forward to the new member his or her membership card and a letter of welcome.

The Membership Committee is as follows:

Clarence Kirkby -	Phone	ED 2-6809
Norman Stuck -	"	IV 9-0451
Ruth Eckhardt "	"	OR 7-8551

\* \* \* LOST AND FOUND DEPARTMENT \* \* \*

A stainless steel knife was left at the January 15th dinner meeting. Also a tablespoon belonging to same one. You can claim these articles if you are present at the next meeting.

\* \* \* THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE \* \* \*

With the help of the fine slate of officers and the board members you have selected to help me this year, and with the advice and experience of former officers, we'll try to make this the best year yet for our rock club.

The spirit of cooperation was evident on the evening of our recent board meeting when we had all members present in spite of a snow-rain-and sleet storm which made us agree that "anyone who will go out on a night like this must have rocks in his head"!

We enjoyed the hospitality of our Vice President Luke McMillian and saw his excellent rock collection displayed in the halls of the Holy Cross School.

We need the cooperation of EVERY one of you this year. Give us your ideas and suggestions - and where deserved your criticism - so we can give you the type of meetings, programs, and trips you will enjoy. We are well pleased in securing the committee chairman that we have. When they ask YOU to help them, please dig in. Remember this is YOUR club - or better yet OUR club.

Clarence Kirkby will be Chairman of the Membership Committee. He will announce the ways we plan to improve the method of taking in new members.

Luke McMillian as Vice President is also Chairman of the Program Committee. Let him know what you like and HOW YOU CAN HELP.

Merrill Payne will be Field Trip Chairman. If you know a good spot for a trip to see or collect, let him know.

Chlore Morris is the new editor of our Rock Hound News. He will welcome write-ups and ideas from you. He may also ask YOU to help in addressing, mailing, etc.

James Patterson will be Chairman of the House and Hospitality Committee.

Hope to see you at the next meeting. It will not be complete without you.

Leon North - President.

\* \* \* NEW MEMBERS \* \* \*

- 147 - Bob Ickes
- 148 - Fred Chapman - Lansing, Mich.
- 149 - Judy Dell Krauss, R.l, Fowler, Mich.
- 150 - Marguerete Paulson, Lansing, Mich.

\* \* \* DUES \* \* \*

The 1959 dues should be paid to Mary Coleman, Treasurer, before the March meeting. Membership lists will be issued after the March meeting. Only those who have paid their dues will receive the Rock Hound News.

\* \* \* RIGHT NOW \* \* \*

Signs of Spring will soon be evident after one of the hardest and coldest winters that the weather bureau has recorded, at least since 1927. As the days warm up many rock hounds will have the fever to get out on field trips to hunt and collect choice specimens.

\* \* \* THE LIBRARY \* \* \*

A new book has been added - "A GEM HUNTER'S GUIDE". It has just the information we have wanted. It tells how to hunt for gems, where gem materials can be located, and it has location maps. Also it has information about the type of formations in which gems occur and how to hunt for gems. There are many illustrations to help you.