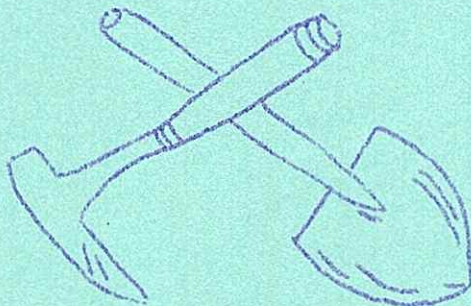
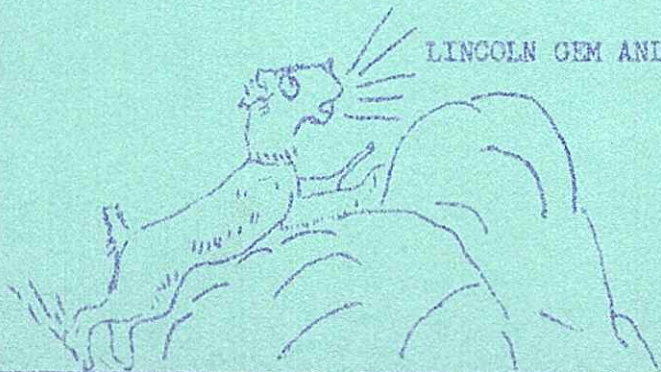


# THE PICK & SHOVEL



LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Lincoln, Nebraska





WITH BEST WISHES  
for the Holidays and all through  
the coming year!

Your 1960 Officers -

V. A. Carroth

R. A. Gibson

John A. Lewis

James Tracy



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Greetings to the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club:

A most hearty Merry Christmas, and a Happy, Prosperous New Year to all of you.

It hardly seems possible that a year has come and gone, but if one is busy, healthy and happy, time has a way of slipping past very quickly. It has been a good year for us, and we are grateful. As I look back on the past year I realize we had some interesting meetings, good field trips, a family picnic or two, and in September our annual jaunt to the rock beds at Crawford and Orella, Nebraska, where we find our fairburns.

Also in September we had a Rock Show, and with a feeling of pride, I will say a most successful one, due to a lot of hard work from all of you.

We have lost a few fine members of this Club, some moving to other cities, and states and as far away as Okinowa.

We have gained new members, we are happy to say, and we hope to continue to welcome many more rock hounds and pebble pups to the Lincoln Club.

Our "little newspaper", the "PICK AND SHOVEL" was edited and went to press the first time this year, in June. Please continue to read it and send in your news, this will help keep it interesting to all.

I wish to thank all members for the fine co-operation I have received from you. May I wish the same for my successor.

We hope to see you all at the Christmas party, don't forget now, mark the date on your calendar. Bring a gift for the gift exchange, we will place it under the tree. Also, remember, it's a covered dish supper, enough for your family is all, and until then, December 19 at 6:30, Many Building, where the lapidary classes are held -

Adios,

/s/ V. A. Carveth



EATIN' MEETIN' - 6:30 p.m. - DEC. 19, 1960

Muny Center - 22nd & M Streets

We are having a covered dish supper. Bring the family, food, dishes, cups, silverware etc. We will put the food on the table and all eat together, as we have done at our picnics. Coffee, cream and sugar will be furnished by the Club.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

GIFT EXCHANGE - Gems, minerals, slabs, rocks, etc.

It would surely be nice to see all of our members at this meeting, our last for 1960.

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A ROCKHOUND'S CHRISTMAS

'Twas the night before Christmas  
and all through the house  
Not a Rockhound was stirring,  
not even his spouse.

The Pebble Pups were nestled  
all snug in their beds  
With visions of a tumbler  
dancing through their heads.

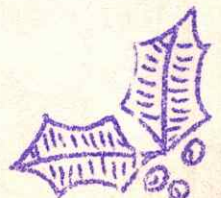
I crept upon tiptoe  
the room to survey  
Ah! There was the slab saw,  
I knew it right away.

Now left foot, now right foot  
as quiet as a mouse  
I put down the minerals,  
my gift for the spouse.

We woke up next morning  
and to our surprise  
There were agates and jasper  
and rocks, of all size.

What more could we wish for?  
You guessed it, it's true,  
A very MERRY CHRISTMAS  
To each one of you.

by - Frances Tracy





It has been a pleasure to serve as the editor of THE PICK & SHOVEL since its inception in June.

I would especially like to thank my husband for his help as well as Marie and Virgil Carveth for their assistance in assembling, stapling and addressing and the articles they contributed. Others, too, have contributed poems which we very much appreciate.

The financial contribution from Irl Everett and Clyde Benham for their ads, has helped in covering a part of the postage in mailing THE PICK & SHOVEL to you.

The paper has been contributed by several of our members which has kept our cost of printing to a minimum.

Have you guessed who the "Crystal Glaser" is that has been answering your problems in some of our issues? If you haven't heard, it's John A. Lewis. John suggests that if you have a problem, either of a comical or serious one, if he doesn't know the answer, he will be glad to look it up and publish it in his column. Your problem may be of interest to all of us and we can gain some knowledge with you. How about contacting John in the very near future with some of your problems?

Frances Tracy




If you are in need of suggestions for Christmas, we are Santa's Helpers. Hours are from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday - Sunday 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. & closed on Monday. See us.

**EVERETT LAPIDARY**

2941 No. 65th St.      IN 6-6204



SPECIAL BULLETINMIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

TO: All Member Societies  
FROM: Floyd N. Mortenson, President MWF  
SUBJECT: Earth Science Magazine

I have just received some good news from Mr. William H. Allaway, Associate Editor and Subscription Manager of the EARTH SCIENCE. Bill informed me that the December issue of the EARTH SCIENCE will have eight (8) more pages added because they have some very good articles which they feel simply must be published. This is, indeed, very good news to those of us who are now subscribing. The way that the EARTH SCIENCE MAGAZINE is improving with each issue we are getting more and more for our money. We think that we should talk it up among the membership so that no person will be left out of having this excellent magazine delivered to his or her home for their enjoyment.

This effort to publish a "BIGGER AND BETTER" EARTH SCIENCE MAGAZINE is a very commendable one and is worthy of our support throughout the entire MIDWEST FEDERATION.

If each Society would make a positive effort to send in at least five (5) new subscriptions, I am sure that Bill Allaway and Editor Ben Hur Wilson would find the going a little smoother financially to overcome the increased cost of adding these eight important pages to this very progressive magazine. They are constantly trying to improve the EARTH SCIENCE MAGAZINE and make it more interesting and informative. Since they are always boosting our MIDWEST FEDERATION activities, how about us giving them a little BOOST now by getting them some new subscribers. I would also like to suggest that all societies seriously consider the matter of placing donated subscriptions for their local school and public libraries.

Sincerely,

Floyd N. Mortenson, President  
MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERAL-  
OGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

MIDWEST FEDERATION'S  
L E T T E R - A - M O N T H  
for December 1960

Subject: YOUR CLUB AND THE LOCAL SCIENCE FAIR  
- By Benjamin Moulton  
Director of Mineralogy

Many of our clubs in the Midwest Federation are located in communities where, in the spring of the year, Science Fairs are held to display student science projects prepared in the schools. Many of these Science Fairs grant prizes each year donated by local and specialized interest groups, such as engineering groups, medical groups, etc. The prizes awarded are usually for exceptional participation related to the donor's interest.

In our community here, several years ago the Flint Rock and Gem Club began the custom of offering two rewards in the fields of geology, mineralogy, paleontology or related earth sciences. Especially, we planned to offer the prizes in the senior division of the fair, but if no projects were considered, consequently the junior exhibits were evaluated and the awards given there. Three members of the club served as judges in the determination of the winners of the awards. First prize consists of a \$25.00 savings bond and second prize was a mineralogy book and hammer. At a subsequent date, the winners of the club awards brought their exhibits to the club so that all members could see it.

It is apparent that the possibility of this award being given each year has stimulated more exhibits in the field of earth science. Therefore, your club, which doesn't already do so, might:

1. Determine the status of the local fair.
2. Determine the ability of the club to provide and the need for the additional awards in the interests of the organization.
3. Start early so that the local science fair administration can plan for the special award program.
4. Provide adequate judges to evaluate exhibits.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Moulton  
Director of Mineralogy

## ROCKHOUND STAMPS

by

Marguerite L. Utz

From the MIDWEST GEOLOGIST, official bulletin of The Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

I know that some of our club members are also stamp collectors. In fact, I have found that very often hobbyists (the collector variety, at least) have not one but many hobbies of a similar nature; that is, the rock and mineral collector may also collect stamps, postcards, buttons, and Americana of many kinds and descriptions.

For those who are stamp collectors, a particularly interesting phase of the hobby might be a topical collection of "rockhound" stamps. In recent years topical stamp collecting has become very popular because with so many countries and issues, and the passing of time, a world-wide collection is almost an impossibility. So we have collections as broad in scope as biology, religion on stamps, on down to pinpointed topics of unusual subjects.

While I have not made a topical collection of "rockhound" stamps, I keep my eyes open for them and am always interested in adding them to my small collection.

In any topical collection, it is up to the individual as to just how much territory his topic may cover. For instance, in United States stamps the first ones we would think of including would be the following, with the Scott catalog number for each: The California Gold Centennial stamps of 1948 (#954) shows a reproduction of Sutter's Mill at Coloma, where James Marshall's discovery started the rush of the Argonauts. In the upper right hand corner are a pick and shovel crossed on which is superimposed a prospector's pan. The California Statehood Centennial stamp of 1950 (#997) portrays a miner panning gold. Oil derricks also show faintly in the distance. In June, 1959, a Silver Centennial Stamp was issued (#1130) which reproduced an old print showing Henry Comstock at the site of the rich silver lode. This stamp had its first day of issue at Virginia City, Nevada.

For the collector of Indian artifacts, the Oklahoma Statehood Stamp 1957 (#1092) has the theme "Arrows to Atoms" showing an arrow as well as the symbol of atomic energy on an outline map of the State of Oklahoma. The Indian Centennial Stamp of 1948 (#972) shows arrows in one of the five tribal seals.

If one includes geological features, the Devils' Tower (Wyoming) National Monument stamp of 1956 (#1084) would be high on the list. We might include New Hampshire's "Old Man of the Mountains" (#1068) issued in 1955, and the National Parks Issues of 1934 showing the Grand Canyon, Crater Lake, Old Faithful Geyser, El Capitan, etc.

For the rock carvers, we would include the Mount Rushmore National Memorial stamp of 1952 (#1011) in the Black Hills of South Dakota, portraying the sculptured heads of Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Lincoln.

## ROCKHOUND STAMPS Continued

Of the foreign stamps, there are so many I will not attempt to list them all. I have in my collection, stamps from Brazil, for petroleum and the steel industry, oil wells and gold panning from Canada, the nitrate industry and copper mines from Chile, metal works from Hungary, tin mining from Nigeria, salt industry in New Zealand, to name just a few.

A stamp of interest to the gem collectors, and those particularly interested in gem stones of the Bible, would be the one issued by Israel for the tribe of Levi (#107), part of a complete set for the Twelve Tribes, showing the ephod. We read a description of the ephod worn by Aaron in Exodus 28:15:21 describing the four rows of stones, one for each of the Twelve Tribes. The gem stones were the sardius, topaz, carbuncle, emerald, sapphire, diamond, jacinth, agate, amethyst, beryl, onyx, and jasper.

Switzerland in 1958 issued charity stamps (#B273-276) showing fluorite xls, ammonite, garnet, and rock crystal. In 1959 she issued another set which showed agate, tourmaline xls, amethyst xls, and a fossilized giant salamander. An issue scheduled for June 1960 will depict quartz, feldspar, petrified shell, and azurite.

I have listed but a tiny portion of the many stamps which have been issued, some of which you might not include if you were making a topical collection. Again, you might want to make a collection so all inclusive as to contain any stamps with scenic features showing rocks, volcanoes, and possibly including the chemical industry.

Perhaps as we have specimens of rocks, minerals, carvings, and gems on our cabinet shelves, an interesting addition would be a stamp covering that same field from the country of origin of the specimen. This addition to a rock collection could be as interesting and informative as permitted by the time, patience, and originality of the collector.

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