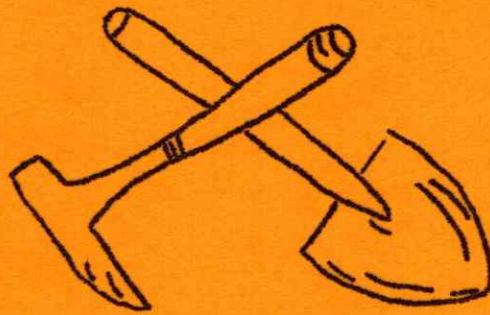


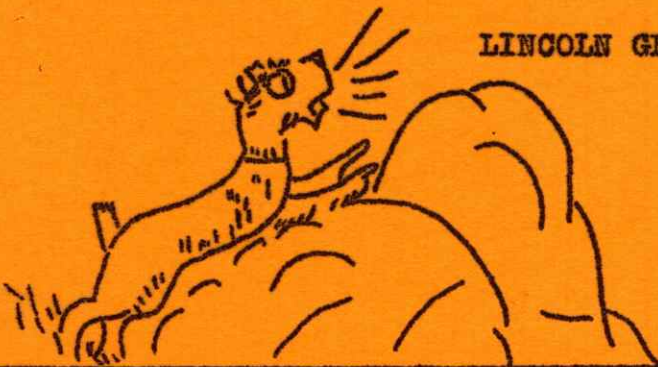
FEB 1962

THE PICK & SHOVEL



LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Lincoln, Nebraska



LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.



- President. John A. Lewis
6225 Judson St.
- First Vice-President Mrs. V. A. Carveth
2526 South 11th St.
- Second Vice-President. Robert Bainbridge
1032 Charleston
- Recording Secretary. Mrs. John A. Lewis
6225 Judson St.
- Treasurer. Mrs. Arthur Bloyd
2818 North Cotner Blvd.
- Corresponding Secretary. Mrs. Maurice Tracy
3601 South St.

* * *

MEETINGS - FOURTH SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY
Roberts Dairy Party Room - 211 So. 20th St.

* * *

Affiliated with:

- Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

* * *

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

Telephone IV 8-5341



February

1962



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dear Fellow Rockhounds;

It was good to see so many members and visitors out to the January meeting. I hope that they all felt the evening was well spent. Although we must take care of business we shall try to keep this to a minimum so more time can be spent in enjoying the programs and each others company.

We should have a very fine exhibit to look at before and after the meeting this month. Remember this is the month when ALL MEMBERS are to bring cabs, rough material, and minerals collected in Nebraska for the cases at Morrill Hall. Lets make our two cases of material something of which the club can be proud. Any questions about this exhibit can be answered by Dick Hedges, Phone IV 8-4141.

The Lincoln Hobby Club and City Recreation Department are having their 1962 Hobby Show and Handicraft Exposition March 10-11. Last year we exhibited as a club. I will see how much room we can obtain and you think how much material you want to show and we will match them up at the February meeting. Contributors will receive passes to the show.

We are also thinking of displaying as a club at the Federation show in Des Moines in July. Together we can show what one member may not dare to show. IN UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH, and a heck of a lot more fun. Lets all get behind these projects and not be content to let Joe do it, because Joe is lazy.

Any member who has any rockhound jokes or gags that are suitable for using before, after or during the meetings be sure to let me know and these will be our little joke until we pull it on the club.

A little boy was asked if he had learned anything at school. His reply was, "I guess not, they expect me to come back tomorrow". And so it is with the club, we expect everyone back and loaded with answers to Des Gibson's questions. Let's give out lots of stars this meeting.

The club is hard at work. The date has been set for the rock show, the Armory is spoken for, and contracts have gone out to the dealers. No grass grows under our feet, it is always too darn rocky for grass.

HELP! I have just gotten my first pair of bi-focal lenses and my feet look all fuzzy. How can a person find any good rocks like this? Any suggestions?

John A. Lewis



SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 24, 1962

Regular Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Robert's Dairy Party Room
211 South 20th Street

Program - Mrs. Kenneth Dodge will show colored slides of their trip to Europe and the marble quarries in Italy.



W E L C O M E N E W M E M B E R S

W. L. Kimmerling
2724 So. 36th Street

Mrs. Luella Paul
3097 "U" Street

Charles S. Reese, III
4020 No. 48th Street

G. W. Wilson
2208 "A" Street



ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

If not, may I remind you to send your check for \$2.00, \$1.00 for Juniors, to the treasurer, Mrs. Arthur Bloyd, 2818 North Cotner Blvd. If dues are not paid by MARCH 1 there will be a \$1.00 reinstatement fee charged. We would like very much to keep your name on our mailing list for THE PICK & SHOVEL.

Dues for new members are \$2.00 plus a \$1.00 entrance fee and dues for Junior members (under 16) are \$1.00.

It has been suggested that with all of the work ahead of the club this year and in coming years that the CLUB BIRTHSTONE should be the grindstone. Any work on your hobby is never a GRIND, although some cabochon cutters might take exception to this.

I see the BIRTHSTONE of this club as the OPAL. The CLUB IS an OPAL, with the members furnishing the many colored fire, I see the beautiful green fire from new members who are learning and remind us where we were only yesterday. There is the bright blue color from members who appreciate the beautiful things in life and strive to preserve them. There is also the red fire from members who really love their hobby and are hot with enthusiasm to see it grow and prosper.

John A. Lewis



We are pleased to learn that a new club has been formed at York, Nebraska. Some of you will remember visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle and Mr. and Mrs. Froid. They attended our show last fall and several of our meetings.

We gave them what help and encouragement we could in forming a club. We wrote to the Midwest Federation requesting information on organizing a club and they furnished them with a lot of helpful information. This is just one of the many services the Midwest Federation provides.

We wish them the very best of success. With their enthusiasm for our hobby they are sure to grow. Our club started with only eleven members, they have sixteen.



Have you reached the age of minerals?
 Gold in the teeth,
 Silver in the hair and
 Lead in the feet.

Swiped from THE TEMPLATE, official bulletin of the Chicago Lapidary Club.



IMPROVE YOUR VOCABULARY

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill in the blanks and bring the answers to the February meeting. Win a gold star by having all of the answers correct.

1. The chemical formula for quartz is _____.
2. The property of _____ effect has made the quartz crystal an important part of the transmitting equipment of a radio.
3. In the Mohs Hardness Scale the hardness of quartz is _____.
4. The minerals which are harder than quartz are _____
_____.
5. Violet-colored quartz is known as _____.
6. Gray to black quartz is known as _____.
7. Quartz belongs to the _____ group of minerals.
8. The physical properties of quartz can be listed as follows:
Luster _____ Fracture _____
Specific gravity _____ Cleavage _____
9. Three other minerals possessing the same chemical elements as quartz, but not classified as quartz are:

10. The two groups of quartz, based upon their appearance are:

R. D. Gibson

TWO ROCKHEADS ON A WINTER CAVING AND CAMPING TRIP

by Dick Hedges

On December 25, 1961 Roger Simmons and I went cave exploring in Central and South Missouri. We had been planning the trip for the last three months. We went straight south to Kansas and then east to Palaskie County. On the way, we took a wrong road so at 3:00 a.m. we put our sleeping bags down on the road shoulder and slept until dawn. Boy, it was cold! It was 15° or less and a high wind.

The next morning we went to Piquet Cave and went to the back of the cave about six miles underground. We had rubber boats to go about 1/3 of the way, but we still got wet. I saw a little cave in the back that was new, but we were tired so quit after only a few hours.

We stayed in the cave that night and met my folks in the cave in the morning. Roger and I showed them the cave and after seeing one of the pretty rooms my Dad quit wondering what I saw in caving. They collected some cave onyx and we then went to Skaggs Cave. My Mother went to the back rooms of this cave. On a previous trip, one of the men had refused to go that far. It is very pretty but to get there you have to crawl on your hands and knees in mud and water. On the way out we all got a good laugh when Roger started going "Oink, Oink, Oink" like a pig. At noon, my folks headed home and Roger and I crawled into a half dozen holes but could not find a real cave of any size. We stayed all night at Piquet cave again.

The next day we traveled around the county and went into several caves, one of which had cave pearls as big as hen eggs. To get to the back room we had to worm on our bellies in a little water. Now Roger got through is beyond me as I had a difficult time and Roger is some bigger.

We ended up in Waynesville that night and attended a double horror movie. We had planned to spend the night in Bat Cave. I thought I knew where it was - at the foot of a mountain and the road is on top. I missed it by a good 1/2 mile so we went cave hunting at 10:00 p.m. We found the cave and it sure was warm inside, at least 50°.

We went to Crocker in the morning and cooked breakfast in a laundromat on our gas Coleman and washed our clothes at the same time. That afternoon we found a huge cave that was new to me. We spent the rest of the day exploring it. That night we stayed at a Hotel in Crocker. Rather than sleep in the bed, Roger slept on the floor in his sleeping bag. I admit it was not such a hot place.

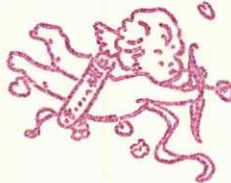
We went to Cassville in Southern Missouri that next day and met some local cavers. They had heard about our previous trips and wanted to explore a cave they were afraid of. It didn't turn out to be much of a cave but I got wet to the skin from head to toe in another underground boat trip. That cave was about as cold inside as outside. We slept outside in Roaring River State Park that night.

Continued

The next day we went to Onyx Cave and were going to try to open up a hole big enough to crawl through where we could see a big cave beyond. We saw a sink hole near this cave but we did not go down, as it was rather deep. We worked for a couple hours and then I told Roger to keep working with the hammer and chisels and I would rappel into the sink. It was about 40 feet deep but I heard Roger as soon as I hit bottom and could walk down a passage right to him. I had a little trouble getting back out because of the small rope but after a scramble I made it.

From there we went to Joplin, Missouri and dug around in the mine dumps. I can't think of a worse place to waste time in the middle of the winter. We found almost nothing so I crawled over a barbed wire fence and thought about going down into the workings. I first dropped a rock into the shaft. Boy, that's a deep hole! I just needed another zero on the length of ladder I had. I had 30 feet and probably needed 300 feet.

We then went to Galena, Kansas and bought a slug of minerals and rocks for Tom from a wholesaler and headed for home on New Years Eve. After a drunk went by we decided to spend the night in a hotel. The next day we got home and believe me after every winter camp and caving trip there is no place like home.



EVERETT LAPIDARY SHOP

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Our 7th year as Capitol City's First Rock Shop

SATISFIED CUSTOMERS ARE OUR BEST ADVERTISEMENT

THE MINERAL LIGHT

by Dick Hedges

Minerals are the new wealth of nations and the stuff that make them run. Have you ever wondered what a mineral is? A mineralogist is a person who studies minerals and has rules to follow just as a cook or doctor does. "The definition of a mineral is a naturally occurring chemical element or compound formed as a product of inorganic processes, with fairly definite physical properties and chemical composition".

In other words, a piece of coal is not a mineral because it is organic in nature. A piece of copper wire is not a mineral because it is not naturally occurring, it is made by man. That chunk of quartz is the same hardness from the Black Hills as a piece of quartz found anywhere in the world because minerals have fairly definite physical properties.


A crystal of pyrite is made of iron and sulphur only and a crystal of prite from Lancaster County is made of iron and sulphur only just as a piece of pyrite from Colorado is made from just iron and sulphur only. But minerals with say iron and magnesium in their formulae can replace each other, as do sodium and calcium but unless the replacement is very extensive the compound is regarded as the same mineral.

There are other minerals which have this characteristic but this is noted under each different mineral in the mineral text books. Such as the formulae of the mineral olivine reads $(Mg, Fe)_2SiO_4$. This in proportions that vary from locality to locality. The ratio of the total number of atoms of magnesium and iron to the number of atoms of silicon and oxygen however is constant. Therefore, the mineral olivine still has definite physical properties and chemical composition though it varies within a fixed pattern.

The thing to remember is a certain mineral from one place has the same tests as a mineral from another area within a fixed pattern.

MINERAL TIP OF THE MONTH - Buy "A Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals" by Frederick H. Pough.





Something to Crow about

Used Motors

Lapidary Equipment and Supplies

Choice Slabs

Cabochons

Rough Cutting Material

C L Y D E B E N H A M

1711 Harwood GA 3-4163

- HEY, WHERE'S SLIM GOING?

- SAID HE HEARD SOME 'IN
NEW ABOUT THE LAPIDARY
JOURNAL!

- YEH. I KNOW, BUT
WHERE'S HE GO'IN?

- SAID IT'S GOING TO
APPEAR MONTHLY!

- YEH. I KNOW BUT
WHERE'S HE A-GOIN TO?



- SAID HE'S GOIN TO
BEAT THE WORM TO THE
BIRD

- WHAT BIRD? - WHERE

- SAID IT'S WHERE HE
GETS ALL OF HIS BRAIN
STORMS!

- BUT WHAT ABOUT THE BIRD

- WHAT BIRD? I'M TALKING ABOUT
THE LAPIDARY JOURNAL!

- YEH, I KNOW (I THINK) B-U-T
WHERE DID SLIM GO?

- TO GET ALL THE FACTS!

- B-U-T W-H-E-R-E?

- OH! DIDN'T I SAY?

- NO!

- OH!

- WELL?

- WELL SIMMONS RENTAL + LAPIDARY
OF COURSE OH!



R.T.S.

KNOW YOUR FEDERATION

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies is presently composed of six regional federations, embracing over 600 clubs and some 40,000 members, and includes all fifty states. Every club member is not only a member of his own society but his Regional and the American as well. Consequently every member is interested in knowing just what both federations are doing and how these activities benefit him.

At present the governing body of the American Federation consists of (1) an executive board of six members - one from each Federation - president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and two regional vice presidents; and (2) a Board of Directors, composed of the president and vice president of each Regional Federation. Their duties are to formulate the policies of the AFMS and convey knowledge to their regional members of the activities of the national organization, and to transmit the desires of their regional federations to the American. Every individual member or club should feel free to express opinions to the regional officers, for in truth they are the Federations. The officers are elected to carry out the wishes of the members.

At its annual meeting in August, 1961 the Board adopted a new Constitution and Bylaws (a copy of which has been mailed to every club), which provides a fiscal term of office from November 1st to October 31st.

The American Federation has received an "educational" tax exemption from the Internal Revenue Service in Washington, D. C. The Constitution states the general purpose as follows: "To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects." To accomplish this objective a number of committees have been activated, and a Scholarship Foundation is in process of organization. Contributions to this fund are being held in escrow until completion of the organization.

One meeting of the Board is held annually, at which time the business of the federation is conducted, the Treasurer's report is presented, committee reports are received, decisions are made, and new officers are elected. In matters of such urgency that they cannot wait until the annual meeting a mail ballot of the officers and directors may be used. The annual meeting is held in conjunction with a regional's annual convention and show, the six regionals rotating the privilege of acting as hosts. This year we will meet with the Midwest in Des Moines, and in 1963 at Oklahoma City with the Rocky Mountain.

The following is a composite list of all the services of the regionals and AFMS. In future issues we will discuss more fully the activity of each of these committees and how their work is carried out.

Aids to New Clubs	Directory
Awards - Regional and American	Display cases
Bulletin and Bulletin Aids	Education
Car emblems, lapel pins, decals	Field Trips
Constitution and Bylaws	Federation operation procedure
Colored Slide Programs - Librarian	Income Tax (General Information)

Continued

KNOW YOUR FEDERATION Continued

Insurance	Operation Manuals
Judging and Exhibitor Training Classes	Photography
Junior activities	Program Aids
Liaison officers	Safety
Long Range Projects	Shows
Membership and Membership Cards	Show Coordinator
Micromount (Information & Symposium)	Show date Coordinator
Mineral exchange (rock swap)	Show Manual
Nomenclature	Score cards, labels, etc.
Nomination	Uniform Rules

ON UNIFORM RULES

In January, 1961 the Northwest Federation mailed invitations to members of each of its clubs to register for "Judges Training Classes". The purpose was to train more people to judge at competitive shows, and to strive for a more uniform interpretation of judging rules. As plans for the classes progressed, it seemed important that all members be invited to attend. It was stressed that attendance at the classes did not obligate anyone to become a judge.

Although the response was not as great as anticipated, the first of these two day seminars was scheduled at Pendleton, Oregon on April 15 and 16. It was attended by 39 members representing seven clubs. From there on their popularity snow-balled, and at the end of the year Helen Rice and Bob Hagglund had taught some 300 members at ten different cities in the Northwest Federation.

It was soon evident that exhibitors were benefiting as much or more than the judges. Each of the discussions were taped so that questions and answers could be incorporated into the next lecture period, and by the end of the series almost every possible situation had been covered. In 1962 the meetings, now called Judge and Exhibitor Training Classes, will be resumed as soon as the revisions to the Uniform Rules are printed.

The instruction paid off a hundredfold in an increase in both quality and quantity of exhibits, and in the elimination of misunderstandings and the resultant gripes.

It is this program that will be presented at Des Moines in connection with the National-Midwest show. It is open to all and we hope that every one will take advantage of this unique opportunity. Mrs. Helen Rice will conduct the classes. At present the times have not been announced.

The tedious process of sifting, comparing and considering suggestions for revisions to the Uniform Rules is almost completed and the new draft will be ready soon. It is certain that few of us realize the enormous number of hours this committee has spent in our behalf. Every idea sent in had to be forwarded to all the members of the committee, their comments correlated and a decision made reflecting the majority opinion. The correspondence involved reached staggering proportions at times. When you study a copy of the Rules will you remember that they are the result of the painstaking labor of three dedicated rockhounds, and say a "thank you" even if they can't hear you?

MIDWEST FEDERATION
L E T T E R - A - M O N T H
for February 1962

Subject: Responsible Membership
By: Floyd N. Mortenson, Past President MWF

It is high time that all of us take a determined stand towards stopping the thoughtless and irresponsible acts of a few members of our societies who are ruining the reputation of all rock and mineral hobbyists.

Hardly a month goes by that does not bring out a story of unwarranted acts of vandalism or trespassing by collectors at some quarry or mine, which has so aroused the ire of the owners and managers, that they have closed the place to all collectors.

Now, most of us are aware of the fact that the "screwballs", who do not know how (or care less) to conduct themselves while on a field trip, are unquestionably in a minority among the members of organized earth science clubs and we can all recall the increasing number of such incidents which have been brought to our attention in the past few years. What are we, as conscientious and responsible members, going to do about it? What can we do about it?

Some serious thinking on this problem points out several avenues of approach which are open to us in our search for a solution. One of these avenues is named "Education". We can embark upon an intensive program of educating those members who may possibly be doing the wrong thing through ignorance. Most likely many of these members can be straightened out once they are made aware of their failings. The other avenue leads us to a close scrutiny of our policies on membership qualifications. Here we can find an important cause of our dilemma which can be traced to lax and impetuous efforts to build up membership roles by freely accepting all comers who can be "high-pressured" into joining a local society. I am positive that such practices result in letting down the gates to many "screwballs" and ultimately in closing the gates to many good collecting areas.

Although we may not feel that this is fair to the well behaved and responsible collectors, we cannot blame the quarry and mine operators for protecting their rights and property. They have their responsibilities and we have ours. While much of the damage is done, we can still take some positive steps to take some corrective action. We must eliminate this vandalism by a stepped up educational program and by a better screening of our membership applications.

Of course, we have no control over the "outsider" who at times misbehaves in the quarry or mine, but we do very definitely have responsibilities as organized earth science societies to assume the task of putting our own house in order. That is a responsibility we cannot afford to shirk.

Floyd N. Mortenson
Past President
Midwest Federation