



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1969

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER LECTURE SERIES

- November 10 SEAFLOOR SPREADING
AND CONTINENTAL DRIFT
Dr. Harold M. Mooney, Dept.
of Geology and Geophysics,
U of M.
- November 24 COLLECTING FOSSILS
M. Donald Wallace, Dept of
Geology and Geophysics, U of M.
- DECEMBER 8 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND
GEOLOGICAL MAPPING
Dr. Herbert Wright, Dept of
Geology and Geophysics, U of M.

After our last two lectures, we should have a better understanding of what a mineral is, how it is classified and where to find them, especially the choice samples. Armed with this information we can't help but find better specimens this summer.

The next three lectures will follow a somewhat different theme. The first lecture - "Seafloor Spreading and Continental Drift" dwells upon a most fascinating theory. This theory seems necessary, if one is to explain why Antarctica in its fossil record happened to have the same kind of plants and animals found in ancient Africa, South America, and Australia.

The second lecture - "Collecting Fossils" should throw new light on this interesting and rewarding hobby that opens the door to our earth's past.

The third lecture and last for the year - "Aerial Photography and Geological Mapping" is a new subject for the society. This lecture and related ones that follow in the new year, will increase our knowledge of the geologist's tool - topographic and geological maps.

This set of lectures should be most rewarding - don't miss them.

GEORGE RICKERT RECEIVES POST-HUMOROUS AWARD

The fifth Annual Midwest Conservation Education Conference at Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, was dedicated to George Rickert.

A beautiful plaque was properly inscribed and delivered to Mrs. Rickert. It will be hung later in the Minnesota State Conservation office in St. Paul and in August will be placed permanently in the State Conservation Building at the Minnesota State Fair grounds.

It says, "George Rickert, Conservationist and Educator shared his richness and royalty with the young and old. He walked with a foot in the past and another in the future."

GSM AT BLOOMINGTON SHOW

Our society participated in the Bloomington Mineral Club Show, Sept. 20th and 21st. A very interesting fossil collection owned by Louis Eggerichs and a carousel of slides projected on a screen for continuous viewing were used in the display. The slides included geological scenes and shots of membership activities. Mike Vaclavek, Dr. Lowe and Martha Peterson were in charge of the display. Paul Vogt and Fred Hallberg furnished the slides. Goldie Johnson aided in operating the display.

ROSTER ADDITIONS & CORRECTIONS

NEW MEMBERS:

Mrs. Ardis Haugen
12408 Chippewa Lane
Burnsville, Minn. 55378

Mr. and Mrs. Ernst F. Jopp
8731 - 20 Ave So.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55420

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Chegwyn
7710 Computer Ave.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55424

Mr. Daryl V. Lovvik
1795 Long Lake Blvd.
New Brighton, Minn. 55112

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Gobell
110 - 6 Ave. No.
South St. Paul, Minn. 55075

Mr. David C. Hellman
3114 Pillsbury Ave.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55408

Miss Gladys Point
2534 King Ave.
Slayton, Minn. 56172

Mr. Walter Lehnert
5209 Minnehaha Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55424

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Mr. & Mrs. R. Leacock
1235 Brighton Square
New Brighton, Minn. 55112

"THANKS:" to WILMA MONSERUD

Because some members of the society had difficulty recognizing the hand-lens in our newly adopted official society emblem, Wilma Monserud modified her original design so that the lens is now shown partly extended in order to be more easily identified. The Board, at its last meeting, officially adopted the revised seal.

"A THEORY IS A TOOL—NOT A CREED" -J.J. Thomson

1970 MIDWEST FEDERATION CONVENTION AND SHOW

You will have an opportunity to attend one of the finest Gem and Mineral Shows to be held anywhere and it will be right near home in Minneapolis.

The 1970 Midwest Federation Convention and Show will be sponsored by the Minnesota Mineral Club at the beautiful, air conditioned, Minneapolis Auditorium and Convention Hall, July 23, 24, 25, and 26, 1970.

The Geological Society of Minnesota should prepare a club exhibit, and if members have a good competitive or non-competitive exhibit they wish to show they should get in touch with Marian Anderson, 3749 47th Ave. So. Mpls. 55419. Spaces will go fast after the first of the year.

ROCK COLLECTION GIFT

Many have been asking about George Rickert's rock and fossil collection. Mrs. Rickert has asked that these be sold at a future date and the money realized be divided equally between the Minnesota Mineral Club and The Geological Society of Minnesota.

The disposition of this material will not take place until spring. This is the wish of Mrs. Rickert. For further information see Louis Eggerichs.



CHUYINA IRON RANGE - PART A PRESENT
FIELD TRIP Sept 13 - 14th, 1969

Saturday, Sept. 13th, we visited the Hanna Mining Co. Headquarters located N.E. of Crosby, Minnesota and the iron-manganese processing plant at the Loretta Mine. This new mining project was started in the spring of 1969. The beneficiation plant is just off the road to the east, while the mine is located a short distance to the west. After mining, the ore is trucked across the highway to the plant. It is interesting to note that the mine site is that of the former Gloria Mine which was opened in 1916.

We continued on from the Loretta Mine, one mile north on county road 30 and then one-half mile west to the location of the ghost town of Manganese. There is nothing to be seen except a flat spot in the terrain covered by brush and the remnants of concrete sidewalks. This village reached a peak population of 350 in 1919 but became completely uninhabited by 1954. Most of the buildings have been dismantled or moved to Crosby. The water tower was taken down in 1962. In its hey-day, the town had a school, town hall, Soo Line R.R. Station, bank, two hotels, rooming and boarding houses, three groceries, saloon, post office, bus line, four pool halls and a lumber yard. It was largely supported by the Algoma Mine which closed in 1931.

The Algoma Mine had a long history beginning with the Iron Mountain Mine. In 1913 a shaft was completed but it was subsequently flooded and it wasn't

until 1915 before efforts to remove the water were made. It would have been removed faster but for several accidents to the temporary pump, which had to be lowered by cables until the stationary pump was reached. Bad luck seemed to pursue this mine for in May of the same year, a box car ran into the shaft house and completely wrecked it.

Rebuilding started at once, but it was late in the season before any shipments could be made and only 4567 t. were shipped. In 1916 this property was taken over by the Hoch Mining Co. and renamed the Hoch Mine. In December of the same year, the Algoma Mining Co. leased the property and the mine was renamed, Algoma. Finally in August 1917, the Onahman Mining Co. which also operated the Ferro and Wilcox Mines took over the Algoma. In spite of the changes in management about 7500 t. of manganese ore was shipped from this mine during World War I. The last shipment from the mine was made in 1931. The mine was worked by top slicing and ran to a depth of 160ft. Both hard and soft, purple and black manganese ore were mined. Total ore shipped was 106,119 t.

to be continued * * * *

E. H. Brown, Field Trip Chairman

MT. RANIER RESTLESS

The U.S. Geological Survey has been watching Washington state's 14,410 ft. dormant volcano. Infrared photographs show that a warm spot has developed on the summit of the cone. The report further states that this does not necessarily mean another eruption soon. Mt. Ranier has been inactive since 1882.

MIDWEST FIELD CONVENTION
MAIN FEATURES OF THE MURDO TRIP

Everything went well: both on our personal auto trip and at Murdo. The organization of the convention was outstanding. Coming from Sioux Falls (Route 90) we arrived at Murdo - 4:30 P.M. Thursday. Everything had been planned and set up in an orderly manner - including free barbecue, lodging, meals, transportation around town, field trips via school busses and the banquet. There were committees for everything, even a fur committee. "How fur is it to Rapid City?" The Lions Club served the barbecue to 2700 people in less than one hour. We were shown true western hospitality, all 3300 of us from all parts of the country. There was a silent auction in the evening at the main hall (with four rows of tables the length of it), and outside a live auction.

Friday morning it rained and continued most of the day. So we detoured to Wall, S.D., where there is an interesting drug store and souvenir shop. In the evening was the rock swap - a new and fascinating experience for me. Saturday's trip to the Badlands was sunny and successful. Many Fairburn Agates were reported found and duly registered; one by our own Wilma Monserud. The fine weather continued the rest of our trip. The Sunday fossil hunt on the Moreau River was productive of many Cretaceous specimens.

The Saturday evening banquet was the culmination of the convention. The main speaker was Mr. A.I. Johnson, S.D. State Mine Inspector.

A summary of his address follows this report. The evening menu was delicious and described as follows: Garnet Juice, Roast Brontosaurus, Baked Irish Jasper, Buttered Gold, Conglomerate Salad, Prairie Agate Tarts, Hot Quartz, and assorted Crystals and Jasper. Among the favors were granite paper weights (4x4x3/8") etched with the shape of South Dakota. They were made from Chicago paving blocks.

From the point of view of us three ladies, Wilma Monserud, Cecelia Weaver, and me - Ethel Shimek, it was a successful trip, convention and a grand holiday.

Ethel Shimek

SOME INTERESTING SIDELIGHTS FROM THE HISTORY OF MINING IN THE BLACK HILLS

Summary of A.I. Johnson's Address

Besides gold, there's tin, mica, feldspar, lithium minerals, beryl, tantalite and columbite. With the exception of tin, all have been mined profitably at one time or another. Placer gold was first found in the Black Hills in 1875, starting the gold rush there. Homestake Mine opened in 1876 is still producing. From 1878 to 1968 102,800,000 tons of ore was mined and processed to produce 28,150,000 ounces of gold.

Although tin was found at Tinton in 1876, it has never been commercially profitable to mine. Several attempts were made and given up, because of the low grade ore.

Feldspar Mining started in 1923 around Keystone and Custer. Lithium Minerals are also mined. Spodumene deposits at Etta have produced unusually large crystals - one 42 feet by 4 1/2 by 4 1/2.

Mining of beryl assumed importance in World War II for the production of beryllium used in atomic explosions.

Mica is found around Custer and Hill City, and has been mined from time to time. Tantalite and columbite have also been mined.

Some of our mineralogists might be interested in the discovery of a new mineral, Junkite. While this rock is everywhere and widely collected, it is still junk.

FIELD TRIP QUESTIONNAIRE FOR GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

AT ITS LAST MEETING, THE GSM BOARD AUTHORIZED A QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ITS MEMBERS WITH REGARD TO THE MEMBERS' WISHES ABOUT FIELD TRIPS WHICH WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE SPRING, SUMMER, AND FALL 1970 PROGRAMS.

THE FIELD TRIPS ARE ONE OF THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF THE GSM, GIVING OPPORTUNITY TO THE MEMBERS TO ACTUALLY VIEW OUR STATE AND REGION. YOU ARE ASKED TO COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE, RETURNING IT BY MAIL OR AT THE NEXT LECTURE, SO THAT THE MEMBERS' RESPONSES CAN BE TABULATED AND ANALYZED. THANK YOU!

GSM FIELD TRIPS - QUESTIONNAIRE

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:

Mrs. DONALD TEPEL, FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN
1269 SOUTH CLEVELAND
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55116

I. SHORTER TRIPS:

- A. LENGTH OF TRIP: OVERNIGHT If "ONE DAY" IS CHECKED,
 ONE DAY WHICH DAY IS PREFERABLE?
 SATURDAY
 SUNDAY
- B. MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION: CHARTERED BUS
 PRIVATE CAR CARAVAN
 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
- C. FOOD: DO YOU PREFER BAG LUNCHES
 RESTAURANTS
 BOTH
- D. SUGGESTIONS FOR POSSIBLE SHORTER TRIPS IN 1970 _____

II. ANNUAL LONG TRIP:

- A. LENGTH OF TIME: 1 WEEK
 2 WEEKS
 LONGER (SPECIFY) _____
- B. MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION: CHARTERED BUS
 PRIVATE CAR CARAVAN
 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
- C. SUGGESTED PLACES FOR TRIP: _____

III. COMMENTS - WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING GSM FIELD TRIPS WHICH WE SHOULD CONSIDER.



PAUL, MINN.

St. Paul, Minnesota 55113
1299 Ryan Ave. N
c/o Roger L. Tritna
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION TO THE
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA
Year - 1970

Occupation _____
or
Former occupation _____
and
Other training, interests, or hobbies _____

NAME _____
(PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

- ADULT \$5.00
- HUSBAND AND WIFE \$7.00
- STUDENT \$2.00

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:
Miss MARTHA M. PETERSON
3527 PLEASANT AVENUE
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55408
(TELEPHONE: 825-1147)