

ROCK BLAST

Newsletter of the K-W Rock and Mineral Club

Volume 1 No. 2

November 23, 1965.

President - Pro. S.A. Harris, 268 Lincoln Rd., Waterloo
Secretary and Editor - Gord Saunders, 41 Forest Hill Dr., Kitchener

Minutes of meeting November 3, 1965

Minutes of the October 6 meeting were adopted as set out in the first issue of Rock Blast.

Correspondence from the Scarborough Club and the Inter-Club Field Trip Committee was read.

Reports were given on field trips to:

1. Dundas and Terra Cotta on October 17 by Floyd Caesar:

7 cars, 26 people. new sulphide vein at Dundas Quarry yielded Pyrite, Celestite, Galena, Calcite, Met members of the newly formed East Toronto Club.

Corner's Quarry: as well as orange celestite, new finds of octahedral pyrite, calcopyrite in quartz and malachite in micromount size.

2. North Bay on Thanksgiving weekend by R. Mielke:

This was the Inter-Club Field trip and was highly successful even though the weather wasn't the best. Samples shown from his own collecting on the trip included amethyst, moonstone, pyrite, siderite, garnet and tourmaline.

3. Bradford Micromounters' Workshop October 30-31 by Floyd Caesar:

Another successful get-together featuring talks by Mr. Neal Yedlin (writer of Micromounters Column in "Rocks and Minerals") Mr. Cliff Vickery, Mr. Dick Pospel and Mr. Bill Pinch. Lots of trading and two auctions.

Elected to the office of treasurer was Mrs. Evelyn Caesar.

Appointments were: Programme chairman, Larry Lamb

Publicity chairman, Steve Nagy

Telephone committee, Floyd Caesar

A constitution and by-law were to be drawn up by the executive for presentation at the next meeting.

There was discussion regarding a possible display by the Club in the Kitchener Library. The cases in the foyer will be available in the new year.

Howard Bell of Hanover gave a review in some detail of L. Quick's and H. Leiper's book 'Gemcraft'. This is a book well worth having for those interested in this phase of the hobby.

Howard very generously donated a copy of 'Gemcraft' to the Club as a start to a library.

Our president, Prof. Harris reviewed 'Elements of Mineralogy' by Rutley. This book was first published almost 100 years ago and is still relevant in the field of identification.

The meeting ended with members viewing specimens of lapidary work by Howard Bell and of rocks and minerals brought by other members.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday December 1, 1965 at 8 P.M. in Room 3E10, New Arts Building, Waterloo Lutheran University.

The constitution and by-laws will be presented for adoption by the membership.

Following the business part of the meeting will be a talk and display by Geoff Downing on 'Tumbling' and colour slides of minerals by Floyd Caesar.

At the October meeting the following became paid up club members:

Howard Bell	Box 527 Hanover
Floyd and Evelyn Caesar	16 Woodhaven Rd., Kitchener SH5-3350
T. Cahill	66 Balsam St. Waterloo 745-6093
Dolson B. Cooper	98 John St.W. Waterloo 742-9422
Harry and Marie Gardner	41 William St. Elmira 669-3989
J.A. Halliwell	181 Borden Ave.N.Kitchener 742-3464
Stuart A. Harris	268 Lincoln Rd. Waterloo 742-8737
Lawrence Lamb	83 Wilhelm St. Kitchener 742-5147
Ian Martin	253 Pinewood Pl. Kitchener 743-7619
Winfried and Reiner Mielke	59 Fergus Ave. Kitchener 745-7076
Steve Nagy	11 Elkington Dr. Kitchener 745-2257
Gord Saunders	41 Forest Hill Dr. Kitchener 744-5045

The Kingston Club has a supply of Mineral Speciman Cards on hand, selling at \$4.20 per thousand, 50¢ per hundred, postage paid. Notify your secretary of your needs and an order will be sent to the Kingston Club.

A delegates' meeting will be held in Toronto, March 19, 1966 for the Inter-Club Field Trip Committee. Details to be announced later.

The local paper during this month printed some articles of interest to our members:

Diamonds in the News

A diamond field has been found in central Tanzania that yields eight to ten carats from each ton of soil. The government and a Swiss organization are exploiting the find.

A group of Indonesians found a 166.85 carat diamond in the Indonesian jungle some months ago. The gem, the size of a small matchbox and estimated to be worth from \$150,000 to \$450,000, depending on quality and colour was named Tri Sakti (three supernatural powers) by President Sukarno, who rewarded the group with a pilgrimage to Mecca. The government controls mining in Indonesia but a Dutch firm does the advertising and marketing and has the gem on display in Amsterdam.

An African prospector, in a claim in Basutoland has found the largest and unearthed in Southern Africa in eight years. The size of a small gemstone it weighs 527 carats and was sold by the prospector for \$162,400.

The largest gem diamond, the Cullinan, found in 1905 near Pretoria, South Africa, weighed 3,106 carats. But perhaps the moon may yield larger diamonds. Prof. S. Tolansky, a British physicist says huge quantities of diamonds may lie scattered on the surface of the moon. Laboratory experiments have shown that shock waves following an explosion can turn carbon

into diamonds and he believes the tremendous shock waves created by meteorite impacts on the moon are sufficient to create diamonds there. On earth, the meteorite of the Canon Diablo, a large meteorite crater in Arizona contains 100 micro diamonds. So now who thinks Dick Tracy is too far out!

And did you know that man-made Boron nitride is as hard as diamond and may be the hardest substance in the world.