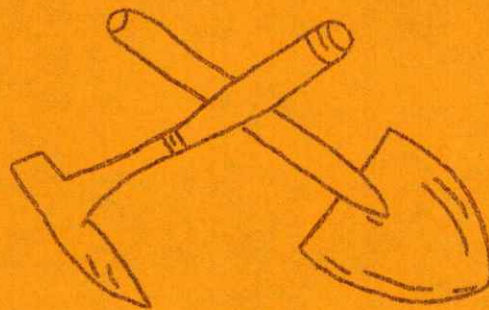
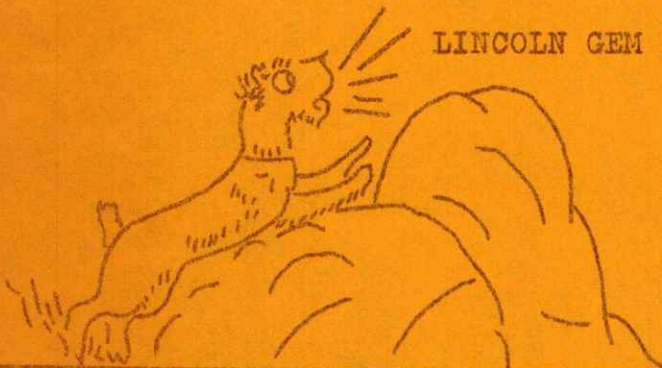


# THE PICK & SHOVEL



LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Lincoln, Nebraska





C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S !

Did you notice the picture of our president, Dr. R. D. Gibson in the Lincoln Sunday Journal and Star on June 11?

We congratulate him on this honor of being appointed by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents as the Dean of the College of Pharmacy.

\* \* \*

We are happy to announce (by the grape vine) that Phyllis Crawford and Jim Parks were married and are enjoying their honeymoon in Casper, Wyoming. Our best wishes and congratulations to them and we hope they bring back a ton of jade.

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

\* \* \*

MEETINGS - Third Monday - September through May

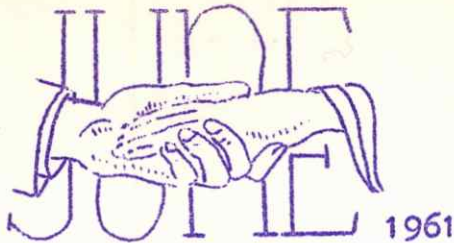
\* \* \*

Affiliated with:

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

\* \* \*

BULLETIN EDITOR - Mrs. Frances Tracy  
 3601 South Street  
 Lincoln, Nebraska  
 Telephone IV 8-5341



THE PICK & SHOVEL

VOL. 2, NO. 5

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dear fellow rockhounds,

The weather man pulled his best spring evening out of his bag for our picnic in May. It was good to have an opportunity to become acquainted with the entire families of so many of the club members. As usual, the food was delicious and the entire evening very delightful.

At the last meeting the members voted to have a field trip the last Sunday of June (25th) at the Fremont gravel pits. For you who were there last year I don't think I need to encourage you to come; but for you who have never been there, plan now to join the club, as there is plenty of choice gem material to be found. It was also decided to meet at the Fremont park at 1 p.m. for a picnic and then leave for the hunting grounds at 2 p.m. If you cannot join the group for the picnic, be sure and be at the park by 2 p.m. We must all leave for the gravel pits at the same time, as these pits are locked and we have to lock them again after we all get through the gate. REMEMBER - - Picnic 1 p.m., Fremont park, June 25; leave for the gravel pits at 2 p.m. Bring food for your family, if you come to the picnic.

We have just received word that the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. has been given a non-profit, tax exempted classification by the Department of Internal Revenue. This exemption was given under a social category. This, of course, is what we have been waiting for these past eight months. We will have to file an income tax return each year, but we will be exempted from taxation.

Until June 25th at Fremont, I remain

Rockspectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'R. D. Gibson'.

R. D. Gibson



SUNDAY - JUNE 25, 1961

Field Trip - Fremont Gravel Pits  
1 p.m. - Picnic, Fremont Park  
2 p.m. - All leave together for  
the hunting area

BE SURE TO BRING DRINKING WATER

See more details on "The President's Page"

\* \* \*



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Sunday - 1 to 6 p.m.

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*The mail now comes  
at this address*

*The milkman comes  
here, too*

*Some rockhounds even know  
it now*

*And surely SO SHOULD*

*YOU!*

NEW ADDRESSES

A. O. Beckman  
4915 Adams Street

Mr. & Mrs. Dean Schipper  
6711 Benton Street

\* \* \*

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Special rates on trailers to rockhounds.



Helena Baegl	June 18
Clyde Benham	June 22
Mrs. Phyllis Crawford	June 10
Dick Hornung	June 16
David Landis	June 10
John Lewis	June 8

Flower of the Month - Rose or Honeysuckle

Birthstone  
 Ancient - Emerald  
 Modern - Pearl, Moonstone or Alexandrite

**Emerald** - A brilliant green gemstone, a form of Beryl, silicate of beryllium and aluminium, crystallizing in hexagonal prismatic forms, occurring chiefly in c/a schists, and rarely in pegmatites. Hardness 8.

**Pearl** - Composition - Aragonite and organic matter, translucent, pearly luster, white, pink, blue or green. Hardness 2+.

**Moonstone**-Sanadine or oligoclase feldspar, colorless with blue or milky "moon", best has strong shimmering color play, transparent to translucent. Hardness 6.



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## HOW I BECAME A ROCKHOUND

Rocks to me for a long time were objects to kick out of the way or throw at dogs - that is, until I became a rockhound.

I was living in Hastings and as things happen, we had a new neighbor move in down the street. In the course of time I learned that this fellow was a rockhound and being the curious type I had to find out just what kind of character this was that was messing around with a pile of rocks.

One Saturday morning I wandered down and started visiting with this individual and in the course of conversation I was invited inside to see his collection. I was really impressed with what I saw - as I am sure anybody has been who has had the privilege of visiting with Guy Miller and seeing his personal collection. I was bitten then and there by the bug that bites all rockhounds - must be some type of rock flea.

After this visit, my wife and I went to California on a vacation and I was determined to find out more about this business of rock-hounding. In Lorraine's home town they had a small fair and a local rock shop had a display set up. I visited with this dealer after the fair, purchased John Sinkanas' book on Gem Cutting and Polishing and a few slices of rock. This all happened in the spring of 1956 and during the summer I gave a lot of thought to what I wanted to do as I had misgiving as to whether I could cut and polish stones.

In September I finally made the plunge, and purchased one of Sears gem cutting machines. With the good help of Guy Miller in giving me suggestions on how to properly cut and polish I turned out my first stones, which was variegated jasper. I still have these stones and have made them into a set of matching cuff links and tie bar.

The irony of this tale is that I lived at Casper, Wyoming and Billings, Montana for three years. Spending a lot of time in the wide open spaces, doing anything and everything but looking for rocks. But as many would say "That's the way the mop flops" and I have to be content with dreaming of someday having another opportunity such as I had.

Rockhounding has been a continuing source of pleasure to me and my family, and I would recommend this hobby to anybody who loves nature and outdoors and whether they cut and polish such as I do, or collect crystals, fossils, or any other of the many facets of this hobby they will find a sense of pleasure and contentment in this activity.

Dean Schipper

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MIDWEST FEDERATION'S  
L E T T E R - A - M O N T H  
For June 1961

Subject: ROCKRAMAS IN 1961  
By: Russ Kemp  
Rockrama Division Director

The Rockrama Division is happy to report that there will be at least one Rockrama in 1961. This will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 6th, 7th and 8th. This is a Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Again an active Central Region Society is planning on a good show for the Rockhounds of the Midwest Federation. This year it is the Indiana Geology and Gem Society of Indianapolis, Indiana that will host the Rockrama. They plan on a full schedule of 3 days of interesting displays, informative speakers and programs as well as working lapidary displays.

ALL CLUBS in the Federation are invited to display and participate in a show that will again make Mid-West history. As in the past two Rockramas, this will be a NON-COMPETITIVE SHOW and clubs as well as individual displays are welcome.

The show will be held in the Agricultural and Horticulture Building of the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis, Indiana. Many dealers will be present with the finest examples of cutting material and specimens for you to see and purchase.

Rockramas are FUN and are a place to make NEW FRIENDS and see all your acquaintances. SOOOOoooo, whether you plan on displaying or just visiting, make your calendars now and arrange a trip to Indianapolis. The Indiana Geology and Gem Society will soon have a mailing in the hands of all MWF societies inviting you to participate. If you plan to exhibit, contact either:

Mr. C. O. Mull  
General Show Chairman  
915 East 49th  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Mr. Bert Earnest  
Club Exhibits Chairman  
6120 Eastridge Drive  
Indianapolis, Indiana

ROCKRAMAS are no longer new in the MWF, they are now a well established, well planned and well visited shows. Plan on attending and see exhibits, displays and interesting programs.

Any club in the Northern or Southwest Region that would like information on Rockramas and how to hold them please contact Russ Kemp.

We will look forward to seeing all our friends at the October Rockrama.

/s/ Russ Kemp

Rockrama Division Director  
19 East 144th Street  
Riverdale 27, Illinois



Here's a Tip:

Do not use a nylon brush for scrubbing your softer stones as nylon will scratch them.

If any wax remains on a stone after removing it from your dop stick, soak the stone for a while in alcohol and this will remove all of the wax, detergent and polishing compound that might remain on it.

\* \* \*



because this space  
was reserved for the  
news you didn't send in.

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