

JUL 1961

*Save*  
THE PICK & SHOVEL



LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Lincoln, Nebraska



LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

O F F I C E R S

President. . . . . Dr. R. D. Gibson  
 First Vice-President . . . . . Mr. John A. Lewis  
 Second Vice-President. . . . . Mrs. Marie Carveth  
 Recording Secretary. . . . . Mrs. Lois Marie Gibson  
 Corresponding Secretary. . . . . Mrs. Frances Tracy  
 Treasurer. . . . . Mrs. Frances Tracy

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MEETINGS - Third Monday - September through May

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Affiliated with:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies  
 Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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BULLETIN EDITOR - Mrs. Frances Tracy  
 3601 South Street  
 Lincoln, Nebraska

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THE PICK & SHOVEL

VOL 2., No. 7

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dear fellow rockhounds,

Who says Nebraska doesn't have gem material? Any one who went to Fremont a couple of week ends ago will attest to the fact that some real nice material was picked up. Yes, there were three fine Lake Superior Agates collected, some beautiful wood, a Fairburn agate, jasper, etc. Yes, even the children got their share of "snake agate", only good for throwing at snakes, but they really had the time of their lives. Those who attended this outing have my thanks for the way in which they conducted themselves. It is good to know that our members respect other's property. Your president was doing so much visiting during the picnic that he forgot to count noses, and then when we finally got to the sand pits, he got so excited that he again forgot to find out just how many were present. However, a good guesstimate would be around 66.

We are not planning a meeting this month. However, if any of you have another choice location you'd like to have some help with, just call any member and I'm sure they'll be glad to join you. In August we usually have another picnic, and if plans materialize we will have another one this year. We will try and have the show tickets ready at this time, so that we can pass them out to those who want to start their advanced ticket sales early. The field trip to Iowa will not materialize but the usual trek to Fort Robinson will be held on the Labor Day week end.

I hope that all of you are thinking about ways to make this next show a bigger success than ever. Also I hope you are getting material ready for display. We all must plan on showing something this year, if we are to have a bigger show than last year. The dealers are cooperating, and most are bringing part of their personal collections to add to our displays.

Well I'd better sign off now and get this to the editor, or I may not get this in for this issue.

Rockspectfully yours,

R. D. Gibson



JULY

No meeting scheduled

AUGUST

Picnic - Time to be announced later

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day Week End - Fort Robinson

Reservations for lodging should be sent to:

Mr. John C. Kurtz, Supt.  
Fort Robinson State Park Facility  
Crawford, Nebraska

OCTOBER 7 & 8

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.  
Third Annual Show  
National Guard Armory  
1776 No. 10th St.

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*Something to crow about*

Choice Slabs

Lapidary Equipment and Supplies

Cabochons

Rough Cutting Material

CLYDE

BENHAM

1711 Harwood

GA 3-4163



Bill Boyd	July 16
Marie Carveth	July 28
Norman Engelhart	July 14
R. D. Gibson	July 2
Lois Marie Gibson	July 24
Victor Hancock	July 11
Marjory Heedick	July 14
Frank Krejci	July 30
Jay Pansing	July 10
Tom Simmons	July 2
C. Ray Waddle	July 20

Flower of the Month - Larkspur or Water Lily

Birthstone

Ancient - Onyx
Modern - Ruby

Onyx - A variety of chalcedony. It is varicolored in layers or bands. Hardness 7.

Ruby - A variety of corundum, aluminium sesquioxide. It is a brilliant red with purple tones and transparent. Hardness 9.



Bell Caps. . . . .	\$2.50 gross
Neck Chains. . . . .	.25 each
	over 6 - 20¢
Key Chains . . . . .	.25 each

Complete line of Mexican carved onyx, animals, etc.

Store Hours - Closed Monday  
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday - 5:00-10:00 p.m.  
 Sunday - 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.

EVERETT L APIDARY

2941 North 65th Street

IN 6-6204

WYOMING INTERLUDE

There is a first time for everything--one of the firsts being my attendance at the Eighteenth Annual Regional Convention Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies held in Casper, Wyoming, June 9, 10, 11, 1961.

Leaving Lincoln on June 7 at 4:30 p.m., traveling by bus, I arrived in Casper at 7:10 a.m. on June 8. After a short nap at my hotel and dinner I left for the Industrial Building at the fair grounds where I met Irl Everett. The Everett Lapidary set-up seemed to be the place for leaving the exhibit while having a look around. Irl told me where to find the family, and Lucille and Dick Hedges outside where I went for a little visit. Bob Roots from Denver had joined the group. After a while Dick and I went to set up our exhibits. I set up my exhibits in 4 lots, and after several hours of looking over other exhibits I was ready to go to the hotel.

Friday, June 9, the judges had been around leaving their traces. We were most fortunate in having Mrs. Olive Colhour from Seattle as judge for the jewelry entries. If you take the Prospector-Outdoorsman, you are familiar with her background in jewelry making and lapidary work. She herself has won many awards. I was disappointed in the lack of competitors in the lots in which I was entered. I came back a winner of 3 first-place blue ribbons and 1 second-place red ribbon. The second place red ribbon was on my case of single pieces with stones set in mountings handcrafted by the exhibitor. Each of the 3 first-place blue ribbons were for a case of matched sets with stones set in mountings handcrafted by the exhibitor; a case of single pieces of handcrafted jewelry without stones and the third case, a matched set of handcrafted jewelry without stones.

It was fun seeing the other exhibits. Mrs. Colhour's were very impressive. She does make beautiful silver and gold jewelry. Her miniature carved California fire agate figures were more impressive to me and most of all I liked her beautiful picture agate cabochons which were mounted on mats with little gold frames around them. Nature certainly has many beautiful things to unfold to us.

Sunday, June 11, my uncle from Douglas, Wyoming, celebrated his 80th birthday by coming with my aunt, a cousin and her husband from Glendo, Wyoming, to see me and the show.

Others of our Lincoln Club attending the show were Tod Ashmun, who was there from the beginning to the end, and the honeymooners Phyllis and Jim Parks.

With summer school starting here at the University of Nebraska on Tuesday, June 13, much to my regret I had to depart for Lincoln on June 12, arriving here June 13th. Even though it means back at the salt mines for me upon my return from a trip, Lincoln is a welcome sight to see on the returns.

Continued

## WYOMING INTERLUDE Continued

To break the monotony of my work, I did enjoy my first rock hunting expedition with the club at Fremont on June 25th. I came home with my first own collection, the beginning of an agate, chert, jasper, and petrified wood, my shoes full of sand, and a stomach full of picnic lunch. Now, I've told you how I became a rockhound.

As I sit here in my office this lovely July 2nd evening, looking out of my office windows, the beautiful cloudless sky, the motionless trees and unusual stillness of a place as large as Lincoln, even make me glad to be back at the salt mines. Not everyone can see a view as impressive from his office.

Adeline E. Nolde

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HATS OFF

TO THE

WINNERS!

Congratulations to Adeline and also to Dick Hedges for the ribbons they won.

Dick won a first in cabs - all one kind, a first in thumbnails, a first in slabs, a second in miniature mounts, a second in cabinet specimens and a third in assorted cabs.

The ribbons didn't arrive in time for the show and small bits of ribbons were used instead. There was a promise of printed ribbons soon but as yet they have not arrived. We will all be anxious to see them when Adeline and Dick get them.

Dick built a cabin on their pickup and he and Lucille had a lot of fun on their trip on the fire roads and ranch roads of Wyoming and the Black Hills looking for rocks, caves and seeing nature close up. We will be looking forward to a detailed description of his trip, along with pictures, at some future meeting.

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Do you know why blue was chosen as the color of the ribbon given as first prize in a contest? The color is associated with the blue ribbon that goes with the Order of the Garter, Britain's highest order of knighthood. Thus "blue ribbon" is used to denote the highest honor attainable.

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Maurice and I attended the 1961 Midwest Federation Gems and Minerals Fair. We arrived in Saginaw, Michigan Thursday night and spent all day Friday, June 30, viewing the exhibits and enjoying the show. The Tri-County Rocks and Mineral Society did a fine job as the host society. The show was held at the County Fairgrounds in five buildings. Picnic tables were set up under a grove of trees and were used as swap tables and proved a very popular spot, not only for swapping rocks and minerals but for conversation as well. We visited with some very fine rockhounds.

On Saturday morning the Bulletin Editors had a breakfast at the High Life Inn. The food was delicious and so much of it. Mr. Russell Kemp was the Toast Master and he did an excellent job. His sense of humor was enjoyed by everyone.

The later part of April the Midwest Federation sent a request to all bulletin editors to send a copy of their April issue so that they could be reviewed and judged and would be displayed at the Editors' Breakfast at the convention. I felt certain that we didn't have a chance of winning any prize but I did want to cooperate with them.

Awards of books were presented for the best three bulletins as follows:

- 3rd prize - Earth Science News  
Earth Science Club of Northern, Illinois  
Escon, Illinois
- 2nd prize - Crystal Cluster  
Des Plaines Valley Geological Society  
Des Plaines, Illinois
- 1st prize - The Pick & Shovel  
Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.  
Lincoln, Nebraska

I can not begin to express how surprised and pleased we were. I accepted in behalf of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club a book entitled "The Wilmington Coal Flora from a Pennsylvanian Deposit in Will County, Illinois". The book was autographed by the author, George Langford, and also with the following note signed by Floyd N. Mortinson, President of the Midwest Federation: "Congratulations to the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club of Lincoln, Nebr. winners of the 1961 Midwest Federation "Bulletins on Review" Top Award. "The Pick & Shovel" was the best bulletin submitted. Keep up the good work."

Mr. Russell P. MacFall of the Chicago Tribune was guest speaker. His topic on "Responsibilities" was very much enjoyed.

We were sorry that time did not permit us to attend the business meeting or the meeting of the editors on Sunday afternoon but our vacation was such a short one we had to leave immediately after the breakfast. The exhibits were very outstanding and were worth the 849.7 miles traveled from Lincoln to Saginaw to see them.

Frances Tracy