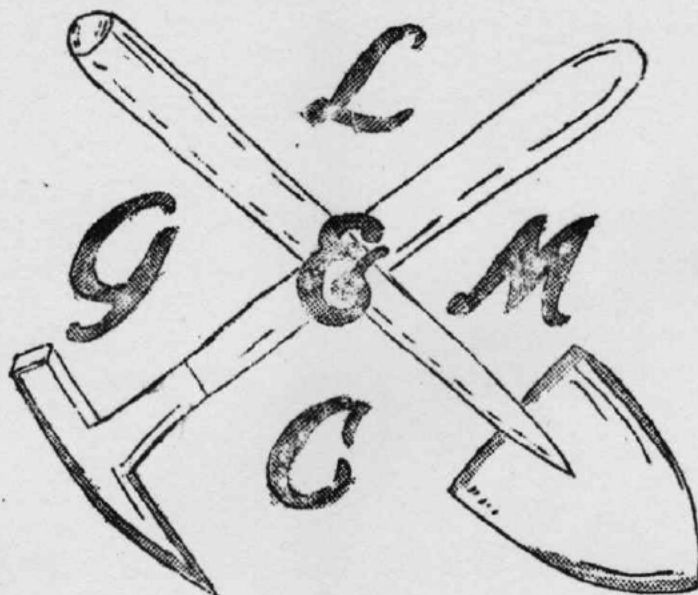


THE PICK & SHOVEL



MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE
LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Beginning with the second semester, 1963-1964 the University of Nebraska Extension Division will sponsor a new class in Art 199c (Problems in Jewelry Making) - 2 credit hours. It will be held on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in Room 7 Woods Building (the new Art Building). The fee is \$12.00 per credit hour and a \$5.00 Lab fee will be paid in the beginning. The class will be from 7 to 10 p.m. and begin on February 13. Mrs. Jerald Maddox, the wife Assistant Director of the new Seldon Art Gallery, will teach the class. She has studied jewelry design. Registration will begin the first part of January, so it is advisable to contact the Extension Division, Mr. Edor Ellingson or Mrs. Arlene Rudebusch, at 477-8711, Extension 2171, early in order to get into the class. It is usually filled to capacity and usually 15 is the limit.

Adeline E. Nolde

LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

- President Mrs. V.A. Garveth
2526 South 11th St.
- First Vice-president Thomas Simmons
2970 South St.
- Second Vice-president Everett Weber
5310 Colby St.
- Recording Secretary. Mrs. Phyllis Parks
3510 Everett St.
- Treasurer. James Parks
3510 Everett St.
- Corresponding Secretary. Mrs. Dorothy Engelhart
4130 Witherbee Blvd.
- Historian Mrs. Maurice Tracy
3601 South St.
- Librarian. Mrs. Dorothy Engelhart
4130 Witherbee Blvd.

* * *

Affiliated with:

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

* * *

BULLETIN EDITOR - Mrs. Velma Bloyd
2818 North Cotner Blvd.
Lincoln, Nebraska

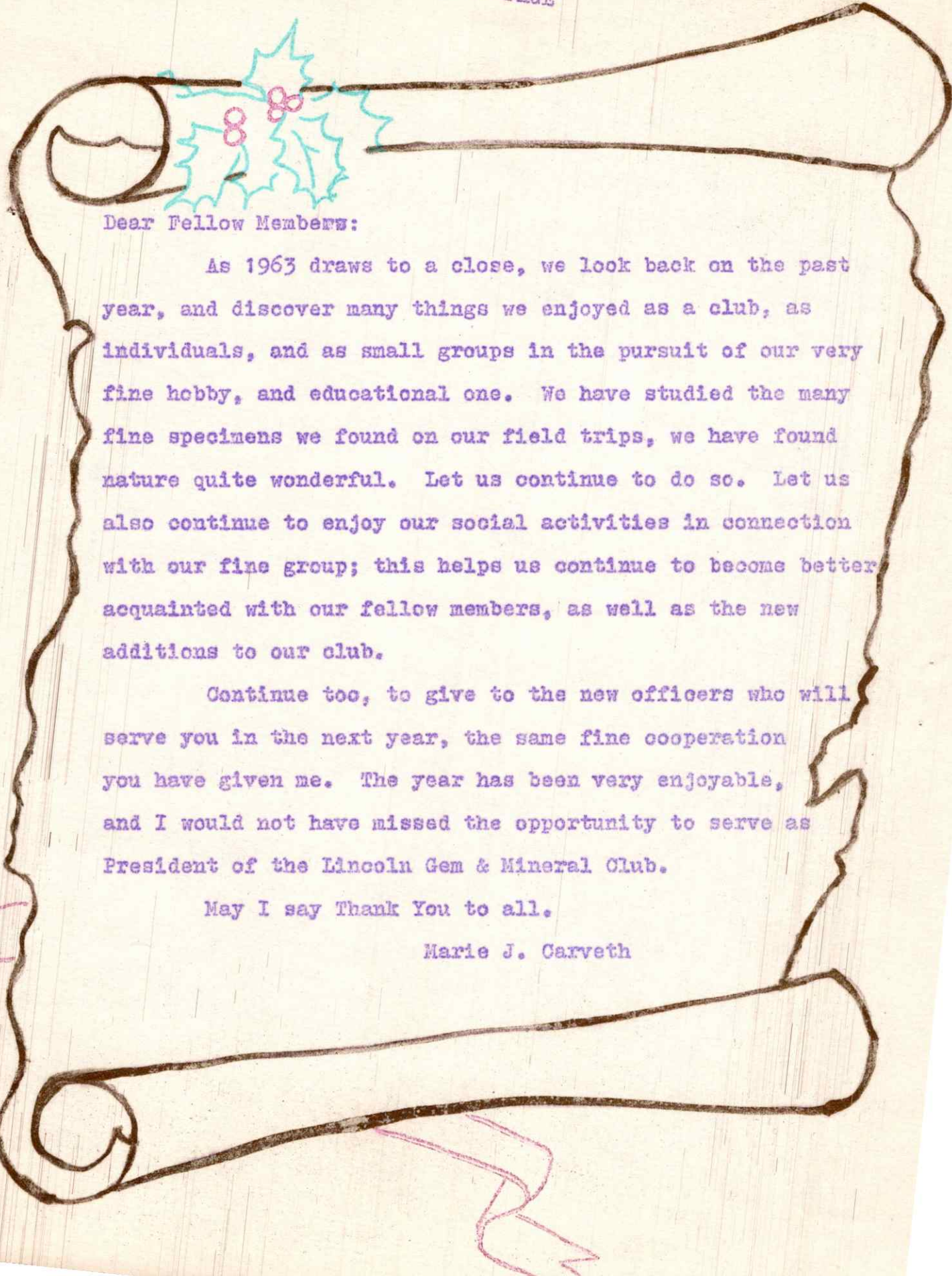
Telephone 434-4781

* * *

Articles published in the PICK AND SHOVEL may be reprinted with no alterations, provided that full credit is given and that a copy of the publication, in which the reprinted article appears, is mailed to the editor of THE PICK AND SHOVEL.

~~\$~~ DUES ARE DUE ~~\$~~

DECEMBER 1963



Dear Fellow Members:

As 1963 draws to a close, we look back on the past year, and discover many things we enjoyed as a club, as individuals, and as small groups in the pursuit of our very fine hobby, and educational one. We have studied the many fine specimens we found on our field trips, we have found nature quite wonderful. Let us continue to do so. Let us also continue to enjoy our social activities in connection with our fine group; this helps us continue to become better acquainted with our fellow members, as well as the new additions to our club.

Continue too, to give to the new officers who will serve you in the next year, the same fine cooperation you have given me. The year has been very enjoyable, and I would not have missed the opportunity to serve as President of the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club.

May I say Thank You to all.

Marie J. Carveth



SUNDAY - DECEMBER 22, 1963

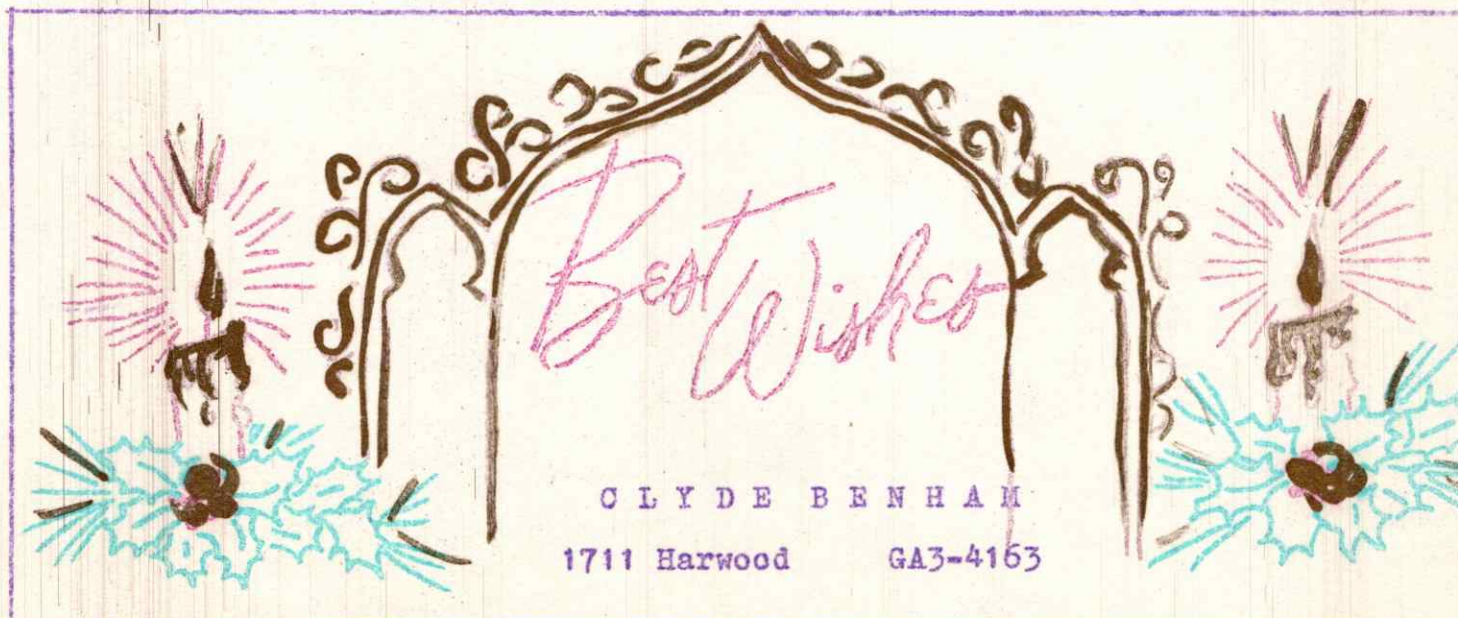
1:30 P. M.

WELFARE SOCIETY
1430 North 10 St.

PROGRAM - Slides will be shown by Virgil Carveth, Howard Taylor and C. Ray Waddle on their trip into Old Mexico.
Annual Christmas Party
Election of Officers

We will be having our annual Christmas covered dish supper. Bring your family, dishes, silverware enough for your family. We will put the food on the large table and all will eat together, as we have done in the past. Coffee, cream and sugar will be furnished by the club.

GIFT EXCHANGE - Gems, minerals, slabs, rocks. Please mark all junior members exchange so they will be placed separately from adult packages. Any member and their family may enter in the gift exchange. If your wife or child are not members but will be at the party and would like to receive a package all they have to do is place one under the tree.



AMERICAN FEDERATION
REPORTS

This coming year, to equalize somewhat the work load of some AFMS committees and add new services, a new committee has been formed - Public Relations. This committee will handle all contacts between the Federation and the general public - H.E.L.P. Help Eliminate Litter Please; Stamps for Milk, etc. Part of its duties will be to encourage in every way active participation by individual members and clubs in any and all kinds of community activity and service which will benefit all concerned and add to our stature and Public Image.

Another most important duty of this committee will be in maintaining full information on all Federal legislation or regulations concerning rockhounds in any way. It will receive information from Regional Federation Public Relations or Legislative committees as to their member opinion on these matters and the best course of action to be taken. These will then be evaluated by the AFMS Public Relations chairman and the consensus published in the AFMS Bulletin under the heading "The Consensus is ---". This will provide full information to all Federations so uniform, nationwide action can be taken by members, which can be very effective.

* * *



EVERETT LAPIDARY SHOP

2941 North 65th Street

466-6204

PHOTO ON FRONT COVER OF
THE EASTERN FEDERATION MAGAZINE

ROCKS AND MINERALS, the official magazine of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, has chosen for their front page cover a photo taken by Mr. Elwin Trump, a member of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club. The photo shows 6, small, loose, pale brownish, tabular barite crystals found about 4 miles southwest of Odell, Gage County, Nebraska. These little crystals are part of the fabulous collection of Mr. Trump. The photo will be found on the November - December issue of the Rocks and Mineral magazine.

Congratulations Mr. Trump.

* * *

Thank You!

I have been your Bulletin Editor for the year 1963. May the Bulletin Staff and myself say, "It has been a pleasure to serve you in this capacity". We wish to say "Thank you" to all the club members who contributed articles, fillers and news for the Pick and Shovel. As Bulletin Editor, I wish to extend a sincere "Thank you" to my staff for their support in the past year.

Velma Bloyd

* * *

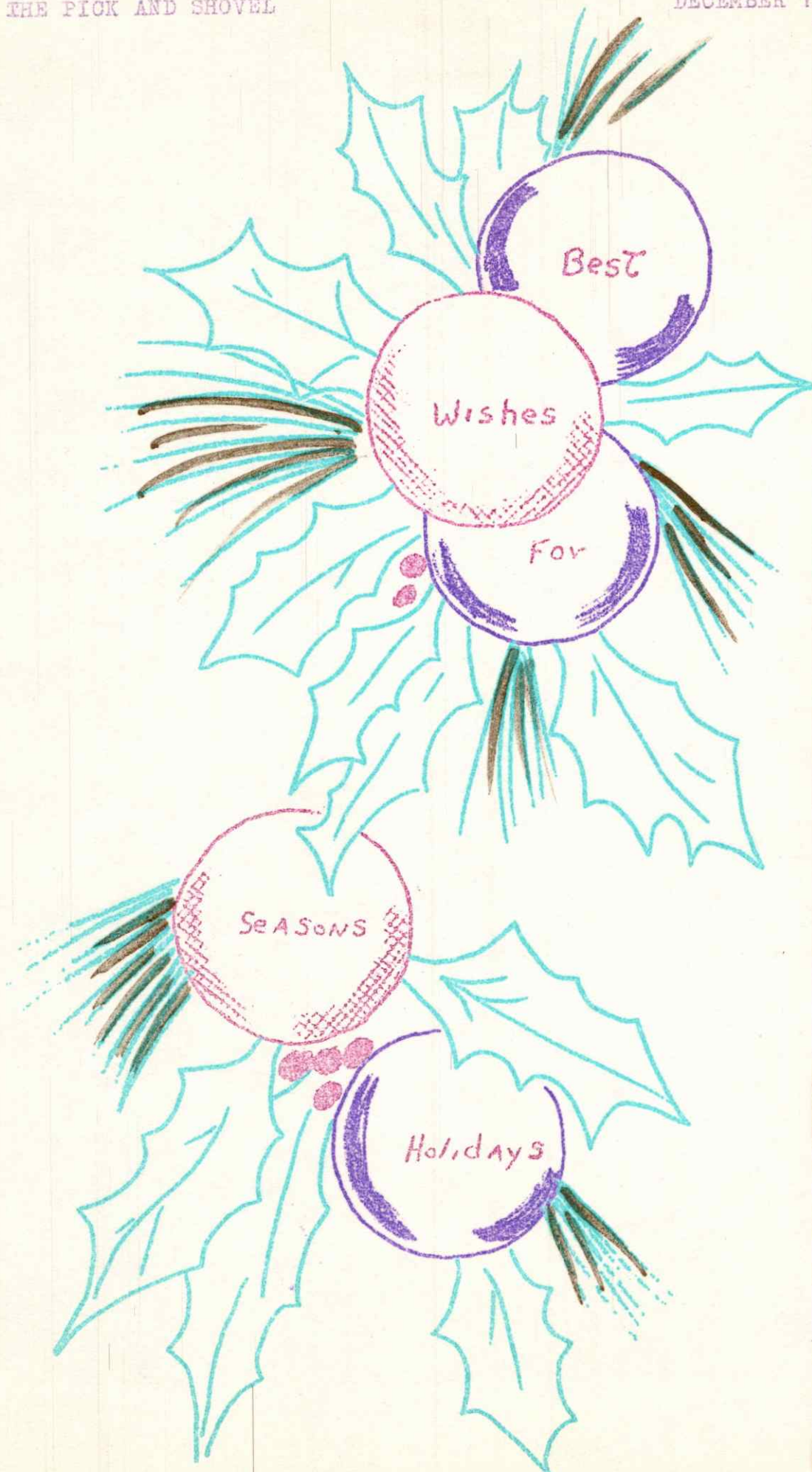
As Refreshment Committee Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you who so graciously said "Yes" when I phoned for help on the committee at various times this past year and to those who voluntarily signed the refreshment committee list when it was available. It has been a pleasure for me to work with such congenial people. May you all have a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Sincerely,
Norma Miller

* * *

Probably the most difficult and least appreciated of jobs in the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club is the Program Chairman. The Club Members wish to say that your time and effort put into this chairmanship, Virgil Carveth, is appreciated and "Thank you" for a job well done.

Members of L. G. M. C.



S
-
M
M
O
N
S

POLISHING JADE CABOCHONS

Although "Jade" refers to two different minerals, jadeite and nephrite, it is fortunate that the methods used to polish one will work equally well on the other.

The first and most important step in polishing jade is to do a thorough job of sanding the cabochon. Every minute spent in achieving a good smooth sanded finish will save several minutes polishing time. After the cab is wet-ground to the rough shape desired by using a 120 grit diamond or carborundum wheel, all coarse scratch marks are removed by using 220 grit sanding cloth, either wet with water or impregnated with beeswax and backed by a thin layer of sponge rubber. An alternate method is to use a wet coarse Brite-Boy sanding wheel. This step should remove all uneven surfaces and coarse scratch marks left by the grinding wheel.

To remove the finer scratches left by 220 grit sanding, use 360 or 400 grit sanding cloth, (wet with water or dry with beeswax). This step must be continued until all areas of the stone have a velvety appearance and no scratch marks are visible. As an alternative, a wet fine Brite-Boy wheel may be used.

A final sanding step using 600 grit sanding cloth, first wet and then dry, is used to achieve a half-polished appearance and is obtained before the actual polishing is attempted.

Numerous laps and polishing compounds have been tried in polishing jade, the most rapid method and the one producing the highest polish for me has been the use of Linde A (Aluminum Oxide) on the stitched surface of a muslin buff run at $\frac{1}{2}$ to full motor speed 800-1750-R.P.M. using fairly firm pressure on the stone as it is being polished.

A thin mixture of Linde A in water may be used, but in my hands, the most rapid polishing is obtained by using a thick creamy mixture of Linde A and water with a half teaspoonful of Lubritine (a surgical water-soluble lubricant put out by the Abbott Co. and obtainable at most drug stores) added to each ounce of polishing mixture. The Lubritine contains a gum which thickens the mixture and makes it adhere better to the lap thus preventing some of the loss incurred from "spinning off" of the polishing compound.

Polishing seems to occur most rapidly at the time that the lap is beginning to become dry. When this occurs there is a sudden increase in the "pulling or dragging" sensation as the cabochon is pressed against the lap. However do not let the lap become dry, or the cab can become streaked with caked Linde A, or even "burned". Keep the lap slightly wet at all times and it will work very efficiently.

Other laps may be used successfully - Leather, either soft (Chamois, elk, or goatskin) or hard sole leather. Tin or saran are particularly useful on flat surfaces. Pellon may be used, but I have the impression that it is slower acting than muslin. Felt laps, even the hard ones, tend to produce an undesirable "orange-peel" effect on the polish.

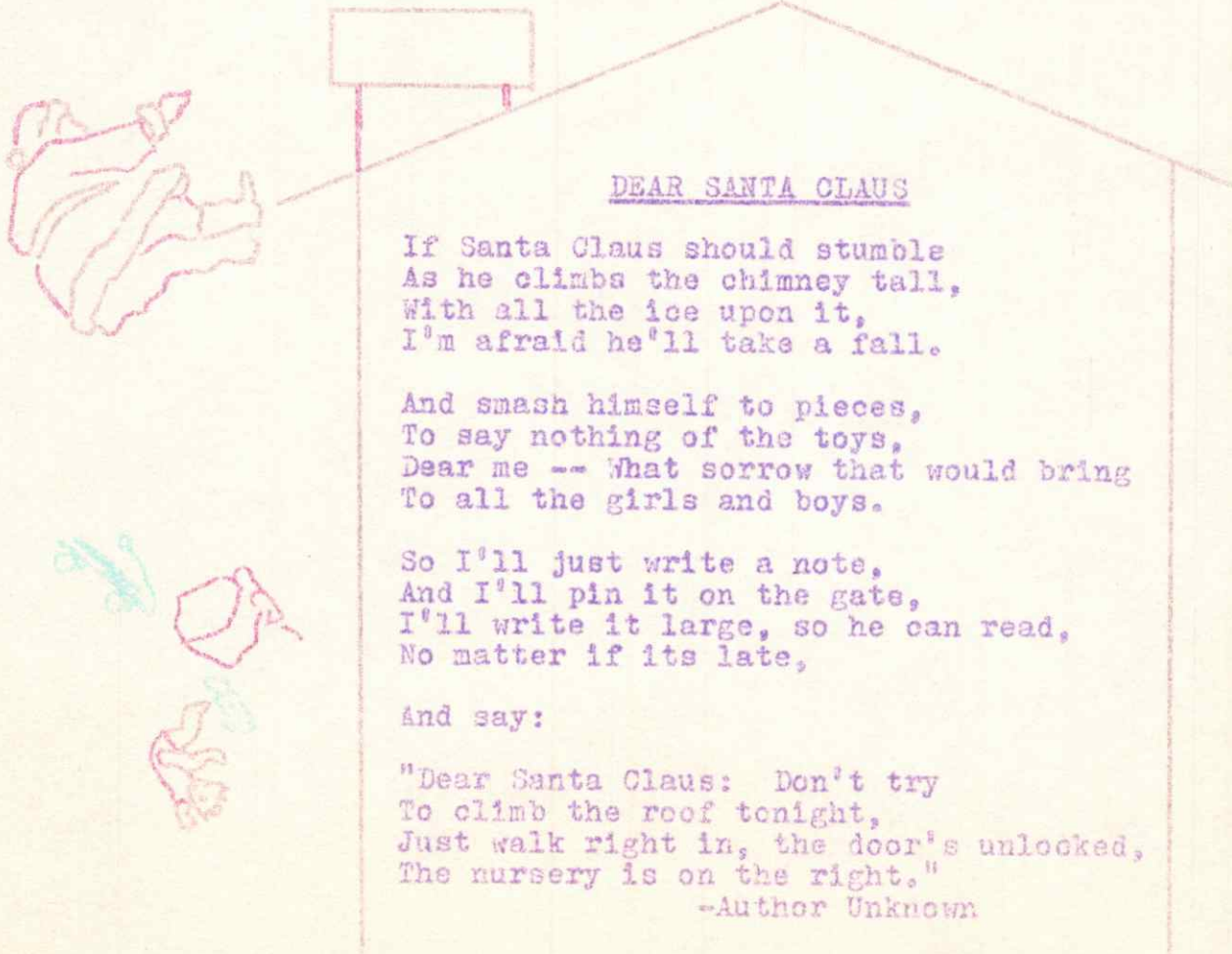
POLISHING JADE CABOCHONS
(continued)

Chrome oxide and water mixture, or chrome oxide and Linde A and water mixtures may also be used on soft leather laps or sole leather laps, but this process is much slower and, at least in my experience, has produced a polish which is either poorer or no better than that produced by Linde A alone.

Often one finds specimens of jade (particularly nephrite) with soft inclusions which tend to undercut and produce serious pitting. This may be minimized by using the hard bonded sanding wheels such as Brite-Boy and polishing with Linde A paste on a hard lap such as tin, saran, or wood, or even using diamond paste on copper laps. If using diamond, use 400 grit followed by 1200 grit for sanding and 6000 grit for polishing.

Much of the beauty of jade is lost if it is not well polished, so whatever time and effort you spend on achieving a "super polish" will be well rewarded by an apparent intensification in color and often by an increase in translucency of the jade.

by Dr. Edward O. Connor
from the Michigan Lapidary Society Bulletin
reprinted in The Template of Chicago



DEAR SANTA CLAUS

If Santa Claus should stumble
As he climbs the chimney tall,
With all the ice upon it,
I'm afraid he'll take a fall.

And smash himself to pieces,
To say nothing of the toys,
Dear me -- What sorrow that would bring
To all the girls and boys.

So I'll just write a note,
And I'll pin it on the gate,
I'll write it large, so he can read,
No matter if its late,

And say:

"Dear Santa Claus: Don't try
To climb the roof tonight,
Just walk right in, the door's unlocked,
The nursery is on the right."

-Author Unknown



CLAUS LAPIDARY

2349 West O

435-9200