FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The accomplishments of MAPS during 1980 is nothing less than phenomenal. Expo II was undescribable and Expo III is guaranteed to be even bigger and better. As we exceed a membership of 350, we've become the largest club in the Midwest Federation. A special exhibit at the National Show, where a fossil from every state and country represented by our membership, was very favorably received. A fossil seminar at the National Show was sponsored by MAPS and a dozen of our members assisted in the presenting of this program. A 97 slide program was prepared by MAPS and a set was donated to the MWF program library. Several successful field trips have been held and we're looking forward to another good outing in south central Iowa in October. All of this and 1980 is only half over.

What else can we look forward to? Madelynne has some plans for some changes in the Digest that will permit it to even better serve our widespread membership. Among other things, a swap section will be utilized. We also voted to have another set of the new slide program made that can be checked out by members outside the Midwest Federation, to be shown at meetings of clubs in your area. This fall we'll prepare a fossil study program that can be checked out and used by small groups (satellites) of MAPS members in other geographical areas. If this idea proves successful, there will be other programs produced.

The finances look pretty good. Our dues increase for next year was in anticipation of increasing costs for the Digest, including postage increase. Our dues increase appears adequate for the increased expenses.

Every member is encouraged to make suggestions to any member of the Executive Committee in order that MAPS can be of the best possible service. We've discussed having representatives selected from outside the Quad City Area, to serve on the Executive Committee; however, it is the general consensus that any appreciable decentralization of the executive authority would tend to weaken and make the whole organization less effective.

All in all, we have every reason to be optimistic about a great future for MAPS. Several hundred of us will bring thousands of fossils to Macomb, IL for Expo III. Make your plans to attend the greatest fossil show and swap ever seen anywhere. Don

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

4 Aug MAPS October Meeting -- Field Trip
10:00 a.m. Details page 2.
SUMMER HAPPENINGS

It’s been a long time with no news. Here is a quick rundown on what’s been going on.

Several MAPS members got together in Topeka, KS at the Rocky Mountain Show. Lloyd Rose came all the way from NC. The Hodges, LaVeta and Lee, arranged a field trip and gorgeous KS leaves were found.

A week later found many more members at the National Midwest Show, Lincoln. The Hodges arranged another field trip to Weeping Water, NE this time.

Highlights at the Lincoln Show were: initiation of MAPS fossil case, the first program MAPS was responsible for, and the unveiling of our slide presentation "Fossils and The Story They Tell". Old friends and new ones.

The July meeting was a Field Trip to Carthage, IL Hot as it was 44 members arrived. No doubt the most exciting find was the starfish plate Don Good discovered. Members came from as far away as Detroit, Chicago, and St. Louis. It was excellent.

At the business meeting, Carthage, several decisions were reached:
1. The Constitution was amended to include 2 vice presidents so smooth effective programs might be planned and a moving of chairs to become president.

2. A Quorum at regular MAPS meetings may be as few as 16 members. As you know our membership is spread throughout the world. No one in the very beginning anticipated this. Regular meetings in the Quad Cities are attended by very few of the actual total membership population.

3. Dues were increased to one set amount, $7 per family. Junior membership remains at $5.

4. The Digest will continue to be mailed as First Class Matter.

August MAPS meeting at Bedford, IN, Show where the slide presentation was again given.

The September MAPS meeting was held at Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL. Over 50 members were present. Helen Asher presented a slide program.

*****

OCTOBER MEETING -- FIELD TRIP, OSKALOOSA

We will meet at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, October 4, 1980, at the parking lot of the King Lear Motel, north of Oskaloosa, IA on Highway 63 (Iowa). If you are taking I-80, turn South at Junction of Iowa 63 to King Lear Motel.

A sack lunch and jug of water is recommended. There are several fine motels in the area for those wishing to stay over. Camping is available for a nominal fee at Lake Keomah State Park approximately 6 miles East of Oskaloosa.

This site is the Pella Formation, Mississippian in age. Fossils to be found include brachiopods, horn corals, blastoids, crinoids, edrioasteroids, trilobites, etc.

A small screwdriver or other similar tool is helpful for prying specimens out of the clay. Other equipment, small vials or baggies and your collecting bag. No heavy equipment!

This is a fun collecting site.

Doug Johnson

*****

Among the most important large inhabitants of the Cretaceous seas were the chambered cephalopods, mollusks that dwell in the outermost compartment of a shell they divide into compartments by secreting a sequence of septa or walls, inside it. What gave them their dominance was their development of the ability to achieve neutral buoyancy: an overall density, or weight per unit volume, virtually equal to that of the seawater around them. In particular the chambered cephalopods evolved an organ capable of removing water from the inner compartments of their shell. With the advent of this ability (and also the evolution of a directional water jet) the chambered cephalopods were freed from the confines of their bottom-crawling ancestors and became the first of the large free-swimming carnivores in the sea.

SEDIMENTARY NOTES

Lloyd Gunther and son Val of Brigham City, Utah, are in the process of writing a monograph on Cambrian Trilobites. It is scientifically factual but in language for the lay person. The illustrations include both line drawings and photographs. Gunthers should have a best seller.

This summer I was most fortunate to be able to see the work completed to date. If one is not already a lover of trilobites, this work will cause it to happen.

Lloyd says the publication will be for sale when it is released and the Digest may publish some pages. Lloyd says at least 500 species of Cambrian trilobites existed. How he picked his species for illustration and discussion, I have no idea. Too much talk about this work would detract from its authors and that is unfair, but a treat of excellence is in store.

Wilm Hilgemann, Leola, SD, has a request/suggestion. She would like to know about books which MAPS members find informative. Send titles and publishers of favorite books to the Digest. A few words telling why the book appeals to you might be helpful.

Several of our members are foreign travelers. Wayne Bonner, Gardena, CA has recently returned.

How about a write-up about European fossils and MAPS friends along your travels.

We're too far apart and far too many in number to include anything in this column except fossil oriented happenings. It is, however, an opportunity to share information concerning our hobby, and our friends.

Thanks to Doug Johnson, Donnelson, IA for the Title.

SWAP COLUMN

This is an experiment. Ad must be limited to 25 words or less. Only 1 ad per person per year. Material should be excellent.

Jim Jenks gave permission to use his request in the initial column.

Wanted--starfish. For swap--rare Triassic ammonites.


Send your ad in.

TRILOBITES OF THE CHICAGO REGION

Charles Armstrongs

An opportunity exists to buy this out-of-print book.

Although a hard figure has not been established, Mrs. Armstrong says if enough interest is shown reprints of TRILOBITES OF THE CHICAGO REGION will be made. Probably cost to be no more than $5 and quantity may cause the price to be lower.

Doug DeRossear, one of our trilobite experts, and owner of the book says there are 55 pages of excellent line drawings each illustrating a different specie.

Anyone interested in a reprint of this book please contact

Alberta Cray
1125 J. Avenue NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

as soon as possible. This offer is for a limited time only.

What a terrific Christmas gift this would be as well as a welcome addition to your own library.

The ways in which men came into the knowledge of things celestial appears to me almost as marvelous as the nature of these things themselves.

Johannes Kepler
FOSSILS AND THE STORY THEY TELL

This 97 slide, slide program, after being christened at the National Show in Lincoln, NE has been shown in Indiana, Wyoming, and California. It has been booked for showing in Kentucky and North Carolina. It has been acclaimed wherever it’s been seen. To accommodate the demand, we've had a second set made.

By paying return postage, you can borrow this program to show a group of friends or the members of your rock club.

There are 2 places from which it can be ordered:

1. For showing to a MWF affiliated club, please order from: Mr. Don Stennett, 29462 Aspen Dr., Flat Rock, MI 48134.

2. All others, order from Mr. Allyn Adams, 612 W. 51st St., Davenport, IA 52806

Please specify the date you desire to use it and order at least one month in advance.

We are in the process of making a pronouncing dictionary to accompany the script. It may also soon be possible to get a sound cartridge tape to accompany the slide program. If you would like the tape with the program, please so indicate and if it is available, we will send it with the slides.

IS YOUR COLLECTION CATALOGUED?

If not, this is for YOU!!

At the recent MWF/AFMS Show and Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska, MAPS members conducted a symposium on various aspects of paleontology. It included a 1-hour presentation via color slides on basic paleontology, plus two hours on specific subjects such as crinoids, trilobites, and other aspects such as displaying and cataloging. "How to Catalog Your Collection" was presented by Dick Johannesen. This is a subject too often overlooked by collectors.

This presentation included such information as the Data needed to build a catalogue, the equipment and supplies needed, a list of books found to be useful in cataloguing (and identification, too), a sample cataloguing index, and examples of catalog cards already in use. At the conclusion of the presentation each person present was given a 3-sheet handout containing the information just listed.

Maps members who are interested in this subject, and who were not able to attend the symposium in Lincoln, can receive a copy of the handout by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope (must be 4" x 9") to:

Dick Johannesen
2708 34th Street, Apt. 1
Rock Island, IL 61201

NAME TAGS AVAILABLE

An attractive MAPS name tag is available for $2.50 each (this includes postage). The sea-blue plastic rectangle has in white our Cysthocrinites logo: M.A.P.S.: and your name: city and state.

To order, send your check to: Mr. Fred Carrar, Box 185, Galena, KS 66739.

(Ed. Note—They’re terrific!! If we had each had one at Topeka, and Lincoln, and Bedford, and Pasadena—WOW)

DUES ARE DUE

page 4
THE PRICE OF SUCCESS

An organization like MAPS was just waiting to be born with isolated fossil collectors anxious to endow mother love on this infant organization. The result has been exponential growth, each year doubling from the number of the preceding year (at the end of the 1st year we numbered about 100, end of 2nd year about 200, and we'll reach the 400 mark by our 3rd anniversary). I've witnessed numerous cases where individual members have made personal sacrifices for the good of the club. In fact, our intentions were so pure our Constitution and By-laws make no allowances for refusing membership to anyone or rescinding membership of an undesirable.

It was decided at the last Executive meeting that our members should be notified that M.A.P.S. was not founded with the idea of personal gain for one or a few individuals. Therefore, except for items noted in the Digest that are of group value, M.A.P.S. will not endorse products or activities and any attempt by an individual to exploit our good name will not be tolerated. For example, what would the effect on our club have been if we'd endorsed the now defunct magazine entitled "Fossils" that was published in California about 4 years ago? So, rest assured, if you didn't see reference to the item in our Digest, you may be sure that you should investigate thoroughly. If the person appears to be using M.A.P.S. to establish credibility, please notify your Executive Committee listing pertinent information.

We thought it best that we take a stand on this before it becomes a problem. It is unfortunate that there are people in the world who will take undue advantages of persons or groups with good intentions.

*****

EXPLORERS OF THE EARTH WITHIN

Around the clock, scientists at the University of Washington monitor incoming seismic signals from their remote instruments implanted on the flanks of Mount St. Helens, watching for new volcanic activity. When weather permits, geologists armed with cameras and infrared sensors fly sorties over the ruined peak or check the readings on thermal probes buried deep in the surrounding soil. Others seek patterns in the mounting data—the chemistry of the volcanic ash, gravity and seismic measurements, the changing shape of the mountain. Long hours are common, danger a part of the business. Yet scientists leap at the chance to watch the earth give a rare live performance. ...They belong to a new breed of explorers, seeking to understand not just this singular event but the subterranean forces and processes that give rise to volcanoes and earthquakes, that raise up whole mountain ranges, that propel the continents across the face of the globe.

That the continents move—that huge chunks of crust are split apart and driven thousands of miles and others are swallowed whole, that the very bedrock of earth's surface is a series of rafts floating hither and yon at the mercy of unseen currents—is a staggering idea, perhaps the most important insight since the discovery that the earth is round. As recently as the 1960s, a scientist who publicly expoused such ideas was putting his career at risk. But the theory of continental drift, more accurately known in its modern version as global plate tectonics, has revolutionized and revitalized the earth sciences and is now widely accepted. (Continued page 7)
Mount St. Helens is just one of 15 majestic volcanic peaks capping the rugged coastal Cascade Range from southern British Columbia to northern California. The chain of volcanoes is the surface manifestation of an ongoing collision between two crustal plates—the North American plate and the tiny Gorda plate that lies offshore (see map).

At the boundary between the Gorda and Pacific plates, the Juan de Fuca rift zone adds about one inch of new crust each year to both plates. The growing Pacific plate moves away in a northwest direction, but the new sea floor added to the little Gorda plate moves on a collision course toward the coast of Washington and Oregon where it plunges beneath the westward marching North American plate. It then bends downward into the earth's mantle beneath the Cascade volcanic chain. The friction between these 60-mile-thick slabs sliding past each other supplies the heat necessary to melt the crust and generate molten rock, or magma. Mt. St. Helens, as well as the other volcanoes in the Cascade chain, are the localized spots where this magma pokes through and spills out into the surface.

The magma literally melts its way upward through the solid plate, exactly how this happens is still a matter of speculation. Magma chambers housing huge volumes of molten rock are known to exist. Within these, it is the lighter components with a high content of silica (SiO₂)—andesitic rocks—that eventually find their way to the surface and erupt in the volcanism characteristic of most continental regions. High silica content makes the magma sticky, like taffy, so that the pressure of gas and steam trapped within tends to build up until it is released in a violent explosion. Certain prehistoric flows from Mount St. Helens were silica-poor basaltic magmas like those that formed the Hawaiian Islands, indicating that different, deeper magma chambers can also be tapped by the volcano. So far, the 1980 eruptions are all of the more dangerous andesitic composition. Seismic tremors indicate a shifting of mass within the magma reservoir and attest to the size of the one fueling Mount St. Helens. Preceding the violent May 18 eruption, they were focused seven miles beneath the volcano. After the eruption, they occurred much deeper, at 15 to 30 miles down.

The Pacific Northwest has a long history of volcanic activity, indicating that the area has long been a major plate boundary. The earliest volcanism in the Cascades occurred some 250 million years ago, though the bulk of the volcanic rocks are about 50 million years old. The range is punctuated by the eroded rocks of old volcanoes.

In terms of the vastness of geologic time, the lofty Cascade Range is very young. Uplift of the older rocks began only a few million years ago. Superimposed upon this new uplifted range are the even younger present-day Cascade volcanoes. All the lavas in these newcomers are imprinted with the earth's present magnetic signature, indicating that the rock solidified during the past 670,000 years, the duration of the last global magnetic reversal event. Mount St. Helens is a youngster among these newcomers with an age of about 49,000 years.
EXPLORERS OF THE EARTH WITHIN (continued)

When the German scientist Alfred Wegener first proposed the theory of continental drift early in this century, he met with resounding skepticism. It remained for a new generation of explorers, dreamers, and synthesizers to establish the credibility of Wegener's ideas. Prominent among these has been the Canadian scientist John Tuzo Wilson, one of the principal theoreticians of the new synthesis and for 20 years probably its most outspoken advocate. ...He has just taken office as the first non-American president of the American Geophysical Union.

The consequences of the drift-tectonics theory are far reaching. It offers explanations of earthquakes and volcanoes, long-term climatic change, the distribution of precious gems, minerals, oil and coal, even the geographical spread of plants and animals. It tells us that Boston was once in the tropics, and that Los Angeles is en route for San Francisco. It is a powerful tool for understanding the planet.

Essentially, the theory views the earth as a mobile jigsaw puzzle. The planet's outer shell is broken into a mosaic of rigid plates about 60 miles thick that "float" on a plastic, semisolid lower layer like the cracked shell of a soft-boiled egg. The plates consist primarily of oceanic crust; the continents are in effect passengers riding the rafts of the plates.

The motion of the plates is ponderous, averaging perhaps a few inches per year. Where the plates bump and grind against each other in their global slow dancing, the effects are dramatic, producing earthquakes. Draw a line joining the earth's areas of seismic activity, and the boundaries of the plates clearly emerge. California's San Andreas Fault, for example, marks one boundary where the Pacific plate is sliding northwest past the North American plate. The movement is not smooth: As the giant slabs push past each other, friction builds up, and they lock. Along the fault, strain develops, and the snagged boundary rock snaps and shifts, jumping as much as 30 feet in an overpowering tremor.

Where two plates pull away from each other at rift zones such as the mid-ocean ridges, new material wells up from beneath to fill the gap, hardens, and becomes part of the plate. Where two plates collide, one overrides and the other is thrust down into earth's interior at sites marked by the deep ocean trenches. Plates are thus born at the rift zones and destroyed at the trenches as they sink back into the earth. These sinking zones have another dramatic marker, the chains of volcanoes that sprout above the dying plate, such as in the Cascade Range of North America where Mount St. Helens lies.

It is an encompassing, overwhelming picture. There are gaps in the theory, awkward pieces as yet unexplained. There is no agreement about what forces drive the plates: the major stumbling block in Wegener's time, too. But the parts fit together remarkably well. It is puzzling that the scientific community was so resistant to continental drift and allowed it to languish in an intellectual backwater for almost half a century. In the Soviet Union, resistance with ideological overtones continues today. Many Russian geophysicists, increasingly isolated from Western science, still oppose plate tectonics as an unproven, foreign idea....

Wilson was one of the first to focus attention on the fact that many major faults in the earth's crust have a definite beginning and end. He saw that these transform faults, as he called them, link sections of rift zones or trenches or interconnect the two, as California's San Andreas Fault helps link the East Pacific rift zone in the Gulf of California to the Juan de Fuca rift zone off the coast of Oregon. Thus, transform faults mark the edges of two crustal blocks and their existence, as Wilson was the first to see, implies that the earth's surface is divided up into blocks or plates. The insight cleared the way for the rigorous formulation of plate tectonic theory. (continued page 11)
Please add to your membership list—

Carol H. Anderson
918 13th Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54304
414-497-7876

LeRoy Anderson
Box 1229
Chinook, MT
406-357-2072 or 3341
Collecting 8 years. Own/operator Auto Repair Will trade. Interested in Judith River Form, dinosaur and shark material, any paleontology. Wants to obtain and pass on knowledge of earth sci.

Fred A. Armstrong
P. O. Box 664
N. Platte, NE 69101
308-582-1006
Collecting 3 years. Retired UP Railroad. Will trade. No major area of interest mentioned.

Mat & Freda Beckius
Rt. 1, Box 140
Ogallala, NE 69153
308-284-2393
Collecting 18 years. Retired. Will trade. Interested in all fossils. Wants to learn more and identify those in collection.

Edward J. Borden
46 Stone Villa
Burlington, NJ 08016
609-386-7489
Collecting 5 years. Retired. Will trade. Paleobotany is major interest, but interested in all paleontology. Wants to compare and study new information.

James E. Bradford
2109 West 6th St.
Marion, IN 46952
317-664-3758
Collecting 20 years. Mould Maker. Will trade. Special interest micro fossils, interested in all fossils. Wants contact with others to trade and share information.

Dr. John J. Chiment
Paleontology Research Institute Will trade. Interested vertebrate paleontology charophyte, biostratigraphy. Wants to enlist aid in collection of stratigraphically important charophyte floras in diverse geographic and geologic areas.

Lorena Ellicott
Rt. 5
Harrison, NE 69346
308-668-2348
Collecting 20 years. Rancher. Will trade some. Major interest paleobotany, all plant fossils. Interested in fossils of all types. Will trade petrified wood and ceratidiphyllum seeds.

Fred W. Fass
3601 N. Oakland Ave.
Shorewood WI 53211
414-964-1291

R. D. Fox
3476 Cornell Place
Cinti, Ohio 45220
513-861-7722
Recent collector. Fossil Illustrator (also mineral). Desires to learn.

Charles & Maxine Havlicek
Box 42, Rt. 1
DuBois, NE 68345
402-859-4501

Collecting 10 years. Will trade. Interested in phylogenetic relationships, vertebrates, origins. I like fossils.

Collecting 15 years. X-Ray Astronomer. Will trade. Interested microfossils (diatoms, radiolaria, etc), ammonites, trilobites, blastoids, crinoids, vertebrates, plants, and books on fossils.

Collecting 5 years. Mining Engineer. Will trade. Interested ammonites, Green River Fm. fauna, and trilobites. Has Green River Fm. material, some ammonites to trade.

Collecting 5 years. Physical Therapist. Will trade.

Collecting 30 years. Owns Rock Shop. Interested all fossils. Like contacts to help identify unusual specimens.


Collecting 4 years. Retired Science Teacher. Interested in Mesozoic and Early Cenozoic. Wants to develop interest in this important area.


Collecting 5 years. Public Administration. Will trade. Interested in fossils in jewelry. Has to trade ammonites from France and England. Would like to know of clubs in CA.
T. M. Maloney  
P. O. Box 1053  
Willows, CA 95988  
916-934-4536  

Ken Olson  
Box 336  
Chinook, MT 59523  
406-357-2433  

Roger K. Pabian  
Conservation & Survey Div.  
University of Nebraska  
Lincoln, NE 68588  
402-472-3471  

Irene W. Richter  
657 North 85  
Omaha, NE 68114  
402-391-6618  

Dale R. Rossow  
Rt. 1  
Dexter, MN 55926  
507-584-6668  

Elmer & Winifred Schmiedeknecht  
Collecting 15 years. Retired. Will trade.  
Interested in collecting, identification, and display. Has assorted fossils for trade. Wants to further knowledge about fossils.  

Ina Schwartz  
81 - 39 188th St.  
Jamaica, NY 11423  
212-468-4033  

Luke & Helen Sinclair  
831 Patrick Lane  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
606-778-2332  

Robert J. Smith  
Bx. 197  
Seattle University,  
Seattle, WA 98122  
206-626-6739  

William M. Smith, Jr.  
9535 Jamaica Drive  
Miami, FL 33189  
305-253-4972  

Kenneth R. Stalder  
600 Park Drive  
Lee's Summit, MO 64063  
-524-8029  

Fossil Dealer. Interested in all fossils.  
Collecting 14 years. Pastor-American Lutheran Church. Will trade. Interested all fossils. Collects in Cretaceous dinosaur bearing, also sharks and trilobites. Have dinosaur and shark teeth to trade. Wants to contribute and meet others.  
Collecting 20 years. Geologist. Will not trade. Interested in crinoids, late Penn., Lower Permian biostratigraphy paleoecology. Wants information on what collectors are finding.  
Collecting 45 years. Stockman. Will not trade. Interested in general geology. Wants to learn that the past may be better understood.  
Collecting 10 years. Personnel. Will trade. Wants to learn more and share experiences.  
Collecting 10 years. Retired Veterinarian. Will not trade. Interested in all fossils. Wants to learn more about fossils.  
Collecting 29 years. University Teacher. Will trade. Interested in replacement mechanisms in fossilization, general evolution and paleo-community reconstruction. Has trilobites, cephalopods, etc. for trade. Loves to collect, study, talk.  
Recent beginner. University Instructor (Management) Will trade. Would like fossils from paleozoic and Mesozoic. Would trade vertebrate rib, whale ear bones, sting ray spines, also recent coral fm.  
Collecting 14 years. Programmer Analyst. Will trade. Interested brachiopods, cephalopods, gastropods and other invertebrates. Wants to share interest in fossils.
Dwayne D. Stone  
Dept. of Geology  
Marietta College,  
Marietta, OH 45750  
614-373-4643

Collecting 25 years. Paleontology and Sedimentation Professor. Will trade. Interested in all paleontology. Has invertebrates to trade. Wants to associate with more people interested in fossils.

Jessamine and Franklin (son) Upson  
7933 Windhill Dr.  
Indianapolis, IN 46256  
317-842-7899


R. Preston Watts  
2208 Matthews St.  
Huntsville, AL 35801  
205-534-1537

Collecting 15 years. Retired Engineer. Will trade. Interested all Paleontology especially crinoids, blastoids, trilobites. Has blastoids, crinoids, brachiopods, quartz on petrified wood to trade. Wants association & trade with people interested in phen.

Marie C. Wells  
2940 Vine  
Lincoln, NE 68503  
402-435-6758

Collecting 10 years. Retired. Will trade. Interested in all fossils.

Michael O. West  
1540 Country Club Drive  
Niles, MI 49120  
616-684-2822

Collecting 10 years. Will trade. Interested in paleobiology. Working on Masters. Wants to see and trade specimens.

Janet L. Wright  
3715 S. 33rd St.  
Lincoln, NE 68506  
402-488-1884

Collecting 12 years. Earth Science Teacher. Might trade. Interested in all fossils. Wants to find out about what's happening in the field of fossil study.

Allen C. Yenerich  
R.R. #1  
Mendota, IL 61342  
815-539-6009

Collecting 24 years. Factory Laborer. Will not trade. Interested in all fossils especially fossil teeth. Wants to learn more about all fossils.

THOSE MARVELOUS, MYRIAD DIATOMS

Richard B. Hoover (new member)  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, June, 79

Such perfect architects, these diatoms. They spin themselves intricate houses of opal in the sea. Glittering pinwheel spirals, stars, and chandeliers! More than twenty-five thousand species of diatoms, and no shell the same. Each a living jewel. My microscope becomes a kaleidoscope.

They come from inner space and are essential to life on this planet. Single celled algae, diatoms by the trillions produce oxygen by photosynthesis, support the oceanic food chain, and help mankind do a host of industrial chores.

EXPLORERS OF THE EARTH WITHIN (cont'd.)

Wegener presented the earliest versions of his continental drift hypothesis in Germany in 1912. The conventional view of the earth at the time held that it was still cooling and contracting from its original molten state. Mountain ranges were thought to have been pushed up in much the same way as wrinkles form in the skin of a drying shrinking apple. All surface movement was vertical; the earth was seen as too rigid to allow for horizontal displacements. Ancient transoceanic land bridges, long since sunken, were said to explain the occurrence of identical plant and animal fossils on continents widely separated by ocean.

(Continued next month)
The Mid-America Paleontology Society (MAPS) was formed to promote popular interest in the subject of paleontology, to encourage the proper collecting, study, preparation, and display of fossil material; and to assist other individuals, groups, and institutions interested in the various aspects of paleontology. It is a non-profit society incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa.

MAPS is affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies, and with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Membership in MAPS is open to anyone, anywhere who is sincerely interested in fossils and the aims of the Society.

Family membership $7.00; individual membership $7.00; junior membership $5.00 (between ages 8 and 16); dealer membership (non voting $20.00.

MAPS meetings are held on the 1st Saturday of each month (2nd Saturday if inclement weather) October thru May at 2 PM in the Science Building Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

President: Don Good, 410 NW 3rd Street, Aledo, IL 61231
Vice President: Wallace Harris, 325 E. Franklin, Macomb, IL 61455
Secretary: Tom Miller, 3219 West Locust St., Davenport, IA 52804
Treasurer: Alberta Cray, 1125 J Avenue, NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
DIGEST Editor: Madelynne Lillybeck, 1039-33rd St. Ct., Moline, IL 61265

Dated Material - Meeting Notice