

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

We're back from Honduras -- still no spring as someone had forecast for April! There is some consolation, as a late spring may give us more time to get ready, especially for gardens and rockhounding.

We had fine sunny weather during our entire trip, particularly in Honduras where the daytime temperatures reached 80 to 90 degrees under a bright sun each day. This seemed lost as we arrived in Michigan. The mountain riverbeds of the country remind me of the Alaskan fields of bare rocks. However, we found nothing of cutting value. Transportation was very limited, so exploring amounted practically to what could be done by hiking. We pleased ourselves with enjoying the natural undeveloped ocean beaches, tropical vegetation, and rugged mountain scenery. Of course we had fresh bush-ripe pineapple, grapefruit, oranges, bananas, cucumbers, etc. And, too, we had plenty of opportunity to explore the sights, smells, colors, jumble, fascinating noises and variety of a downtown Honduras market place.

How are we progressing on growth '77? I'm glad to hear of the new members joining our club and the progress being made on field trips for the summer. Sounds like a good summer. The Alpena trip is very enjoyable--be sure to plan to join the group.

I viewed the Flint club's eleventh annual show last Sunday, and talked with several presidents of neighboring clubs. The Flint club had a very good show, about as large as ours, and with a lot of activity. The demonstration room had a dozen to fifteen excellent demonstrations going on. There were a fine number of displays, and twelve dealers.

Let's see all of you at the April meeting. Bring an agate, to show and tell us about. And we'll expect to begin hearing about your summer plans.

Wes Manley

PROGRAM -- Lola Pearson

In March Marge Collins inspired all of us with her lovely slides and interesting explanation of the silversmithing art, to begin our own creating of silver jewelry and combining silver with lapidary work

Our April meeting will be a program of information about the Michigan Geological Survey. Milton Gere and Steve Wilson, Geologists for the State, will be our speakers.

FIELD TRIP - "Mac" McMahon

The Cranbrook Institute of Science, 500 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., will be selling surplus mineral specimens on April 23, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This could be your chance to add to your collection. It is understood the items are priced from 10¢ up.

Several members have found worthwhile the selenite crystal specimens at the Michigan Natural Storage Company, Grand Rapids. Others have expressed a desire for a field trip to this location. April 30 has been selected as the date. Meet at the location at 9 a.m. Members must be out of the mine by 3 p.m. Following are directions:

Take I-96 to the West 28th Street exit. drive west to Clyde Park Street. Turn right (N) to Grandville SW. Turn left (W) on Grandville, which becomes Chicago Drive, go to Judd Street. Turn right (N) on Judd to the Storage parking lot on the right.

For those new members that wish to go, the following info is offered. Originally this was a gypsum mine so it is dark inside and you will need a light of some kind. Gasoline or propane lanterns are fine. Flashlights are good for secondary or emergency, but not for general use unless they will operate continuously for at least eight hours. Being underground, it is cool (50°F) so dress accordingly. Bring backpacks, sacks or boxes to carry out your material. Also your usual tools; rock pick, hammer, chisels, pry bar, etc. You will need to take in your drinking water and lunch. You will find plenty of material.

May 1 has been selected as the date for a field trip to the Cheney Quarry at Bellevue, Mich. Time will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the past splendid specimens of peacock pyrite, marcasite and calcite have been found. This may be your chance to find a prize piece.

Take M 78 from Lansing to Bellevue and through town to the west side. Turn right at the first road just beyond the creek, Pease Road. Hunt on the right.

ROUND ROBIN FIELD TRIP

The Round Robin field trip held March 20 was a delightful opportunity to see some choice specimens beautifully displayed. In spite of unfavorable weather, attendance was good. The Patterson, Purtills and Richard Stevens' hosted the affair. We thank them for their graciousness in sharing their lovely collections with us.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Bonna Roberts

John Hopkins is at the Allegan General Hospital, Allegan, Mi 49010, following a stroke suffered Saturday.

MEMBERSHIP - Donaline Nutt

John Smith and Hualah Smith are new and renewing members, respectively. You will find their names in our new directory and we will welcome at the next meeting.

EDUCATION - Martin Sotala

The club is beginning a new feature. Each month we will be notified in the NEWS what rock, mineral, cab is to be featured. We believe this will make our meetings even more interesting. This month is agate month. Bring your favorite finished agate-- tumbled, cabochon, whatever-- to show and tell.

Stones to be featured in succeeding months are: May, Petoskey stone; June, favosites; September, copper and related materials; October, opal; November, obsidian; December, turquoise. Plan to participate.

Rock tumbling class met with six folks joining in the discussion. Micromount class had seventeen at the first meeting, and is meeting Monday evenings.

Have you shared your knowledge of rocks and minerals with any organized groups lately, such as school classes, church groups, scouts, etc. Look for opportunities, kids love rocks. If you have done so, pick up a report blank from me. Reports of such activities may help us earn an award for our club.

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DISPLAY - Nancy Smith

The Jackson Show is coming this weekend and I hope many of you will be displaying, and many more attending. Setup time is Thursday the 14th after 5:00 p.m. The directions to the new location are on the flyers like this: Out-of-towners turn off I-94 east of Jackson at Exit 142 and proceed on 127 south 6.1 miles to the Monroe Exit (M 50). Get off and go west (left) on McDevitt Street 1.0 miles before turning south (left) at the stop light onto Hague Road. 2.1 miles on Hague brings you to Emmons and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west (right) on Emmons brings you to the College. There are many permanent road signs directing you to the College, and near the College the Gem and Mineral Society will post additional signs.

Many other fine shows are scheduled this spring. Plan to display at as many as you can. And attend.

FINANCE - Kenneth Kurtz

The CML&MS Earth Science Award at the Youth Talent Show was won by Richard Radcliffe, a 13-year old student at Hannah Middle School, East Lansing. Richard will be given a \$25 United States bond and a year's membership in our society. His display was a collection of rocks and minerals, with a written description of each.

LIBRARY - Preston Whipple

New Material -- "Silver Spectrum," by John Michael, A Hidden House Flash Book. John Michael, the author is an artist and designer who has developed a distinctive line of handcrafted jewelry marketed under the name of Silver Spectrum. He is noted for his understated, flowing, comfortable-to-wear designs. He attributes his success to a combination of design and quality construction and finishing. The book offers an exciting spectrum of silver-construction design, from simple to elaborate, with instructions derived from his experiences in making literally thou-

sands of pieces of jewelry for successful marketing. These techniques are simple and they work. They are in detail and easy to follow.

(The above article came from sunny California, where Preston and Eva have been vacationing.)

MEMORIALS - Nancy Smith

We have chosen a grouping of selenite crystals from Grand Rapids for our mineral memorial to Frank Clever.

Selenite is the crystal form of gypsum. Chemically it is hydrous calcium sulfate, $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. It is relatively soft with a hardness of 1.5-2.0.

The crystal habit is monoclinic. Basically this system is characterized by three unequal length axes, one of which is oblique, or not at right angles to the other two. The transparent crystals in this location are of fine quality and assume a tabular habit, forming backward-slanting monoclinic plates showing warped as well as curved surfaces. One selenite crystal on exhibit at the Grand Rapids Museum is four feet long and two feet in diameter.

The Grand Rapids selenite is formed from the alteration of the water-free variety of anhydrite found in sedimentary beds. Gypsum was first mined in this area in 1837. The first plaster mill in the area was erected in 1841.

MGAG RAFFLE TICKETS

Tickets on the MGAGS raffle are on sale now, 5 for \$1.00. Drawing will be held at the seminar June 26, and you need not be present to win. Some of the prizes are a turquoise bracelet, an opal pendant, a silver and agate belt buckle, a labradorite pendant and a chlorastrolite gem tree. Look for MGAG members at our next meeting, and be sure to get your raffle tickets.

APRIL BIRTHSTONE -- DIAMOND by Bettie Patterson

A second century A. D. Roman poet wrote -

"The evil eye shall have no power to harm
Him that shall wear the Diamond as a charm
No monarch shall attempt to thwart his will
And e'en the gods his wishes shall fulfill."

The diamond, the hardest substance known and #10 on Moh's scale, is a variety of the element Carbon in which each carbon atom is at the center of a tetrahedron of four other carbon atoms, making the structure extremely strong and very resistant. It is, however, brittle and has a cleavage sometimes utilized by professional cutters to split rough pieces to appropriate sizes and shapes. It crystallizes in the isometric system, predominantly octahedrons, with cubes, dodecahedrons and tetrahedral crystals less common. The crystals are usually colorless, or nearly so, and are rarely, pink, yellow, green, brown or blue. They have an adamantine luster, occasionally will fluoresce pale blue, green, yellow or red under ultraviolet light, and are both infusible and insoluble.

Many are the legends, superstitions and folklore concerning the diamond, and much has been written about the fascinating history of the valuable, romantic, useful and esthetic gemstone.

The first record of men to find diamonds was of the Dravidians of India, in seven or eight centuries before Christ. From them we get our unit of weight. Because they thought diamonds grew in the ground like turnips, they balanced them on their scales against the seeds of the carob tree, the "carat." There is no record, however, of where these men found the diamonds. The first known source was in India; around 600 A.D., diamonds were discovered in Borneo; in the early 1700's, in Brazil, and in 1866, the first diamond in Africa was found near Hopetown. From these areas, many famous, and also infamous, diamonds were found. From India, the Koh-i Noor, now in the Queen's Crown of England, the Hope, famous for its violet-blue color and its fascinating history of bringing bad luck, now in the Smithsonian Institute; the Regent, now in the Louvre; and the Orloff, now in the Kremlin. From Brazil, the largest diamond ever discovered by a woman - the Star of the South - now believed to be owned by Rustomjee Jamsetjee of Bombay, and the third largest known to have been found anywhere, now believed to be owned by Mrs. Robert W. Windfor of Ft. Worth, Texas. From Africa, the Eureka (later known as the Star of South Africa), the Tiffany, the Excelsior, the Jubilee, the Cullinan, the Jonker, and many more. The largest diamond ever found in the United States is the Uncle Sam, discovered in Murfreesboro, Arkansas. Another stone, the Star of Arkansas, was found in the "Crater of Diamonds" by a Texas rockhound, Mrs. A. L. Parker.

The history and intrigue associated with diamonds makes fascinating reading. I highly recommend you read such books as "Diamonds- Famous, Notable and Unique," by Lawrence Copeland, and "The Book of Diamonds," by Joan Younger Dickinson. Writings such as these certainly prove, "A diamond is forever."

In 1957, the General Electric Company manufactured industrial quality artificial diamonds under their trademark "Borazon." I have a cousin who was highly instrumental in getting this project going for G.E. I have in my collection a small quantity of Borazon, as well as some interesting natural crystals and rough chips of diamonds which he has given me. And I do appreciate them, as diamonds are my birthstone!

ALL-MICHIGAN FIELD TRIP TO THE ALPENA AREA

The annual All-Michigan Field Trip of the Alpena area, sponsored by the Alpena Earth Science Society, will be held on May 21 and 22, 1977. Everyone will meet at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 21, at the Alpena Fairgrounds. New Rockport Quarry is to be visited in the morning, a place with a wealth of Devonian fossils. Rockport Huron Cement Plant Quarry will be scheduled later in the day. A wide variety of fossils and micro-crystals are available there. Saturday night there will be a program at the Senior Citizens Center, 401 River Street, Alpena, at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday morning at 8:30 everyone will leave the fairgrounds bound for Paxton Quarry west of Alpena on M32. Anthraconite, marcasite balls, "kettles," and fern imprints can be found there. These are only a few of the thirty or so different kinds of minerals that might be found. Then the sinkholes will be visited. Sunday at noon, a dinner will be served at the Senior Citizens Center, \$1.50 per person.

Trailers and campers can be parked overnight at the Fairgrounds (no reservations needed), with electric hookups available, and a building with toilets and water in the area. Campers with tents may stay at the Ossineke Park, twelve miles south of Alpena. Alpena has many good motels, for those who do not want to camp. Come with safety dress, rock tools and lunches for the field trip Saturday. All Michigan clubs are invited to attend this annual field trip of the Alpena area.

Cal Loomis, via Sharon Davis

FIRST AID TOOLS

Do you carry a first aid kit in your automobile when you and your family go rock hunting? When was the last time you checked its contents? Pause and think for a minute. Can you list the items it includes? Do you know how to use them?

Most first aid kits contain assorted adhesive bandages, a small box of gauze, first aid cream, and other items for the treatment of minor cuts and scratches. But, can you guarantee that these are the only types of accidents that will occur? Shouldn't you be prepared to treat other emergencies and injuries?

In a recent course dealing with basic first aid methods, the inadequacy of most first aid kits was emphasized. In order to be effective, the kit should include triangular bandages (40 inches), sterilized compress bandages (both 1- and 2-inch sizes), sterile gauze (about 1 square yard), and several ampoules of aromatic spirits of ammonia. Since shock is the major concern in an emergency situation, a blanket (for warmth and cushion) should also be carried.

You have all heard the cliché, "Prevention is worth a pound of cure." Even with safety-conscious rockhounds, accidents can't always be prevented. Be sure that you are prepared to deal with them quickly and wisely. Take a course in basic first aid to protect your family, and examine your first aid kit for the proper tools.

Esther A. Middlewood
Secretary, Lansing Area
Federal Safety Council

CODE OF ETHICS
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no wilful damage to property of any kind -- fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only, and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material -- matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supply.

I will cause no wilful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter, Please), and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other proper authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use "Good Outdoor Manners," and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and "Public Image" of rockhounds everywhere.

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU — Dr. Aureal T. Cross, MSU.

CML&MS has some acquaintance with Dr. Cross. He has twice served as a judge for our Earth Science Award at the Youth Talent Show. And we have enjoyed his talk at one of our annual dinners.

Dr. Cross was born in Findlay, Ohio, but grew up in Iowa. He graduated from Coe College at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, then earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Cincinnati. Botany, geology, or some combination of the two were his majors and minors throughout his college years.

He began his career as a park naturalist in Palisades State Park, Iowa. At Coe College he was a field assistant in geology. He went from graduate assistant to associate professor in geology at the University of Cincinnati, then was an assistant professor of biology at Notre Dame. He returned to geology as an assistant, then associate professor at West Virginia University. He spent some time working with the Geological Survey of Ohio, the West Virginia Geological Survey, and the U.S. Bureau of Mines in the areas of coal and petroleum geology. He worked in research at the Pan American Petroleum Corporation Research Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma. In 1961 he came to Michigan State University as a Professor of Geology and Botany.

Dr. Cross' special field is Palynology, the study of fossil fragments of plants, or, as he puts it, "trash in sediments." Graduate students working under him are doing research on sediments gathered from the Rocky Mountains to the bottom of the Atlantic, with all sorts of places in between represented in their studies. The study of fossil plants leads to much information about the environment existing at the time of their life, and this is used in many ways today. Students trained under him will be much sought after by coal and petroleum research centers. They will receive Ph.D. degrees in either Geology or Botany.

Dr. Cross has a full teaching schedule, including introductory courses in geology, as well as advanced classes in paleobotany and palynology. He presents a short course of twenty lectures on the geology of coal and associated rocks at Denver for the U.S. Geological Survey.

He has written over a hundred papers on his special fields. Last August he presented two papers at the International Geological Congress in Sydney, Australia. In December he was in India, giving three papers at the International Palynology Conference in Lucknow, and two at the Fourth International Conference on Gondwana at Calcutta. He has also given papers at the International Botanical Congress and the International Congress on Coal.

He is a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, the Paleontological Society, and the Ohio Academy of Science, as well as holding memberships in several other professional societies.

Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society members have found our contacts with Dr. Cross very stimulating, and we hope to become better acquainted with him.

1977 Directories will be in your hands soon. Please check the information about you carefully. If at any time your address or phone number changes, or if correction is needed now, please inform your editor or your roster secretary.

WHAT IF

by Arthur A. Socolow, Pennsylvania State Geologist. Reprinted from Pennsylvania Geology, Topographic and Geologic Survey, via the AMFS Newsletter.

Our vehement reaction to the Arab oil embargo of 1972 was not simply out of concern for our comforts and economic well being, but it was also an expression of rage over the insult of the freedom of mankind's right to utilize a natural resource with which our Earth has been endowed. Ironically, one does not need to look back upon the Middle East event for an example of such restriction to man's right of access - it is happening right here, all around us.

In several of our western states as much as 73% of the state's land area has been placed off limits for mineral exploration, much of that area with potentialities for energy resources and other vital minerals for which we are now depending upon foreign sources.

That same syndrome has spread to eastern United States. One state after another, faced with varied sources of opposition, is taking the easy way out by saying, "No, don't look in our area - even if we have it we don't want anyone digging for it." And it goes even beyond our shores, as many of the Atlantic coastal states are objecting to exploration for oil and gas on the continental shelf even while they are short of these commodities.

.....True, this restricted access often has merit. There are environmental treasures to be protected and there is a record of many horrendous past misdeeds. But while we must establish rules and guidelines to protect our heritage, we must not simply close the door upon our nature resource endowments.

What if Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and California had said "You can't drill for oil here." What if Minnesota and Michigan

had said "Don't dig for iron here." What if Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and West Virginia said "Don't dig our coal," and Florida said "Don't dig our phosphates;" and California said "Don't dig our gold," and Colorado said "Don't dig our molybdenum," and Arizona said "Don't dig our copper!" And then what if the rest of the world said "Don't dig here!"

Yes, we'd have a clean and tidy landscape - but very little else!

But what if we set some meaningful rules and guidelines and see to it that they are enforced? And what if we recognize that the Earth is unevenly endowed with wonderful and precious resources and we recognize that we can't go on saying "Dig elsewhere, not here." What if?

ROCKHOUNDS' LAMENT

There are agates in the ashtray

Some cabs I made myself.

Geodes underneath the bed,

Fossils on the shelf.

Can't get the dishes in the cupboard
(Got to save room for "rough")

Or coffee in the canister -
It's full of tumbled stuff.

We haven't got a fancy car,
Or a pair of decent socks,
Or pockets bulging out with dough,
BUT WE'VE GOT ROCKS!

from The Petoskey Stone
via Exchangite

It isn't wise to argue with a fool, as bystanders don't always know which one is which.

from Celestial Seasonings
via The Pterodactyl

LET'S GO ON A FIELD TRIP!

by Sandy DeNudt
from ROCK TRAILS

I H R A T N O I T A C I F I T N E D I
 R C A A S A L T T A B L E T S M L M N
 S E' E N B B O U L D E R S L L I N U E
 I W M T D W N A E S U N N Y A N I D W
 S R E M E K O S W S H E A D T E A D S
 S I H A A A E R N A I A D A S R R Y P
 E A A Y T H S R C E T C N S Y A S E A
 O H R W O B E A C S M E R D R L A N P
 H S D R A C A G F H H I R E C S N O E
 S E H L I A P N D E I O C J X R D T R
 D R A B O X E S D E T E V E U E W S E
 E F T B U C K E T B L Y F E P G I E E
 O T H E A T V H C S A S G R L S C M F
 T R K K R O W U C H T N R L E P H I F
 L U Y R R A U Q G N I E D A A M I L O
 E C B A N D A N N A U S K A B S M C C
 E K S L L A R E V O C L E S I Y S A K
 T I O D I N E S E V O L G L A D R E H
 S S E H T O L C D L O F U N S B S P S

Words are cunningly hidden in the puzzle. Find a word, circle its letters and cross it off the list. Words may be forward, backward, up, down, diagonally and are in straight lines, never skipping letters. After circling all the words on the list, the unused letters in the puzzle spell out the HIDDEN SOLUTION.

BANDAIDS	HAMMER	PRY BAR
BANDANNA	HAND	QUARRY
BASKETS	HANDKERCHIEF	RAIN
BOULDERS	HARD HAT	SAFETY GLASSES
BOXES	HEAD	SALT TABLETS
BUCKET	HEAT	SANDWICH
CAR	ICE TEA	SHOVEL
CHISELS	IDENTIFICATION	SLEDGE HAMMER
COFFEE	IODINE	SPECIMENS
COVERALLS	LIMESTONE	STEEL TOED SHOES
CROW BAR	LUNCH	SUNNY
CRYSTALS	MINERALS	SWEAT
EXERCISE	MUDGY	SWEAT BAND
FRESH AIR	NEWSPAPER	TRUCK
FUN	OLD CLOTHES	VUG
GLOVES	PAIL	WATER JUG
	PICK	WORK

MARK YOUR CALENDAR -- LOCAL AFFAIRS

April 21; 7:30 p.m. - Regular Meeting, Everett H.S. Cafeteria, Lansing, Michigan.
April 30, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. - Field Trip, Michigan Natural Storage, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
May 1, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. - Field Trip, Cheney Quarry, Bellevue, Michigan.
May 5, 7:30 p.m. - Board Meeting, Iral and Donaline Nutt's, 2008 Ferrol, Lansing, Michigan.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

April 11-17	SHOW	Grand Haven, Mich. Community Center, 421 Columbus Ave. Beacon Rock and Folsil Club.
April 15-17	SHOW	Jackson, Mich. Jackson Community College Fieldhouse, 2111 Emmons Rd. Michigan Gem and Mineral Society.
April 22-24	SHOW	Richmond, Ind. National Guard Armory, 1200 West Main Street. Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society.
April 23	SALE	Activities Room, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
April 23-24	SHOW	Shepherd, Mich. Modern Salvage Building. Clare Rock & Mineral Club.
April 30-May 1	SHOW	Port Huron, Mich. Wagenseil Gym Community Center, 2300 Totem Trail. Blue Water Lapidary Society.
May 7-8	SHOW	Kalamazoo, Mich. County Center Building, Fairgrounds, 2900 Lake St. Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society.
May 21-22	SHOW	Dearborn, Mich. Dearborn Youth Center, 15801 Michigan Ave. Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society of Dearborn.
May 21-22	FIELD TRIP	Alpena, Mich. Assemble 8:30 a.m. daily at Alpena Fairgrounds. All Michigan clubs invited. Sponsor, Alpena Earth Science Society.
May 28-31	SHOW	Wheaton, Ill. DuPage County Fairgrounds. Chicagoland Gems and Minerals Association.
June 4-5	SWAP	Wauseon, Ohio. Fulton County Fairgrounds. State Line Gem & Mineral Society.
June 25-26	SEMINAR	Ann Arbor, Mich. Washtemaw-Community College, Clark Road. Michigan Geological and Gemcraft Society.
July 21-24	SHOW	Dayton, Ohio. Dayton Convention Center. Midwest Federation Convention and Show.
August 18-21	SHOW	Ogden, Utah. Union Building, Weber State College Campus. American Federation and Northwest Federation Convention and Show.
Oct. 21-23	SHOW	Lansing, Mich. "The Magic of Minerals." National Guard Armory, 2500 S. Washington Ave. <u>Our own.</u>