

Vol. XXII, No. 1

ROCKHOUND NEWS

January 1978

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we bid farewell to 1977 and set our sights for a new year, the Manleys pause to express appreciation for the fine cooperation of officers and the membership of the society. Reflection on the theme "Growth" shows we made some worthy achievements during 1977.

A number of new members joined our society, attendance at meetings was good, the library expanded with the addition of new volumes, members added some fine specimens to collections, some excellent lapidary work was displayed, our show was a great success, we participated in a good number of community service activities that won friends and respect for the club and we raised our scholarships to cover the inflated costs.

Congratulations to all who helped make 1977 a good year and many best wishes for a better '78 from the Manleys.

Wes Manley

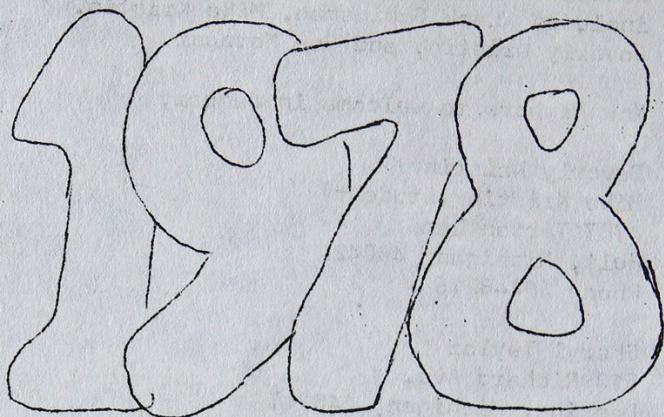
PROGRAM - Lola Pearson

December's program was presented by Dr. B.T. Sandefur. It was a very interesting presentation of the geology of Michigan.

Remember !!! We will not be having our usual banquet in January. Instead there will be an installation of the new officers for 1978. Wes Manley has arranged for Dr. James Trow to speak. His topic will be Uranium Prospecting. That sounds like an interesting way to start out the new year!

Refreshments will be served too!!

The Banquet will be held in May to celebrate our anniversary.



January 1978

WELCOME - Donaline Nutt

Guests attending the December meeting included Lack Schineman, Mike Kristin, Beverly Kristin, and Sue Metzger.

New Members to welcome in January

Beverly Kristin  
Mike Kristin (Student)  
4787 Tartan Lane  
Holt, Michigan 48842  
Phone 694-8216

Sheryl Taylor  
513 Richard Ave.  
Lansing, Michigan 48917  
Phone 323-3675

Alice Turner  
2667 Pine Tree  
Holt, Michigan 48842  
Phone 694-9596

Karen Sotala  
1105 Tulip  
Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837  
Phone 627-2331

Ladies.... Please remember to bring your cakes to the January Meeting.  
Donaline Nutt

ROSTER SECRETARY - Sally Barber

1978 Dues are due!!!

Please mail or bring them as soon as possible. Early payment is greatly appreciated. Make checks payable to CML&MS when sending your dues to Sally.

The Board of Directors approved Life Membership Certificates for the following qualified applicants:

Scott and Thelma Taylor

Elmer Eckhardt

Lloyd Conklin

LIBRARY - Preston Whipple

Two new books in the Library for January

"Gem Testing" by B.W. Anderson

This book covers subjects of greatest interest without going into unnecessary details on gem testing.

"Israelites"

A Time-Life Book  
The Emergence of Man Series

Everyone should read this book.

DISPLAY - Nancy Smith

The Capitol Display now has a new theme, "Select Groupings of Michigan Minerals". Look it over when you are in the area.

FIELD TRIP - E.W. McMahon

No Field Trip scheduled for January.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Bonna Roberts

Recuperating at home are:

Paul Flaker  
Ken Kurtz  
Thea Mae Kurtz

Sympathy is extended to the Manleys due to the death of Evelyn's mother.

GARNET - January Birthstone

The birthstone for January is the Garnet, a gem that is associated with faith and truth. It was believed to have many curative powers. Ancient astrologers believed that the Garnet exercised a calming influence, eliminated anger from the heart and settled discord in the soul.

January 1978

Page 3

#### 1978 Show - I.J. Brett and Wes Manley

Some Dealer contracts have been signed and returned to us. Everything is moving along well at this point.

#### CHILDREN'S TABLE WORKSHOP

On Saturday afternoon, January 28, 1978, we will have a workshop for the Children's Table for the show. This will be to organize and prepare some of the material now on hand. Come and help if you can.

January 28, 1978 2:00 P.M.  
At the Walter Davis home  
119 E. Syringa, Lansing

See you there!

Pat McCort

#### EDUCATION - Martin Sotala

The MSU evening class "The New Geology" begins January 10, from 7-9 in Room 205, Natural Science Building, MSU campus. Are you registered?

The rock of the month will be the January birthstone, garnet.

The wearing of the Garnet assures one of an imperial bearing for it is thought to be a stone fit for the Gods.  
Wear your garnets!!!

CML&MS has ordered plastic specimen boxes in three sizes to be distributed to club members interested in purchasing them at lower costs. Walt Davis will be handling them, if you are interested in obtaining any of these boxes for your own use call Walt or see him at the next meeting.

Walt Davis 393-3020

#### NEW DATING GAME

Archaeologists and paleontologists trying to ascertain the age of bone, wood and charcoal from ancient sites have long employed a technique called carbon-14 dating. This dating game has its drawbacks; it requires the destruction of a sizeable portion of the sample and cannot, without costly and time-consuming treatments, determine the age of any object more than about 40,000 years old. But a new method promises to overcome both obstacles. A team of researchers from the University of Rochester, the University of Toronto and General Ionex Corp. of Ipswich, Mass., is developing a way of dating objects that not only uses much smaller samples, but may also more than double the age that can be evaluated.

The method does not do away with the need to measure carbon 14, a radioactive atom that accumulates in all organisms while they live and decay at a known rate once they die. But it measures it in a different way. Current dating methods determine the age of an object *indirectly*, by measuring its carbon-14 radioactivity. The new technique being developed by Professor Harry Gove of Rochester and his fellow researchers measures the amount of carbon 14 directly. The scientists place a sample of the object to be evaluated in Rochester's tandem Van de Graaff particle accelerator. The machine separates carbon 14 and carbon 12, an atom that also accumulates at a steady rate but does not decay, from all other atoms in the sample. By comparing the ratio of these two types of carbon, the researchers can then calculate the age of the object under study.

Gove believes the direct measurement system, which requires as little as 1/100 of the material needed for current dating tests, will eventually win wide acceptance. He and his colleagues have accurately determined some test samples to be 70,000 years old.  
TIME, June 27, 1977 and The Petoskey Stone

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan. 10, 7:00 p.m.....First Session of "The New Geology," Room 205, Natural Sciences Building, Michigan State University Campus.

Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m.....Regular Meeting, Everett H.S. Cafeteria, Lansing  
Installation of Officers.

Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m.....Board Meeting at Walt Davis' 119 E. Syringa, Lansing

HAVE A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!!!!