



<u>THE REGULAR MEETING</u> of the Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD., Inc. will be held on Monday March 13th in the dining room of the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, in Rockville. The business meeting will begin at 7:45 but the room is available to us at 7:30 PM so come early and see what you and others have on the Show Table and chat with old friends. The program will be a presentation by Immediate Past President George Durland. His presentation is entitled "Photographing Minerals Under White and Ultraviolet Light."

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS will not meet in March.

ROSTER UDATE

Mattison, Bill, 732 Clopper Road, Apt #22, Gaithersburg MD 20878-1320, 301 977 3988.

THE GEM-MINERAL-FOSSIL SHOW is March18 and 19, the weekend after our March meeting. If you have not already sent your exhibit entry form to Frances Gallegos, at 4003 Jeffry Street, Wheaton MD 20906-4228 or phoned her at 301 949 7238, take the time to do it NOW, don't wait for the meeting. You may enter more than one case, or collaborate to share a case with another member. Members who have never exhibited are urged to participate. Everyone is a beginner at some time so give it a try and have fun showing off your stuff. Remaining posters and fliers will be available at the March meeting. We do a lot of "Public service announcement" (PSA) advertising and some paid ads. Any posters/fliers left over will be a waste if do you do not do your part to help get them out. Nancy Ballard, 301 926 7374, has been taking phone calls for dates, times, and assignments for your volunteer work before, during and after the show. We still need people with stamina to help set up on Friday. And help is needed for Saturday and Sunday at the hospitality table selling tickets and providing information, at the raffle table, at the kids give away table, at the mini mine, overseeing the door prize drawing, and especially at the workshop. Some incentive is that those who work need not pay admission. Many hands makes light work. We need the help of ALL members to make our show a success.

<u>LILLIAN TURNER AWARD.</u> Juniors, here is your incentive to exhibit at our show. The best junior exhibit in the show will be given the Lillian Turner Award, a \$100 U.S. savings bond. Rules say that you must be age 17 or younger and the case should be substantially your own work. If you have won previously, the case must be substantially different from the previous entry.

<u>SAD NEWS.</u> It is with deep regret that we announce the death of member, Norman Root, who passed on February 25th. Norman was an enthusiast member who served as Field Trip Chairman, leading us on many enjoyable excursions. He also coordinated the field trip showcase at our show. Sympathy to his wife, Helen, and his children and their families. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.

<u>SNOW CONTINGENCY</u> Reminder: If schools in Montgomery County, MD are to be cancelled, or let out early, because of weather on the day of a scheduled Society meeting, we will have no meeting. Call the Society President or a Board Member (Numbers on the back of the ROCKHOUNDER) if in doubt. With the unusual weather patterns this year who knows what can happen!

<u>REGULAR MEETING MINUTES</u>. Our published rules prevailed and there was no February 13th meeting due to the snow. In fact, however, a small number of people did show up and Rod Towers made his scheduled presentation. But because it was not an official meeting, there are no minutes. A Texas Congressman, John Culberson, attended and has submitted an application for membership.



to those born in March: Judith Barr, Jack Busch, Leila Campbell, George Durland, Julia Harris, Jane Kuehn, Mary Beth Mason, Ellen Meny, Paul Vance, and Harold Williams. Your birthstone is Aquamarine.



BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Information was not received so these are notes taken by your editor. The Meeting of Feb. 20, 2006 at Ballard's home was called to order by President Scott Braley at 7:42 PM. Board Members present: Scott Braley, Frances Gallegos, Wendell Mohr, Juan Proaño, Joel Rosen, Rod Towers, and Bob Winfield. Members present: David & Nancy Ballard and Donald Turner. Scott Braley will contact the junior member who was working on a web site for the Society. If he is unable to complete it, Scott will take over the project. Oscar and Barbara Wuerstlin have applied by mail to Frances Gallegos for membership. Sara and Robert LaVilla have audited the books. Juan Proaño reported that all show dealer payments except \$250 have been received. Half of the security bill has been paid. Payments were made for rental of space at the Senior Center. Yet to be paid are the balance for security, publicity expenses, table and chair rental. Rod Towers said that the March talk will be by George Durland and the April Speaker would be Ray Stanford, contingent upon payment of an honorarium. Motion was made by Joel, seconded by Robert, and passed to pay an honorarium of \$150.00. Robert reported that Jonathan Harris agreed to take over library responsibility and has picked up all but a few books. Scott reported that he will be donating pegmatite give-aways for the Micromount Symposium. It was mentioned that Rockville Science Day will be Sunday May 7th. Issues of liability there seem to be resolved by our EFMLS insurance coverage. Scott will follow up with Michelle Michaelis. Wendell showed samples of fliers to announce meetings to area colleges and universities, as suggested by Scott. Wendell requested future consideration for taking paid ads to cover increased mailing costs when bulletin is over 1 oz. Discussion about listing items for sale lead to a consensus that we will accept non-member listings but not dealer listings for now. Three board members requested to receive the Rockhounder by E Mail only, thus saving printing and mailing costs for the society. Upcoming field trips were reviewed by Wendell for Anita Lizas James. Scott will contact George Durland about participation in the 50th Montgomery Area Science Fair to be held at the Montgomery County Fair Grounds on March 11th. It was agreed that Wendell will send an E Mail message reminder of regular Society meetings the day before the meeting. Because of the missed Feb. meeting, Joel finds the purchase of two more specimens unnecessary. He will check Sidella material in Juan's basement.

Because of no Feb. meeting, it was agreed that Wendell would send out an E Mail to all members with E Mail to include publicity materials and a request for exhibits and show volunteers. Board members agreed to telephone other members. Rod will deliver fliers to the Delaware show. Little response has been received for show volunteers, showcases, and demonstrations. Tom Tucker and George Loud to staff Micromount demonstration. Issue about hiring help for Show cleanup as suggested by Harvey Lindenbaum still undecided. Joel will check trailer status shortly. He has gotten more estimates for trailer hauling and will try to get last year's hauler for \$200 each way. If Harvey is not available, Joel will see to it that the building is open at 9 AM Friday for setup. Rod will make copies of an educational fossil quiz (Fill in the answers) for the show as he did at the NOVA show. Gold Shield Security contract finalized by Harvey Lindenbaum. Jo Ann Mohr is again making cloth bags for kid's specimens. We have on hand about 200 club brochures which will be changed for increased dues. LaVillas are working on dopping stones for shop. Michelle Michaelis requested funding for stones for junior activities. Wendell made a motion to fund \$400, Rod seconded, and motion passed.

Juan also has about 2# of tumbled stones for that project. There will be an indoor Gaithersburg Flea Market on the Saturday of the show from 9-1. We still have no Show Chairman for 2007. Nancy Ballard has postcards for mailing. Nancy will do show programs and \$10 exhibitors certificates. Scott will check former Marty Hamasian case, which Dave Ballard has, for possible use in the show. Meeting adjourned 9:40 PM.



<u>FIELD TRIPS</u>. April 2. Be in the parking lot of Phosphate Corporation of Saskatchewan, Aurora NC, by 7:30 AM, steel-toed footwear and hard hats are required, and no shorts or sleeveless tops allowed. Abundant Miocene fossils. Jennifer Wingard will be trip coordinator for this trip. Only 6 spots are allocated to our club. Phone Jennifer at 240 422 2802 or E Mail <j.wingard@earthlink.net>

April 8 at 1:00 PM. Morefield Mine, Amelia VA. The mine is closing on June 3, 2006. No mineral collecting underground is permitted. You may collect on the surface. This is a fee collecting site with a charge of \$25. Collect pegmatite minerals: Mica, Clevelandite, Amazonite, Topaz, Beryl, Garnets, and Quartz.

July 1 Mount St. Hillaire, Quebec. \$100CDN required. Side tours to Herkimer NY for "Herkimer" diamonds (Quartz) and to the Gore Mountain Mine in the NY Adirondacks. If you want further information on trips listed, contact Anita Lizas James, E Mail <alizas@gonzaga.org> or alternatively <johnjames04@comcast.net>, or Phone 301 652 5527. Also contact her if you want to be on her E Mail list for notification.



<u>SAFETY FIRST—SAFETY RULES FOR FIELD TRIPS</u> By Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chairman Field trip season will soon be upon us, so we need to pause and review appropriate safety rules. Field trip leaders need to review these rules before every field trip.

- 1. Never go on a field trip alone. Have someone along who can help or summon help if necessary. Make sure someone knows where you have gone and when you will return. Carry a cell phone with spare batteries to expedite communications. Call someone if you are going to change your routine or are going to be late. Should you leave a field trip early, inform the field trip leader.
- 2. Keep children in sight or within talking distance at all times. A child could not only become lost, but could encounter a snake, scorpion, etc., or have an accident.
- 3. Do not collect directly above or below another person or below unstable rock piles, cliff walls, or overhangs were there may be danger of falling rock.
- 4. Park so that all vehicles can get out. Do not block the roadway. Do not drive vehicles across fields to avoid property damage, setting grass fires with exhaust systems, or damage to your vehicle. Do not drive or walk on newly planted or cultivated fields without permission.
- 5. Have your vehicle in proper working order with appropriate emergency equipment and supplies.
- 6. Make sure all fires are completely out and wet down the ashes with water. Stir to make sure there are no buried embers and them smother completely with dirt. Adhere to local fire regulations and warnings.
- 7. Break all matches and shred all cigarettes before discarding, and be careful where they are disposed of. Take them with you rather than leaving them as litter.
- 8. Do not throw rocks or engage in "horse play" and do not allow children do so.
- 9. Do not over exert or stay in the direct sunlight or heat too long. Take a rest in the shade from time to time and drink plenty of electrolyte replacing fluids such as sports drinks. Properly wear appropriate safety equipment, sunscreen, and clothing.
- 10. Avoid old mine tunnels. Never go into a mine alone. Carry a flashlight and a candle. Carbon dioxide or other gases, such as methane, may be present. There may even be a lack of Oxygen. Mines are also havens for snakes, scorpions, spiders, rodents and their feces which can carry disease. Mines may have uncovered shafts and pits. Be extremely cautious around abandoned buildings. You may stumble into old deep wells or cesspools not properly covered.

Continued from Page 3

- 11. Respect property rights and signs. Obtain permission to enter property if owned by private individuals or corporations. Attend Company Safety Briefings required by MOSHA and sign releases. Pay attention to and practice Company safety policies. Adhere to government regulations and restrictions if collecting on Public Lands or Parks. Pay any collecting fees required and do not exceed collecting limits if they exist.
- 12. Inquire if there are any dangerous animals in the fields. Close all gates you open.
- 13. Refill any holes you dig so people or animals will not fall in. Do not dump dirt or other debris into streams.
- 14. Respect another's diggings. If a person has left for lunch, or for any reason with the intent to return, and has a pick, coat, or definite marker, find another place.
- 15. Leave every place in good condition. Don't leave papers, cans, etc., lying around to mar the beauty of the place, and to tell others you have been there. Take your litter with you, do not bury it.
- 16. Never eat wild berries or anything else unless you are absolutely sure they are safe. Carry bottled water and do not drink from streams or wells that have not been recently tested.
- 17. Be able to recognized Poison Ivy, Poison Oak, etc. Should there be any doubt, don't touch.
- 18. Always be alert for snakes, scorpions, ticks, spiders, rodent infestations, etc. Be very cautious where you place your feet and hands.
- 19. Bring and properly use appropriate well maintained and inspected tools. Don't expect others to provide tools for you.
- 20. Use proper lifting and carrying techniques to bring home your finds. Do not overload your vehicle. Many of these safety rules are covered in greater detail in the AFMS Safety Manual and on the AFMS web site. Have a safe field trip season.

EFMLS CONVENTION AND SHOW. Why not pen in the dates of Nov. 17-19, 2006 for your next trip to this enchanting southern paradise and join the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches as they host the 56th annual EFMLS Convention. The EFMLS business meeting will be on Friday afternoon Nov. 17 and the show will be on Saturday and Sunday. From EFMLS News March 2006.

SUNSHINE. Nancy Ballard and Mary Beth Mason continue to undergo treatments and we hope for their full recovery. Jack Busch had successful back surgery and, as of this writing, is expecting to go to the Wilson Health Care Center at Asbury Methodist Village for about 5 days before returning home. Son Richard, a former GLMSMC member, visited from California.



GIA SYMPOSIUM 2006. Every 7 years, the Gemological Institute of America sponsors a symposium to update the industry with new technologies, products, gemstones, treatments, etc. This year, the

symposium will be held in San Diego, California from August 27-29. There will also be a presymposium for gemological research (more technical in nature) from August 26-27. Guest speakers include Madeleine Albright, former Secretary of State, Frank Abignale, con man profiled in the movie "Catch me if you can", Maurice Tempelsman, Chairman of Lazare Kaplan,

and author Deepak Chopra. Many other lectures, posters, social events and even a trip to the Pala mine are planned. For more information, check out <www.symposium.gia.edu>. Personal Communication from Cathy Gaber.

OFFER We have the capability of sending you the Rockhounder by E Mail. It gives you the chance to receive it, with color, at the earliest possible time. If you do not require a hard copy, it will save the Society the printing and mailing costs. If you want to do this, contact the Editor at <wmohr@erols.com>.

CLASSES. Montgomery County Recreation Department is offering arts and craft courses this Spring: Stone Carving for Beginners, 8 sessions, Create Arts Center, starts Thursday Mar. 30, 4:30—6:00 PM. Stone Carving for Beginners, 1 session, Locust Grove Nature Center, starts May 2, 3:30—4:30 PM. Wire Jewelry, 2 sessions, Damascus Community Center, starts Thursday Mar. 30, 6:30—8:30 PM. Earrings, Earrings, Earrings, 1 session, Damascus Community Center, Saturday Apr. 1, 11:00 AM—2:00 PM. Jewelry in an Afternoon, 1 session, Long Branch Community Center, Thursday Apr. 15, 10:00—Noon. Hoops are Hot, 1 session, Bauer Drive Community Center, Wednesday, Apr. 19, 6:30—9:00 PM. Earrings are Easy, 1 session, Long Branch Community Center, Apr. 20, 10:00 AM—Noon. Chain Reaction Earrings, 2 sessions, Damascus Community Center, Apr. 20, 6:30—8:30 PM. Jewelry Basics, 1 session, Bauer Drive Community Center, Apr. 26, 6:30—8:30 PM. FIELD TRIP. The Black Hill Visitor Center will have a "School's Out Geology & Fossils Van Trip" to Berkeley Springs WV on March 31st, 8:30 AM—6:00 PM, for ages 8 and up. Parent and child fee. See the "Guide for Recreation and Park Programs" for Spring 2006, available at your public library, for information, registration, and age requirements on all of the above.

<u>OPEN HOUSE</u> by the Patuxent Lapidary Guild will be held March 25th at 111 Langley Road N., Glen Burnie MD 21060, from 1:00—4 PM. They will show their facility and will have members explaining each disciple taught there (Faceting, cabochon cutting, lost wax casting, silver smithing, and slabbing). Light refreshments will be served. Information: Call Diann Wortham, President, 443 824 2579.

<u>AUCTION.</u> The Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society will be holding an auction on Friday, March 10. Gemstones, rough, jewelry, minerals, fossils, books, magazines, and lapidary equipment will be sold, with a viewing at 7:00 PM and auction at 7:30 PM. It will be held at the Women's Club of Catonsville. (Go West on Frederick Rd. from I-695 approx. 3 blocks to St. Timothy's Lane. Turn Right and go 1 block to the Women's Club, behind the church.) Information: Call Phyllis Dyer 410349 1630, stevedyer4@juno.com

<u>SURPRISE PARTY</u> A party for Jennie Smith and Fred Schaefermeyer, who are leaving the area for TX and Denver CO respectively, is planned by the Micromineralogists of the NCA. It will be on their regular meeting night, Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 PM at the Long Branch Nature Center, 625 South Carlin Springs Road, Arlington VA. Doors open at 7:15 PM. Jennie and Fred are both former members of GLMSMC and

both have been deeply involved in AFMS and EFMLS work. Everyone is welcome to come say thanks and good bye to Fred and Jennie. Kathy Hrechka is arranging sandwich fixin's and beverages. Those who attend with last names beginning with A to M, please bring salads, those beginning with N to Z bring deserts. Adequate parking may be a problem so carpooling arrangements are suggested. Since this is to be a surprise event please do not do anything that would get back to Jennie or Fred. Contact Tom Tucker 540 675 3481 for further information.

<u>AFMS SCHOLARSHIPS</u> for 2005 have been announced. Grants are made possible by donations to the AFMS Scholarship fund. The Eastern Federation Honoree is Michael Hawkins, NY State Museum, Albany NY who is able to designate students for awards. He picked Courtney Lugert, Secondary Education Program, College of St. Rose, Albany NY (Completed graduate work in Geology), and Brian Slater, Masters in collaboration between the Museum of University, State University of NY, Albany. Increased donations allowed the awarding of two scholarships per federation despite the lower interest rates of the past couple of years.

<u>CALL OF THE WILD.</u> Just a reminder that there are still openings for the May 22-28 and the September 11-17 sessions of the Wildacres Workshops. Your President, Secretary, and Newsletter Editor have application forms. Fee is only \$320 for room and board and there are about a dozen choices for classes conducted on popular subjects by knowledgeable instructors. Former attendees all attest to the fun and education.

<u>LIBRARY</u> More Society library contents are listed here for you to see. You can ask the new librarian, Jonathan Harris to check out any of the books listed. Call Jonathan at 301 545 0808 or send him an E Mail at <jgharris7@comcast.net>.

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157	Walter	Gemstone Carving	1977
	Van Diver	Roadside Geology of Vermont & New Hampshire	1987 1972
	Stevens	Gems & Minerals of Oxford Co., Maine	
	Lapham & Geyer Cormack	Mineral Collecting in Pennsylvania	1972
		First Book of Stones	1950
	Penick	Gemstones & Decorative-Ornamental Stones of Virginia	1992
	Burns	Fossil Collecting in Mid-Atlantic States	1991
	Arem	Rocks & Minerals	1973
	,	Handbook of Paleozoology	1986
	Beerbower	Search for the Past	1968
	Nield & Tucker	Paleontology, An Introduction	1985
	Pinna	The Dawn of Life	1972
	Rhodes	Whatastad Ovida ta Fancil Callantin n	1962
	Cas	Illustrated Guide to Fossil Collecting	1970
	Garcia	Illustrated Guide to Fossil Vertebrate	1974
	Thomas	Fossil Vertebrates	1968
	Moody	The Fossil World	1977
	Broadhead&Waters	<u>Echinoderms</u>	1980
	DE Valley Pal Soc	The Mosasaur, Vol. III	1986
	Zodrow&McCandlish	Upper Carboniferous Fossil Flora of Nova Scotia	1980
	Murray	Hunting for Fossils	1967
	USGS	Mica Deposits of the Southeastern Piedmont, Amelia Dist.,VA	1952
	Fisher	The Science of Gems	1966
	Bauer	Precious Stones, Vol. I	1968
	Bauer	Precious Stones, Vol. II	1968
	USGS	Quartz Crystal Deposits of Western Arkansas	1952
	Anderson	Gem Testing	1948
	Austin	Gemstones (Overview of U.S. Production)	1995
	Wolter	The Lake Superior Agate	1986
	Goetz	Maryland Gold Fever	1979
	Sabina	Rock & Mineral Collecting in Canada, Vol. I	1970
	Cox	Advanced Cabachon Cutting	1971
	Victor	Gem Tumbling & Baroque Jewelry Making	1962
	Balej	Tumbler's Guide	1963
	Morrill, et.al.	Mineral Guide to New England	1963
	Putnam	Geology	1964
	Cox	Cabochon Cutting	1970
	Sanborn	Crystal & Mineral Collecting	1966
	Shelton	Collector's Guide to Fossil Sharks & Fish	1976
	US Bur. of Mines	Mining & Mineral Operations in the New England & Mid-Atl States	1976
	Simpson	Gem Trails of Arizona	1977
	Herbert& Young	Sulfide Mineralization in the Shenandoah Valley of VA	1956
	Johnson	Western Gem Hunters Atlas	1966
	Johnson	Field Guide to Gems & Minerals of Mexico	1965
	Simpson	Gem Trails of Texas	1967
	Mason	Trap Rock Minerals of New Jersey	1960
	Tolsted&Swineford	Kansas Rocks & Minerals	1969
	Maine Fed Clubs	Mineral Collection in Maine Pegmatite Belt	1973
	Smith	Mineralogy of Pennsylvania	1966-75
216	Thybo	Canyon County Parklands, Treasures of the Great Plateau (NGS)	1993



WEBSITES



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Beats TV!



Contributed by Wendell C. Mohr

Glacier Peak Art, Gems, and Minerals, by Joseph L Dorris, Manitou Springs, CO, is a mining venture site,

about claims mostly in the Crystal Peak Mining District north of Florissant and Lake George CO. At http://users.frii.com/glacier/Index/GlacierHomePage/GlacierHomePage.htm pocket and deposit characteristics are described, and there are accounts of several claims and accompanying photographs of the Smoky Quartz and Amazonite and other minerals found. Famed Aquamarine site, Mt. Antero CO, also gets coverage. Collecting localities like these really get your blood flowing but when I go pegmatite collecting all I seem to find are empty pockets. Minerals from the claims are for sale only at various shows in Colorado and Tucson Arizona. No endorsement is implied here.



Carved American Alabaster, About the sculpture of Paul Hawkins and Susan Zalkind, at Camp Verde AZ, http://www.alabaster.net/, offers a Gallery of bowls, containers, roses, faces, landscapes, candle lamps, and "Doodley squats". New and recent works are shown. Included are biographies about the pair, magazine articles, shows and awards, and a bit on the raw materials. Of course you can make a purchase of the artworks and a carving kit, again not endorsed. At some risk to himself, the sculptor carved a malachite bird. Next thing you know, bird flu!

Dino Russ's Lair, by professional geologist Russell J. Jacobson of the Illinois Geological Survey, affords the most comprehensive site on dinosaurs I have encountered. What Bob's Rock Shop is to Minerals, Dino Russ's Lair is to dinosaurs. At http://www.dinoruss.com/ you will see wide ranging links to art, digs, eggs (I'll have two over easy, please), information, sites and places to visit, exhibits, publications, MT and UT field projects, societies, tracks and more! Scientists have shown that the moon is moving away at a tiny, although measurable distance from the earth every year. If you do the math, you can calculate that 85 million years ago the moon was orbiting the earth at a distance of about 35 feet from the earth's surface. This would explain the death of the dinosaurs...the tallest ones, anyway. (Blows another hole in Evolution). A student was taking the tour of a national park not long ago. The ranger mentioned to the tour group that dinosaur fossils had been found in the area. The student exclaimed, "Wow I can't believe the dinosaurs would come this close to the highway!"

UPCOMING SHOWS:

MARCH 18 & 19 IS OUR SHOW!! Let's have 100% participation of all those residing in the area. New members are asked to participate. There are jobs for everyone. **Your Help Is Imperative.**

Saturday March 25, 10 AM to 4 PM, Southern Maryland Rock & Mineral Club, 16th Annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show and Sale. Clearwater Nature Center, 11000 Thrift Road, Clinton MD. Demonstrations of cabochon making, faceting, bead weaving, and scrimshaw. Vendors selling. Children's jewelry craft also available. Ages 12 & up admission \$2.00, 11 and under free. Information: Gary Lohman 301 862 1957.





March 30 to April 2, Atlantic Micromounters Conference, sponsored by the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area, at MHA Conference Center, Elkridge MD. For reservation and information contact Steve Weinberger at <scrystals3@verizon.net>, P. O. Box 302, Glyndon MD 21071-0302, 410 833 7926.

May 27, 10 AM—4:00 PM, 17th Annual Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Show at Goucher, Goucher College, Towson MD. Take I-695 Exit 27A south on Dulaney Valley Rd. to college entrance. Follow entrance road around to large parking lot adjacent to Kraushaar Auditorium. Show is in auditorium's lobby and covered pavilion. Information: Phyllis Dyer, 410 349 1630, <stevedyer4@juno.com>.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Society Address: GLMS of Montgomery County MD., Inc.

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All Society correspondence is to be sent to this address except that which is intended for the Rockhounder and its editor. Such items are to be sent to the editor's home address.

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