Walker
Mineralogical
Club
SourceBook
Third Edition

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## Table of Contents

**Club Activities** .................................................................3  
  Monthly Meetings  
  News Bulletin  
  Banquet  
  Field Trips  
  Annual Auction

**Management of the Club** ...................................................5  
  The Constitution  
  The Council  
  The Peacock Memorial Prize  
  Honourary Members  
  The Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies

A  **Short History of the Club** .............................................7

**Mineral Collecting** ..........................................................9  
  Insurance

**Mineral Events of Interest to Club Members** ........11

**Selected Periodicals** .....................................................14

**Selected Reference Books** .............................................14  
  Field Guides

Appendix 1 – Walker Mineralogical Club Constitution ........117

Appendix 2 – Central Canadian Federation of  
  Mineralogical Societies Code of Ethics  
  for Rockhounds ...............................................................20
Foreword

Since 1938 the Walker Mineralogical Club’s goal has been to encourage popular interest in and study of mineralogy and allied sciences. The club’s membership is open to amateurs and professionals alike.

This SourceBook gives new members the basic information they need about the objectives, history, management, activities and membership benefits of the club. It is also intended as a reference for existing members.

As you read, remember that this is only a summary. For more detailed information on mineral collecting and other club activities you are welcome to contact any member of the club executive. They are here to help you in the pursuit of your hobby and in the growth of your knowledge of the fascinating subjects of mineralogy and mineral collecting.

Please pass on your comments or suggestions for refinement and improvement of this SourceBook to the club Corresponding Secretary.

Club Activities

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are held from September through to May, presently on the second Wednesday of the month. We are currently meeting at 8 pm in:

Room 2093, 22 Russell St., Earth Sciences Building, University of Toronto

After announcements and information on Club activities, we normally have a guest speaker presenting a topic relating to the hobby of mineralogy. Sometimes we call on members to present planned mini-talks on their own experiences. At meetings, we often have a display of mineral specimens relating to the speaker’s topic. In December, our meeting is less formal with special refreshments and activities to celebrate the holiday season; sometimes including a special visit to the ROM.
NEWS BULLETIN

A newsletter is issued ten times a year. This provides information on club activities as well as listings of gem and mineral shows and other events related to the hobby of mineralogy. The editor provides information regarding the next meeting, and often there are informative articles from various sources. Members are encouraged to submit articles of their own for publication. Listed on the front page are names and addresses of the members of the executive who can be contacted for information regarding club activities.

BANQUET

Most years, in May, our monthly meeting takes the form of a dinner evening with a special guest speaker. Member spouses or significant others often attend this function. Members not wishing to attend the banquet are invited to join the attendees for coffee and hear the guest speaker’s talk.

FIELD TRIPS

A number of mineral collecting trips are scheduled every year. These are usually one day or weekend events, with a one or two week long field trip every year or two. In the past, longer trips have taken our members to collecting sites in British Columbia, Manitoba, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Mexico, New York State, Colorado, and Vancouver Island. Shorter trips have included sites in Ontario such as Bancroft, or to Quebec and the world famous Mont Saint-Hilaire.

These trips provide members with the opportunity of not only seeing minerals in the host rock, but also how to safely extract them to add to our collections. The longer trips, often viewed as a holiday with a mineral theme, are an excellent way to learn more about this hobby. Also, travelling with a group of people with a common interest has forged many new friendships. Every collecting trip has experienced members along who are willing to help new collectors with information on equipment and techniques for extracting mineral specimens and caring for them.
ANNUAL AUCTION

To support Club activities and to keep membership fees at a reasonable level, our principle fundraising takes the form of an auction held in late October or in November. Material can only be submitted for sale by Club members. They receive a portion of the proceeds of the sale, with the balance of the sale price going to the Club. If they wish, their share of the proceeds can be donated to the Peacock Scholarship Fund and they will receive a tax receipt for a charitable donation.

Items sold at the Auction range from minerals to books, collecting equipment to display cases, and even gems and jewellery. This event is a lot of fun and is an excellent way to add to your collection with good quality and varied material, and also a way to dispose of surplus material from your own collection.

Management of the Club

THE CONSTITUTION

The operations of the Club are guided by its constitution. The constitution dictates the Club’s purpose, the number and election of officers, some duties of the Council, and functions of the Club. A copy of the constitution is attached as Appendix 1.

The purpose of the constitution is to ensure that the Club continues to operate in the manner expected by the majority of its members. Specifically, the purpose of the Club is "...to encourage interest in and study of mineralogy and allied sciences". Most of the constitution establishes the rules such that the Club can achieve this goal, without unduly restricting the Council. Hence, it includes some rules similar to those required for the functioning of any organisation such as:

• banking,
• types of membership,
• number of monthly meetings,
• establishment of a nominating committee,
• determination of membership fees,
• number of Councillors required for a quorum, and
• process for revising the constitution.
In addition, it dictates that the Club shall be a non-profit organisation and that it shall maintain a fund, the Peacock Memorial Prize, established to make awards to university students studying pure or applied mineralogy.

The constitution was drafted with wisdom. One of its important requirements is that no officer can remain in one position for more than three years in a row. While this frequently puts a strain on the nominating committee, it increases the flow of new individuals with different ideas being attracted to Council. This helps to ensure that the Club continues to improve the services provided to its members. We encourage all to participate on council at some time.

THE COUNCIL

The day-to-day functions are fulfilled by the Council, which consists of the following elected positions:

• President
• Vice-President
• Recording Secretary
• Corresponding Secretary
• Treasurer
• Editor

There are also 6 councillors that are appointed:
• 2 First year – to plan the Annual Banquet
• 2 Second year – to plan the Annual Auction and
• 2 Third year – to plan Field Trips

The final council position is the Past President.

Conceptually, Councillors are brought in at the first year level and progress annually. After serving three years on Council, it is expected that they would have enough background in the operations of the Club to serve in one of the more senior roles.

THE PEACOCK MEMORIAL PRIZE

This student award is in honour of Professor Martin Alfred Peacock who was a noted crystallographer and professor at the University of Toronto. He was also the first Honorary President of the Club.

To finance the award, a separate fund is maintained by the Club with the award being made out of interest earnings. The fund has been built over the years mostly through welcome donations by
members and from allocations of a portion of the proceeds of the annual auction.

The award winner is determined by Council from applicants recommended by universities that offer courses in mineralogy and related subjects, and supported by submitted papers. Professional mineralogists are consulted to help in the evaluation of submissions.

**HONOURARY MEMBERS**

The constitution also provides for the election of Honorary members, being individuals who have "...rendered conspicuous service to mineralogy...." Most of the Honourary members elected by Council have been professional mineralogists who have been active in helping amateurs learn more about minerals, particularly those who have had specific involvement with the Club. At present, the Club has seven Honourary members:

- Dr. Helen Chamberlain
- Dr. Steve Chamberlain
- Dr. Robert Gait
- Dr. Joel Grice
- Dr. Donald “Digger” Gorman (Honorary President)
- Dr. George Robinson
- Malcolm Back
- Dr. Andrew McDonald
- Dr. Scott Ercit

**THE CENTRAL CANADIAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES**

CCFMS is an association of mineral and lapidary clubs of which the Walker Mineralogical Club is a member. The CCFMS provides a number of field trips each year and an insurance policy, which is detailed later in this SourceBook.

**A Short History of the Club**

The Walker Mineralogical Club is named in honour of Professor Emeritus T.L. Walker (1867-1942) who was professor of Mineralogy and Petrography at the University of Toronto from 1901-1937 and the first Director of the Royal Ontario Museum of Mineralogy, 1912-1937.
There has been some controversy about the actual starting date. The first recorded meeting of the Club was on January 14, 1938 and was chaired by Professor Parsons, Professor Walker's successor at the University of Toronto and the Royal Ontario Museum. There is no doubt, however, that the concept of the Club was established sometime in 1937. We like to say that the Club was officially started in 1938.

The minutes of the first meeting indicate that "the object of the society shall be to encourage mineralogical, crystallographic and petrographic studies in connection with the minerals and rocks of Canada and to provide a means of presenting the results of such research in a collected form" (from Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy). The Club went on to publish the "Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy" for many years and that publication eventually became the "Canadian Mineralogist" which is today published by the Mineralogical Association of Canada. Members of the Club are still avidly interested in mineralogical research and often host talks by researchers from some of North America’s best institutes, museums and universities.

Initially, the Club was very much a University of Toronto (U. of T.) associated Club, with a strong connection to the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM). Eventually, the ROM split from the U. of T. but the Club continued a strong association with the ROM and to this day holds its mailing address c/o ROM, 100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C6. In recent years, the Club moved its monthly meetings back to the U. of T. and has re-established contacts back at the U. of T. where its roots lie.

In the first decade or so of the Club, membership was largely composed of professional mineralogists and earth scientists from around North America and, of course, largely, U. of T. In later decades, more and more amateurs became involved with the Club and today it is largely an amateur club, albeit with part of its membership is still composed of professionals.

In 1947, the Club raised money to establish a bursary, which eventually became known as the Peacock Memorial Prize, named for Professor M. A. Peacock, a founding member held in high esteem by Club Members. The object of the award was to provide financial assistance to students doing advanced mineralogical or related research at a University. The Peacock Prize is still awarded to deserving students and usually consists of a single payment of $1,500.
Throughout its history, the Club has conducted field trips across North America. There are few mineral collecting sites in Canada, particularly Eastern and Central Canada that have not felt the impact of hammers of the members of the Club at sometime over the past seventy-five plus years.

The Club continues to provide opportunities for interested people of all persuasions to attend lectures on Mineralogy and allied subjects, to collect minerals in the field and provide social occasions to interact with others that have a passion for minerals and mineralogy.

**Mineral Collecting**

Organising field trips for its members has always been a primary function of the club. There are special responsibilities for collectors and for field trip leaders whenever collecting minerals because safety, courtesy, respect for private property and respect for the environment are critical to our community. A copy of the Code of Ethics for Mineral Collectors is attached as Appendix 2.

Please note there are age restrictions for collecting in active quarries and mine sites. However, most collecting sites we visit are without age restrictions and an ideal family activity. We select collecting sites for different levels of collecting experience and physical abilities. By catering to a wide range of experience and abilities we hope to foster ever improving collectors and, of course, mineral collections.

Field trips have the potential to cause personal injury. As a result, field trip leaders have all participants sign a waiver before participating in any field trip.

**INSURANCE**

One of the common questions of both the field trip leader and the Club relates to insurance. As an individual you are NOT covered by liability insurance nor any other insurance by the Walker Mineralogical Club nor the CCFMS.

However, through the CCFMS, all member clubs are covered for insurance that protects the property owner from liability or damage. No other person is covered.
Neither the CCFMS nor WMC has coverage for any field trip participant who is sued for negligence by another field trip member. Anyone concerned should have personal liability insurance under his or her home policy.

Mineral Events of Interest to Club Members

The following is a selection of local and nearby shows that offer members opportunities to acquire and view a wide variety of mineral specimens, talk to other collectors and obtain supplies and equipment useful in preparing, displaying and storing collections. Note that the dates vary from year to year but are generally within a few days of the dates indicated. In almost all cases, the events are held in the same location every year. **If you plan to attend any event, however, it is always advisable to confirm dates and locations beforehand.** Where possible, we have included the last known contact. If no longer involved, this person can generally steer you to the right resource. In many cases, the Club publishes the latest information for many current shows in its monthly newsletter. Of course, you can always contact a member of the Club’s executive for help.

**CALENDAR of EVENTS**

**CHECK SPECIFIC DATES AND DETAILS FOR ALL EVENTS**

**February (2nd full weekend)** – Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, Tucson Convention Centre, 260 S. Church St., Tucson, AZ. Contact: TGMS Office, 520-322-5773; www.tgms.org

**March (early)** – Peterborough Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, The Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Rd., Peterborough. Mark Stanley at 705-639-2406 or mark.stanley@sympatico.ca

**March (mid)** – Kawartha Rock & Fossil Club Rock Swap, Norwood Legion Hall, Norwood, ON.

**March (mid)** – Buffalo Geological Society Show, Erie County Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY.

**April (early)** – Brantford Gem & Lapidary Club Show, Paris Fairgrounds, 137 Silver St., Paris, ON. Sean Moser, 905-628-6298
April (mid) – Rochester Mineralogical Symposium & Show, The Rochester Academy of Sciences, Rochester, NY. Contact: Dr. Helen Chamberlain, PO Box 85, Manlius, NY 13104-0085 or go to www.rasny.org/MinSymposium/MineralSymp.htm

April (mid) – Gem & Mineral Show, Le Club de minérologie de Montréal, Centre Pierre-Charbonneau, 3000 Viau St., Montreal. Go to www.salonminerauxmtl.com

April (mid) – Brampton Gem-Craft & Mineral Show, Central Peel Secondary School, 32 Kennedy Rd. N., Brampton, ON. Contact: Elfy Berndl, 905-889-2490

April (late) – Toronto Gem & Mineral Show, Oriole Community Centre, 2975 Don Mills, Rd., North York, ON. Go to www.torontogemshow.com

May (early) – Canadian Micro Mineral Association, Brock University, St. Catherines, ON. Contact: Bill Lechner at 416-438-8908 or bill.lechner@rogers.com

May (early) – Kitchener-Waterloo Gem & Mineral Show, Waterloo Community Arts Centre, 25 Regina St. S., Waterloo, ON. Contact: Peter Russell, 519-747-9874

May (early) – Walker Mineralogical Club annual banquet, Faculty Club, University of Toronto, 41 Willcocks St., Toronto. Go to www.walkermineralogicalclub.ca


July (mid) – Annual Sudbury Gem & Mineral Show, Carmichael Arena, Bancroft Dr., Sudbury, ON. Contact: Ruth Debicki, 705-670-5887

July (late) – Wilberforce Rock & Gem Show, Monmouth Arena, Wilberforce, ON. Contact: 705-448-1706

July (late) – Bancroft Gem & Mineral Club Show, Bancroft Legion Hall, Station St., Bancroft, ON. Contact: Frank Melanson, 613-332-1032

July (late) – Toronto Gem and Mineral Summer Show, Leaside Gardens, 1073 Millwood Rd., East York (Toronto). Go to www.torontogemshow.com
**August (long weekend)** – Rockhound Gemboree, North Hastings Community Centre, Bancroft, ON. Go to www.commerce.bancroft.on.ca

**August (mid)** – St. Lawrence County Rock & Mineral Club Swap, Fireman’s Field, Pierrepont, NY.

**August (late)** – Kingston Lapidary & Rock Club Rock Swap, Frontenac Mall, Centre Court, Bath Rd., Kingston, ON. Contact: Ted Pope, 613-384-7486; moss@kingston.net


**September (mid)** – Wonders of the Earth, Scarborough Gem & Mineral Club, Don Montgomery Community Centre, 2467 Eglinton Ave. E., Scarborough, ON. Go to www.scarbgemclub.ca

**September (late)** – Ottawa Gem & Mineral Show, Ottawa Lapsmith & Mineral Club, Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Ave., Nepean, ON. Go to www.olmc.ca


**October (mid)** – Kingston Lapidary & Rock Club Show, Portsmouth Olympic Harbour, 53 Yonge St., Kingston, ON. Go to www.spaceclick.ca/klmc/index.cfm?page=gemstone

**October (late)** – University of Waterloo Earth Sciences Annual Gem and Mineral Show, Earth Science Museum, U of W, Waterloo, ON. Go to www.openhouse.uwaterloo.ca

**October (late) or November (early)** – Annual Walker Mineralogical Club Auction, Toronto. Go to www.walkermineralogicalclub.ca

**November (mid)** – Montreal Gem and Mineral Club Show, Hippodrome de Montreal, Blue Bonnets, Montreal. Go to www.montrealgemandmineralclub.ca/pages/AnnualShow.html1
November (mid) – CMMA Fall Mini-Conference, The Burlington Arts and Culture Centre, 1333 Lakeshore Rd., Burlington, ON. Contact: Bill Lechner at 416-438-8908 or bill.lechner@rogers.com

Selected Periodicals

Here’s a list of selected periodicals that you may find useful for your study of the hobby.

1) Lapidary Journal: Gems, Beads & Jewellery
A monthly magazine devoted to jewellery-making, gem-cutting, beading, gem carving, mineral and fossil collecting, field trips and more.

2) The Mineralogical Record
The Mineralogical Record is the world's foremost publication for mineral collectors. Each issue contains in-depth articles on minerals and mineral localities, lavishly illustrated with beautiful colour photography of some of the world's finest minerals.

3) Rocks and Minerals Magazine
America's oldest popular magazine about minerals, Rocks & Minerals has published articles of interest to all students of mineralogy, geology, and palaeontology since 1926. The magazine is designed to meet the needs of the amateur in the field as well as the professional. Regular departments explore such topics as fossils, micro minerals and current geologic events and the latest mineral and fossil finds. Detailed collecting-locality listings appear periodically, and each year one issue provides an in-depth look at a particular state. Some full-colour illustrations and photographs appear throughout each issue.

Selected Reference Books

Here is a list of books to help you learn more about mineralogy and mineral collecting.

Encyclopaedia of Mineral Names  
The Canadian Mineralogist, Special Publication 2, Ottawa, Ontario
The best reference if you are interested in the origin of mineral names. It also includes type localities and references.

2. Ford, W.E. (1932)  
_Dana’s Textbook of Mineralogy, 4th edition_  
John Wiley and Sons Inc., New York

An older text, but still a valuable reference for the more advanced collector.

The Canadian Mineralogist  
Special Publication 2, Ottawa, Ontario

The best reference for discontinued mineral names, synonyms and the like.

_The Manual of Mineral Science_  
John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York

This is an updated version of an old standby. For the more experienced collector.

_Montreal TREASURES. The Minerals of Mont Saint-Hilaire, Quebec_  
Cambridge University Press, New York

Although dated as far as species are concerned, this is still “the bible” on Mont Saint-Hilaire.

_New Minerals 1990-1994_  
The Mineralogical Record Inc., Tucson, Arizona

Abstracts of New Minerals described between 1990-1994. Most issues of the Mineralogical Record have the abstracts as they are released, by the same author.

_Fleischer’s Glossary of Mineral Species 10th Edition_  
(includes type localities and Mineral Groups)  
The Mineralogical Record Inc., Tucson, Arizona
The best reference for approved mineral species.

   *The System of Mineralogy, 7th edition, Volume 1*
   John Wiley and Sons Inc., New York

   Palache, C., Berman, H. & Frondel, C. (1951)
   *The System of Mineralogy, 7th edition, Volume 2*
   John Wiley and Sons Inc., New York

   *The System of Mineralogy, 7th edition, Volume 3*
   John Wiley and Sons Inc., New York

   This three-volume set although dated is still very useful. Unfortunately, it can be quite expensive. Probably of interest to the more advanced collector. A new edition was recently released in one volume, but although many new species were added, overall, a lot of material was deleted.

   *Dana's New Mineralogy 8th edition.*
   John Wiley and Sons Inc., New York

10. Sinkankas, J. (1964)
    *Mineralogy for Amateurs*
    Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, New York

    This is a good introductory reference for someone starting out in mineralogy

    *Mineralogy Concepts and Principles*
    Burgess Publishing Co. Minneapolis, Minnesota

    This is an intermediate to advanced reference book, and was used by some universities as a text book.

12. Horvath, Laszlo
    *Mineral Species Discovered in Canada and Species Named after Canadians*
    The Canadian Mineralogist, Special Publication 6
Field Guides


APPENDIX 1

WALKER MINERALOGICAL CLUB
CONSTITUTION
AS AMENDED MAY 18, 2006

1. The Club shall be known as the Walker Mineralogical Club (Toronto, Canada).

2. The Headquarters of the Club shall be located in the City of Toronto, Ontario.

3. The purpose of the Club shall be to encourage interest in and study of mineralogy and allied sciences.

4. To promote the study of mineralogy, the Club shall endeavour to make one or more awards annually to deserving student(s) attending Canadian universities who are engaged in the study of pure or applied mineralogy including crystallography, petrology and geochemistry (see also article 18).

5. The Walker Mineralogical Club shall be a non-profit organization.

6. In the event of a dissolution of the Club’s operations, all the net funds and other assets of whatsoever nature then remaining are to be transferred to the Royal Ontario Museum for disposition by the most senior member of the mineralogy unit in the best interests of mineralogy.

MEMBERS:
7. (a) Ordinary membership is open to all interested persons and institutions.
(b) Junior membership is open to persons aged 14 - 18 years.
(c) Family membership shall include children up to the age of 15 only.

8. The Council may elect as Honorary Members those who have rendered conspicuous service to mineralogy.

COUNCIL:

9. The Council of the Club shall consist of the following officers: President, Past President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Editor and six Councillors. If possible, at least one of the Council should be a mineralogist or geologist on the staff of the Royal Ontario Museum or the University of Toronto.

10. Any seven officers of the Council shall constitute a quorum at a formally summoned meeting.

11. The Council may elect an Honorary President, who shall then be an ex-officio member of the Council for a stated term of office.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

12. (a) The President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Editor shall be elected annually and may serve for a maximum of three consecutive years.
(b) The six Councillors shall be elected for a three-year term, the two senior Councillors to retire each year.
(c) Election of officers shall take place annually in December.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

13. (a) There shall be a Nominating Committee of three members appointed by the Council prior to June first each year. The Nominating Committee shall, before October first each year, nominate with the consent of the nominee, such number of
candidates as are required to fill the vacancies on the Council.

(b) The List of nominees shall be submitted to all members of the Club in writing, before the regular November meeting. Additional nominations in writing or from the floor will be accepted up to the close of the November meeting. In all cases, the consent of the nominee must be obtained.

(c) The Council shall be authorized to fill vacancies in the Council during its term of office.

BANKING:

14. The President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall be authorized to act as signing officers of the Club. All cheques are to be signed by any two of the above signing officers. Any and all moneys received by any member or members for or in connection with the Club, or any of its committees, subcommittees, or activities, shall be deposited with the Club; and those received for special purposes shall be designated for such purposes and applied for or towards the same.

MEETINGS:

15. Meetings shall be held monthly from September to May inclusive, dates and places to be at the discretion of Council. Meetings are open to the general public.

Field trips may take the place of regular meetings.

PUBLICATION:

16. Membership includes receiving a copy of each issue of the bulletin of the Club.

AWARD FUND:

17. Council shall maintain and administer a separate Fund to be known as the Prize Fund, to provide the Peacock Memorial Prize. Awards shall be made at the discretion of Council, which may seek the assistance and advice of such persons as it deems advisable (see also article 4).

DUES:
18. (a) Annual dues shall be fixed by Council and shall be payable on or before January first, each year. Members shall be reminded to pay their dues, through a notice in the bulletin.

(b) Members who are three months in arrears with dues shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

(c) Other fees, including those for participation in any particular event or activity, shall also be fixed by Council.

AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION:

19. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of those voting on such amendments by means of a letter ballot sent to all members in good standing.

APPENDIX 2

Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Code of Ethics for Rockhounds

to which all its members are expected to abide by

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

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

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

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

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

6. I will leave all gates as found.

7. I will build fires in designated or safe places only, and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
8. I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

9. I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock. I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.

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

11. I will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

12. I will co-operate with field trip leaders, and those designated in authority in all collecting areas.

13. I will report to my Club or Federation Officers, or other proper authorities, any deposit of material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

14. I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

15. I will observe the "Golden Rule" and 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.