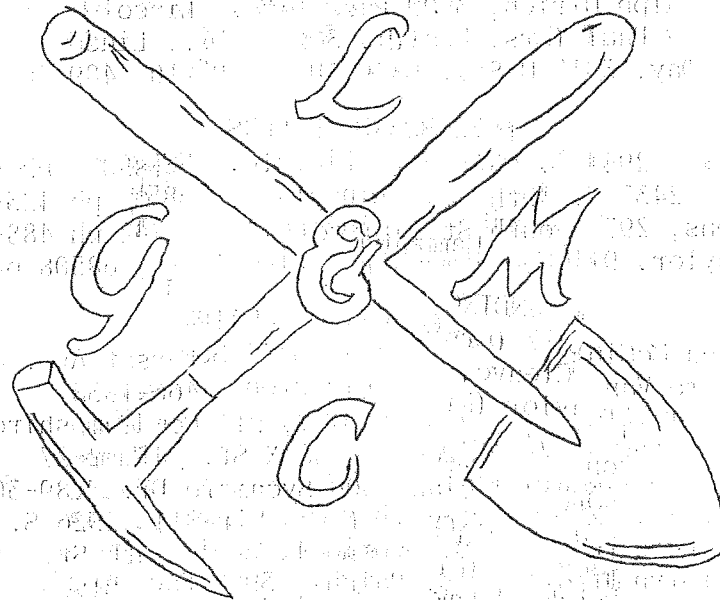


THE PICK & SHOVEL



Official Publication of
THE LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

P. O. Box 5342
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505

JAN 72

Members of

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Nebraska State Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc.

Community Arts Council of Lincoln

LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.
P. O. BOX 5342, LINCOLN, NE 68505

REGULAR MEETINGS: 4th Saturday of the month, 7:30 PM, September thru May
W.O.W. Bldg., 732 S. 27th St., Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS OF: Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies (MNF)
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)
Nebraska State Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc. (NAOESCI)
Community Arts Council of Lincoln (CAC)

The purpose of this corporation shall be to study, promote an interest in, and disseminate knowledge of lapidary and various Earth Sciences including but not necessarily limited to geology, paleontology, and mineralogy. It shall be a particular purpose of the corporation to provide education in these fields to its members and the general public, particularly youth and student groups.

1972 OFFICERS

President - Marie Wells (Mrs. Lynn), 2540 Vine St., Lincoln, NE 68503 435-6758
1st Vice-Pres.-Roger Pabian, 300 Sycamore Dr., Lincoln, NE 68510 489-3081
2nd Vice-Pres.-Ralph Ulrich, 3909 Pace Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68502 423-0419
Rec. Secy.-Luella Paul (Mrs. Ewald), 3097 U St., Lincoln, NE 68503 477-2347
Treasurer-Fred Day, 3815 H St., Lincoln, NE 68510 489-4651

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Jim Parks, 2435 S. 19th St., Lincoln, NE 68502 ph 423-6798
Tom Simmons, 2970 South St., Lincoln, NE 68502 ph 488-1619
Howard Taylor, 910 New Hampshire, Lincoln, NE 68508 ph 432-3707

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Safety---Lawrence Van Cleave, 6024 Gladstone 466-1838
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Education---Evelyn Ulrich, 3521 S. 48th St. 488-9051
Program---Phyllis Parks (Mrs. Jim), 2435 S. 19th St. 423-6798
Calling Committee---Nelda Oliver (Mrs. Robert), 5700 Otoe 489-5222
Community Arts Council Rep.-Rev. R. Pfeiffer, 8101 Sandalwood Dr. 488-1784
Alternate-Edith Holdorf (Mrs. Wm.), 4144 B St. 488-5065
NAOESCI Reporter---Norma Miller, 931 Cottonwood Dr., 489-8849

1974 SHOW STEERING COMMITTEE

Chairman - Ralph Ulrich Financial Chmn. - Bruce Simon
Sec. & Show Director - Irl Everett Member-at-large - Howard Taylor

EDITOR: Norma Miller (Mrs. Perry), 931 Cottonwood Dr. 68510 489-8849
ASST. EDITOR: Phyllis Parks (Mrs. Jim) 2435 S. 19th St., 68502 423-6798
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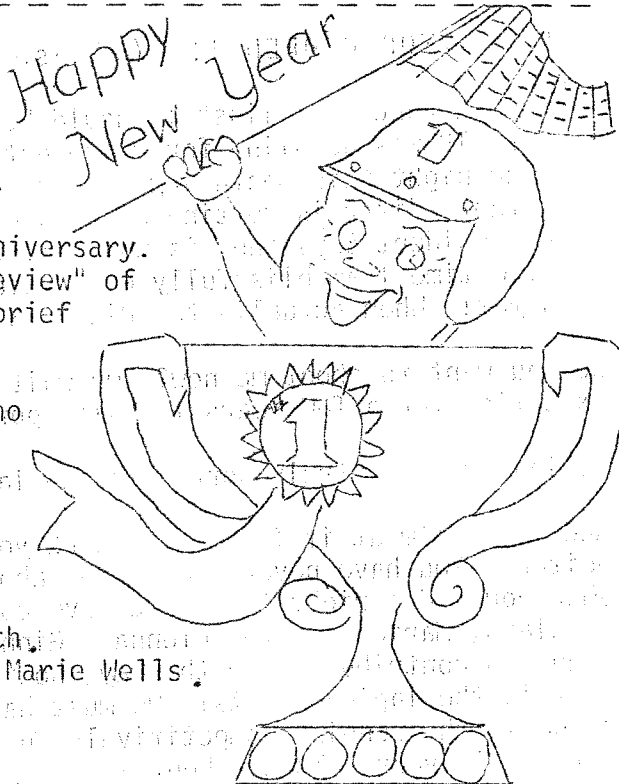
THIS MONTH

REGULAR MEETING... Sat., Jan. 22, 7:30 PM
W.O.W. Bldg., 734 S. 27th St.

PROGRAM... Congratulations LGMC on your 17th anniversary.
Our program will feature a "Review Preview" of
action within the club, including a brief
memorial and honor service.

AND something different... everyone who
can, bring a specimen of garnet -
(birthstone for January) - rough or
in jewelry. A prize will be given
for the item judged most interesting
- Phyllis Parks, Program Chmn.

REFRESHMENTS... Cupcakes to celebrate LGMC's 17th.
Marie Taylor, Norma Miller and Marie Wells.
Coffee, too.



Welcome

NEW MEMBERS: Mr. & Mrs. John Harrison,
Hickman, Nebraska 68372 ph 992-3825

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to one of our favorite people... Dr. John G. Neihardt... 91 years young!

ROOM 104... due to conditions beyond our control... no activity there yet.

COMING EVENTS:

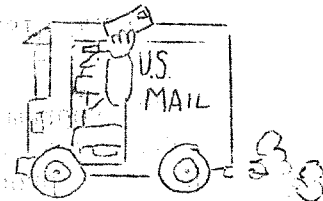
- Jan 27-29 Denver Gem & Mineral Guild Show, Denver, Colorado
- Febr. 17-19 Scottsdale Rock Club Show, Scottsdale, Arizona
- Mar. 4-5 Magic Valley Gem Club Show, Twin Falls, Idaho
- Mar. 10-12 Greater Kansas City Gem & Mineral Club Show, Kansas City, Kansas
- Apr. 8-9 Little Gems Rock Club Show, Gardner, Kansas
- Apr. 13-16 Nebraska STATE SHOW, Hastings, Nebraska
- Apr. 15-16 Sioux Empire Gem & Mineral Society Show, Sioux Falls, SD
- Apr. 28-30 Wichita Gem & Mineral Society Show, Wichita, Kansas
- May 12-14 LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB SHOW, STATE FAIRGROUNDS, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

DON'T FORGET... PAY YOUR DUES...
YOU GET THEM IN THE MAIL...
THE MAILMAN AND FRED WILL DO THE REST

- Adult membership fee - \$3.00 (age 16 and over)
- Junior membership fee - \$1.00 (age 12 to 16)
- Family membership fee - \$7.00 (husband and wife and
children under 16 as permanent residents of household)

Mail your dues to Fred Day, Treasurer LGMC, 3815 H St., Lincoln, NE 68510

DON'T BE A LITTERBUG... each piece of litter along the highway costs the taxpayer
(you and I) 32¢. Three pick-ups a year along one mile of highway costs \$2,500.
A study of a composite mile in five states turned up 2,665 pieces of litter, or
about 3 cubic yards of material!



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YOUR EDITOR GOOFED!!! (Please accept my apologies) Again?

If "ignorance is bliss" I should be totally happy!!! My mind kept telling me that January 19 was deadline for me to get the bulletin out because January 29 is the meeting night this month but instead it's Jan. 22. So, here it is January 14 and my assistant editor is getting nervous - wondering "what can I do to help you?" The new LGMC president says "how is the bulletin coming? Let me know if I can help." And all the time I am blissfully going along in my own little world thinking I had five days yet! When actually the Pick & Shovel should have been in the mail already today.

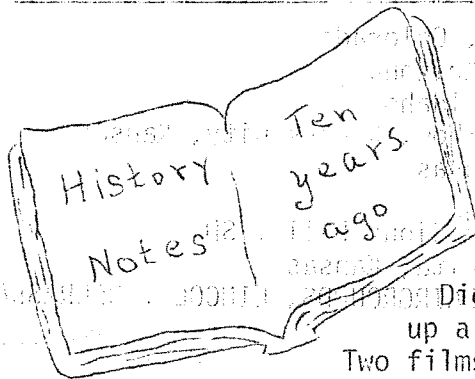
Do you want to shoot me now? Or wait till I get it mailed? If you could delay the execution for a few years I would appreciate it!

Seriously, I am truly sorry for the lateness of your bulletin this time.

And while I'm at it I want to thank you all for your cooperation while I have been editor. You have never complained about my work (though I'm sure there have been times when you had a right to). You have contributed well, and on time. (Especially my regulars, Marie Carveth, Glenna McGinnis and Edith Holdorf) and I hope you will continue to contribute. By the way, how about an original article on your favorite subject in the lapidary arts? We must have some original stuff in the P & S if we hope to be in the running competitively in the MMF bulletin contest. Or should we not enter this year? Think about it.

Putting out the bulletin is time consuming, (You can't know the hours one puts in until you've done it yourself) but it is a pleasure for me to be involved in this area. I've said it before and I'll say it again - I'm a glutton for work, but I'm no leader. And so - here I am, still

-Your Editor, Norma Miller (shot or unshot)



January - 1962...Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club members met at Roberts Dairy Party Room. John Lewis, president, welcomed nine guests.

Correspondence was read regarding our club hosting a Midwest Federation Convention, possibly in 1967. A convention fund was started with \$500.00.

Dick Hedges was appointed chairman of a committee to set up a display case of Nebraska materials in Morrill Hall.

Two films on rocks and minerals were shown by John Lewis.

LGMC HISTORIAN - Frances Tracy

1972 Program suggestions: Tentatively scheduled is as varied a group of subjects as we can squeeze into ten monthly meetings (a total of 7 to 8 hours of programming.) Match for:

- Museums as a Source of Inspiration
- Show Case Planning and Preparation
- Mineral Heritage Month
- From the Depths of the Sea
- Working with Junior Rockhounds
- Opals
- Lapidary Techniques
- Carving as a Hobby

-Phyllis Parks, Program Chmn.

INVOLVEMENT

With the closing of another successful year for the club we embark on a new one. As your president I urge each member to make a resolution that he will become involved in activities of the club. Through involvement one indicates a concern for the welfare of the club, but even more, experience the personal satisfaction of knowing that he had an important part in the achievements, pride, and attention focused on the club. The next two years will be important ones and the extent of your involvement will have a direct bearing on the success of the upcoming 1974 National Show. Involvement is a resolution that can be kept and then like the enjoyment of a flower opening into full bloom, you can enjoy fully the activities of your club.

A special welcome to all new members and an invitation to all to become involved this year. Finally to each and every one I wish a New Year in which most of your dreams will be realized, good health, and God's continued blessings.

Marie Wells

NOTICE...

All members who have not paid the 1972 dues please do so at your earliest convenience to avoid paying reinstatement fees and this will enable distribution of the Who's Who at our March meeting.

4-H ROCK CLUB ORGANIZED

"Petrified Pebble Pups" are anything but petrified. In fact they are a group of nine lively and interested boys and girls who have organized, and are members of, the first 4-H Rock Club in Lancaster County!

Members of the club are Carolyn Allen, Diane Colborn, Ricky Day, Bill Denio, Sequoya Flechs, Jerry Lyne, Andres and Lars Olson, and David Piper. Bill Denio is Junior Leader, Mrs. Angela Denio, Assistant Leader, Marie Wells leader and Mrs. Lyne, Liaison.

The group meets the second Monday of the month in the homes of the members. Two requirements they must meet are to view the collection of an adult rockhound and to attend a rock club meeting. The group will visit our April meeting.

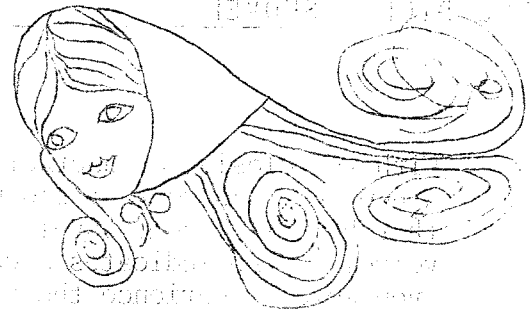
-Marie Wells

(For those of you who don't already know, let me tell you that Marie Wells has been the one from our club who has been most instrumental in getting this first 4-H Rock Club started in Lancaster County! She has spent hours, even days, working on this with the powers that be and I feel our club owes her a vote of thanks. It is another FIRST for LGNC!! Ed.)

1972 Program cooperation needed. One of the criticisms heard mentioned a lack of "Rocks" at our monthly meetings. In order to have Rocks YOU must help bring them.

Please watch the Pick & Shovel for the monthly rock feature and join in helping make this an interesting "rockspereience". January feature - GARNET.
Phyllis Parks - Program Chairman

glenna's gleanings



Happy New Year !!!

Many members and their families (I will not try to list them all) have been ill with the flu this past month. Sympathy is extended to all and wishes for a speedy recovery.

Dr. John Neihardt celebrates his 91st Birthday this month! Happy Birthday to him with a wish for many more.

Frank and Tom Rule returned to California on December 26. Frank expressed pleasure at seeing and meeting with his many friends at the Christmas party and hopes to hear from them this coming year. His present address is: 250 E. Pleasant Valley Rd., Space 59, Oxnard, California 93030.

Roger Pabian reports plans for the show are being carried out by the committees, with all dealers contracted. They are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Shermans, Onawa, Iowa | Hutsells, Blue Springs, Missouri |
| Kellers, Bend, Oregon | Everetts, Lincoln, Nebraska |
| Millers, Hastings, Nebraska | Johnsons, Mankato, Minnesota |
| Lentz, Mulvane, Kansas | Turners, Provo, Utah |
| Ralene, Wabasso, Minnesota | Fessmans, San Antonio, Texas |

Mrs. Lillie Lewis was the happy recipient of the door prize at the Christmas party! It was a Shaeffer desk pen, mounted on black and white onyx.

A leftover package at the gift exchange contained a bolo tie that was sent to our hospitalized veteran, Mr. Harry Gragg in Hot Springs, South Dakota. A communication from him before the holidays said he is learning to write and use his wheel chair, and thanks all who remembered him with cards and letters.

Larry Van Cleave who had surgery before the holidays, reports he has gone back to work. Goodo, Larry!


Contratulations to our editor who acquired a lovely new daughter-in-law on January 7 and best wishes to the newlyweds.

Anyone going to the 1972 Field Trip Convention in Ishpeming, Michigan on July 20-24 could represent LGMC there. Wilfrid Wittman has volunteered to be one of the delegates.

Your reporter - Glenna McGinnis

vaja con duis (May God be with you)

The following have received cards the past month:

	<p>Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Ulrich</p> <p>Mrs. Evelyn Ulrich and Glen</p> <p>Mr. Thos. Simmons</p> <p>Mrs. Marjorie Heedick & Garry</p> <p>Mrs. Lona Simmons</p> <p>Mrs. Lennie Smith</p> <p>Dr. John Neihardt</p> <p>Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Miller</p>	<p>Sympathy</p> <p>Get Well</p> <p>Birthday</p> <p>Wedding</p>
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1972 SHOW NOTES

The 1972 Show is progressing very well. The contract for the building (which has been renovated) has been signed, and the insurance policy has been ordered.

There will be a change in policy on advanced ticket sales. The advanced tickets will be available at the March meeting. Those who are interested in handling advanced tickets can get them from the advanced ticket chairman, in lots of 10, 20, 30, 40, or more tickets, payable then. Lots of 10 tickets are \$5.00, lots of 20 are \$10.00, etc. Unsold tickets will be redeemed for their full value after the show, upon their surrender to the advanced ticket chairman or club treasurer.

Working shop exhibits will be under the supervision of George Balke and Herm Spomer. Those who wish to loan equipment or give demonstrations should contact Herm or George immediately. There will be the usual Black Light display. I have a couple of famous volunteers on the string for this and will let you know their identity as soon as they confirm for sure.

We will have a Publicity Department rather than committee. This will enable the use of more part-time workers than fewer full-time workers. Many members have expressed this preference.

Several positions must yet be filled. These include: Advance Tickets Chairman, Memory Table, Show Security, and Ribbons.

Special displays include several items to be furnished by dealers, including: Variscite from Turners; Priday Plume Agate from The Kellers; and geodes, with a special high-speed saw to cut them, from the Fessmans.

Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Arts, Elmhurst, Illinois, will furnish a display of Kuan Yin carvings. The Lizzadro display will be brought to Lincoln by Mr. Russell Kemp, past-president of Midwest Federation. Mr. Kemp will give five programs on the Lizzadro Museum, and his wife, Doris, will provide two programs on metal and jewelry design.

Fred Day indicates that we will have a number of other programs in addition to those provided by the Kemps.

All is shaping up well. We as individuals must concentrate on our own exhibits. We must also keep in mind that there are two more shows between now and the big 1974 event. To be successful in all of them, let's take Coach Devaney's advice and take them "one at a time".

- Roger Pabian, 1972 Show Chairman

...Your Competition Chairman reminds you to be thinking about your display for competitive showing in our 1972 Show.

Formerly we have used an adaptation of the AFMS Uniform Rules which we thought would encourage our members to participate in competitive showing, as the adaptation of the rules were simpler and easier to understand (and that's the truth.). This year the Show Chairman and the Competition Chairman feel we should get right into the nitty gritty of the real thing. So - use the Uniform Rules book as supplied by AFMS. A 1971 Nomenclature Supplement is available.

- K. Ulrich, Competitions Chmn-1972 Show

THE PICK & SHOVEL

SOME FACTS ABOUT VARISCITE...that lovely, green, gemmy mineral is a product of chemical weathering in nature, and the principal agent of chemical weathering is rainwater! Rain picks up and dissolves carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, turning it into a weak acid capable of dissolving minerals faster than pure water. Oxygen is also dissolved (?) in rain water making it a more effective chemical agent, and as rainwater seeps into the ground, it picks up still more acids from decaying vegetable matter and minerals, becoming even more potent. The action of chemical weathering concentrates many different minerals, compounding and converting them into useful materials, and variscite is formed through such a process.

VARISCITE is a mineral of hydrated phosphate of aluminum and iron -- $Al(PO_4) 2H_2O$. It is a dark to light green material, in matrix, with inclusions of other minerals, mainly iron and white phosphate compounds. It is usually opaque but now and again a choice gem quality piece is found that is clear and semitranslucent. It has a hardness of 3.5 - 4.5 and a specific gravity of 2.2 - 2.8 with a porcelaneous luster. It resembles turquoise but is greener and contains no copper.

Rainwater trickling slowly through formations of cherty limestones, rhyolites, trachytes, or granites containing the necessary minerals, and under the proper conditions, carries the constituents which concentrate in fillings and seams in the rock formation and crystallize to form variscite. The material generally forms nodules in the open spaces in the formation, and in the sands and gravels from weathering. In large seams in the rock, the nodules form in a soft clay-like replacement or alteration material. In the lower areas of seams or in narrow openings, variscite forms solidly. We can presume that the known deposits of variscite do not extend very deep into the earth because of the forming action due to the decomposition of surface materials from the chemical weathering.

-excerpts from Gemstones & Minerals by John Sinkankas via the Template

DID YOU KNOW...certain plants can lead you to mineral locations?

...Poppies thrive near California gold deposits

...Loco weed can be found near uranium

...Violets will grow well near zinc

(This last one I can vouch for...my African violets grow well near my sink!

I couldn't resist that one. Ed.)

SOME FACTS ABOUT KINDS OF FOSSIL PRESERVATION...some knowledge of these processes may help you understand your specimens. The entire animal or plant may be preserved without alteration; this is called ENTIRE PRESERVATION. When minerals, precipitated from ground water, fill the openings in shell or bone, long after the flesh of the animal has decayed, the shell or bone becomes heavier and harder; this process is called PERMINERALIZATION. Ground water may dissolve away some or all of the mineral matter in bone or shell and replace it with other minerals that the water carries in solution. This is called REPLACEMENT. If the fossil is not replaced by minerals it may be encased in rocks and all the liquids and oils in its body may be squeezed out; this process is called DISTILLATION. When plants are preserved by squeezing, they are called COMPRESSIONS. The ground water seeping through the rock may dissolve the shell or bone completely without replacing it with other minerals. In that case, if the rock has hardened before the fossil is dissolved out, the rock retains the imprint of the fossil, making a MOLD. Sometimes the mold is later filled with mineral matter, producing a CAST, which is a replica of the original fossil in different material.

-excerpts from Ohio Fossils via GEMS and MICHIGAN GEM NEWS

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB - January 13, 1972

The Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Board of Directors met at the home of the President, Marie Wells, Jan. 13, 1972, at 8:00 PM.

The following board members were present: Marie Wells, Fred Day, Ralph Ulrich, Irl Everett, Roger Pabian, Luella Paul and Howard Taylor.

Visitors were: Norma Miller, Don Lawson, Stan Greenwade and Hazel Greenwade.

The minutes of the December meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report was given and bills presented and approved.

After discussion, Irl Everett made motion to drop insurance on "Gems on Location". Seconded by Ralph Ulrich. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Irl Everett to pay Nebraska State Association dues, seconded by Ralph Ulrich. Motion carried.

New members approved were Mr. & Mrs. John D. Harrison, Jr., from Hickman, Nebraska.

Ralph Ulrich recommended to have advanced tickets placed on a cash basis for the 1972 Show, with money refunded to the member on surrender of tickets unsold. Seconded by Howard Taylor.

President, Marie Wells, Presented the following standing committee chairmen for 1972: Historian, Frances Tracy; Librarian, Kay Ulrich; Liaison, Glenna McGinnis. Norma Miller will continue as Editor. Fred Day moved to accept and Howard Taylor seconded. Motion passed.

Stan Greenwade made another report on badges for the club members...he will check further and report again.

Rober Pabian made motion to adjourn.

The next Board meeting will be February 10 at the home of Marie Wells.

Luella S. Paul, Secretary

George Balke and Dean Baumeister have completed their duties on the Auditing Committee and will give their report in January.

The 1971 Financial Report is printed and will be available from Ralph Ulrich at the January meeting. Pick yours up then and save the club the cost of postage...remember, every little savings helps.

FLASH...Norman Engelhart is reported ill with pneumonia and at present is at Bryan Memorial Hospital. Cards are welcome...visitors still restricted by hospital personnel due to the flu epidemic that has hit Lincoln.

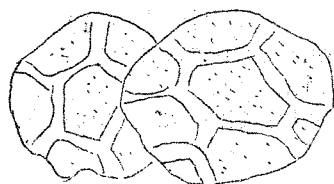
SINCERE SYMPATHY to the Simmons family - Aunt Lona, Tom and Carolyn, Roger and Margaret, Marjorie and Garry, Norman and Dorothy. Tom's brother passed away in Idaho and his loss is deeply felt. Our hearts are with you all...LGMC

PSEUDOFOSFILLS by Amel Priest

The word pseudo means false or scourious. Sometimes rocks are found that look for all the world like fossil life of some sort and really are pretty good imitations. From time to time people bring rock specimens to be identified that they think are fossils but actually, they have no fossil origin and so the term pseudofossil may well be applied to such rock specimens.

One of the most common pseudofossils are septaria. I've seen specimens that resemble a turtle very much and I've had to disappoint several who were sure they had found a petrified turtle.

Actually a septaria is a ball of mud that had dried out and cracked and the cracks have filled in with another substance and hardened but the hexagonal plates sure resemble those of a turtle.



Another interesting type of pseudofossil are the odd concretions found in loess "wind laid" soils. These concretions have many odd shapes and forms and have been called "loesskindren" or children of the soil. Along the Missouri River in the loess bluffs is a good place to find these peculiar concretions. Sometimes the large ones are hollow and have chunks of hardened mud inside them and are rattle box geodes, -real curiosities.

Sandstone formations sometimes have concretions. Near Brandon, there is an exposure of sand stone with these odd shaped concretions. I traded for some interesting ones at the show in Minneapolis this summer. One looks like a potato. There is a collection of rocks at Niota, Illinois which resemble other objects such as fruits, vegetables, foods, animals, utensils, etc. If you are over in that area it is well worth the time to stop and see it.

Another pseudofossil are the dendrites which look like fern leaves petrified in rock. Such is not the case, however, as the so called leaves actually are mineral formations left by waters as they seeped through fissures in the stone. Pyrolusite is the most common dendritic material. (Ed. note- many of our group collected this material at Grand Mond, Iowa)

A collector sometimes comes across curious rocks that are not exactly fossils because they have never been alive and yet they have had something to do with life. An example of this type pseudofossil, (if it can be classed as a fossil), are ripple marks which speak of an ancient beach. Last summer, I walked down Indian Creek to where some huge blocks of limestone with beautiful ripple marks on them, only trouble, they were too large to collect without a truck and a bulldozer.

Adapted from THE PYRITER

PSEUDOMORPH

A pseudomorph refers to a mineral that is altered in such a way as to change the internal structure and still preserve the same external form or appearance. Pseudomorph means "false form" which implies that the outside appearance is deceptive since the mineral does not have the atomic structure that you would suspect from observing the surface. There are several kinds of pseudomorphs, the most familiar, though not necessarily the most simple, is petrified wood. Petrified wood has the look of wood but the chemical composition and atomic structure of chalcedony quartz. "Limonite after pyrite" is a common pseudomorph, originally pyrite, now altered chemically to limonite. The cubic crystals are false, representing only the shape of the previous mineral, as nothing else remains of the earlier pyrite.

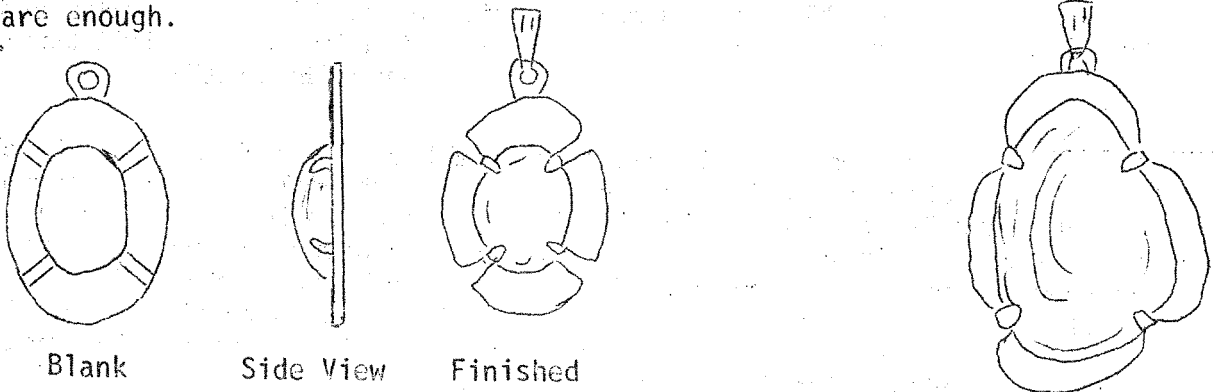
from Rocky Times via the Seeker

★ Happy New Year ★

FOR THE SILVER BUFFS...PROJECT # 1 - PENDANT WITH SET CAB WITHOUT SOLDERING
BY Harry E. Peterson

- STEP 1...Transfer design to a piece of 20 ga. silver. Airplane glue is very good for this purpose as it dries fast.
- STEP 2...Centerpunch, then drill hole for bail. Saw out the entire blank with a jeweler's saw. #01 or #1 are good for this thickness of metal. File and emery all edges. Be careful not to scratch or mark the surfaces of the blank, as these would become a problem in finishing the item.
- STEP 3...This drawing was made for an 18.13 oval cab, but as cabs might vary slightly in size, it might be a good idea to put your selected cab in the center of the blank and draw a fine pencil line around it. This line now becomes the stopping point when you make the saw cuts for the prongs, which is next on the program.
- STEP 4...After making the saw cuts, remove paper from blank, then buff on both sides. Place blank on smooth steel block and chase a fine line with a slightly curved chasing tool across the top to separate the loop. This is done on the front side only.
- STEP 5...Bend all four prongs straight up with a pair of very narrow long nosed pliers. See that your cab will lay flat on blank with the prongs snug up against it. Now use your own judgement on how high the prongs should be. A low cab needs very short prongs, but for a high cab, leave them longer. Round off the tops of the prongs with a smooth file, also the sharp corners on the blank should be rounded and smoothed with emery cloth. Then carefully buff around prongs. After washing the finished blank, set cab by bending prongs gradually to lay close to the stone, with a steel burnisher. Attach bail and give a final polish.

This method will also work well with round or freeform cabs. Simply place your cab on a piece of 20 ga. silver and draw a line around it. Then add a border of about 3/16 inch wide. Add loop on top and as many prongs as necessary - usually 4 are enough.



Reprinted from THE OPAL, September 1965

Example of free form using the same method

PENDANT FOR FACETED STONE -- PLUS BONUS -- by Harry Peterson
via THE OPAL

PROJECT # 23

This design is particularly suitable for faceted stones because the bezel is set high enough to clear the pointed bottom of the stone. However, you may use this setting for an ordinary round cab. If you are careful with your saw, you can also get an extra bonus by making a small pin from the inside cloverleaf that ordinarily would turn out to be scrap: that is something to think about, with the price of silver climbing daily.

Step 1: Transfer design to a piece of ga. 18 silver. Drill hole at top for the bail and one hole in the design for your saw blade.

STEP 2: Saw out entire design, file and emery all edges, chase lines on top around bail opening.

STEP 3: Make bezel from fancy bezel wire for a 12 x 10 oblong, or a 12 mm round faceted stone.

STEP 4: Curve the prongs up about 3/16" high and arrange so that you can rest the bezel evenly on top, prongs should be filed flat on top at this time.

STEP 5: Solder bezel to prongs, pickle and clean up.

STEP 6: See that the piece lies flat, then file all top edges on outer rim and prongs to give rounded appearance to the entire top of design. Use emery cloth to smoothen, then buff all over.

STEP 7: If you use an oblong setting, file off the corners from the top part of the bezel, this will make setting easier and expose more of the stone.

STEP 8: Set stone and give a final finish.

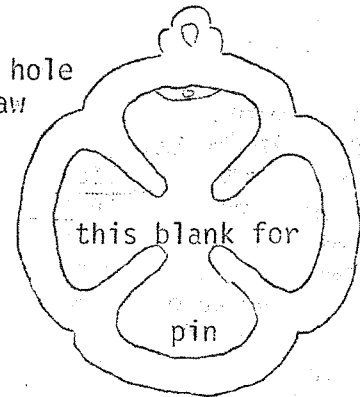
NOW FOR THE FOUR LEAF CLOVER BONUS PIN:

STEP 1: Saw out the small curve on top of each leaf, file and emery all edges.

STEP 2: Chase a couple of lines on each leaf, then form slightly on wood to suit your taste. Buff entire piece.

STEP 3: Make bezel for about 8 mm round cab, solder to center of design. Solder ring on top for pendant, or hinge and safety catch for pin. Set cab and finish.

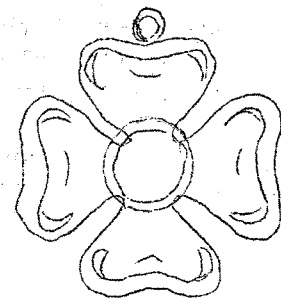
here
drill hole
for saw
blade



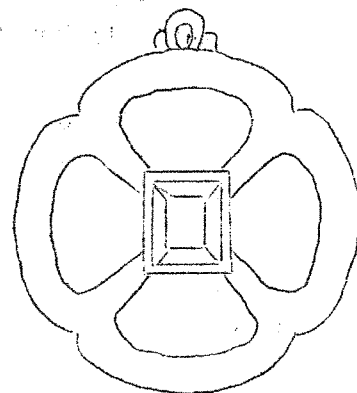
BLANK



SIDE VIEW



FINISHED



FINISHED

To Clean the Mazon Creek Fossils (found in the Terre Haute, Indiana area) J. Wollin ('71 MWF Pres.) suggests washing the concretion with soap and water and a brush. Some which are found already opened and covered with a cloudy white film of carbonate from weathering. To clean these---soak them in vinegar for an hour or so (don't overdo it). To protect the fossil and make the print stand out from the matrix you paint the imprint (not matrix) with a solution made of a pinch of yellow dextrin in a teaspoon of water, using a small artists brush. Be sure you get yellow dex-0 trin, not white. (Some druggists carry it). Jay does not recommend shellac, varnish, lacquer or plastic which are unremovable and destroy the fossil. The dextrin solution will wash off if you ever desire to remove it. (via LOESS BULLETIN & Earth Science Magazine)

SOME PEOPLE are like buttons...
always popping off at the wrong time.
SOME PEOPLE are like blotters...
they soak it all in, but get it
backwards.
SOME PEOPLE are like concrete...
all mixed up and permanently set.
(via LAPIDARY JOURNAL)

LEGISLATION AND CONSERVATION-

by Calvin George, MWF

Final report of the Public Land Law Review became available at the bookstore on July 10, 1970. The title of this report indicates the scope of it-- "One third of the Nation's Land". One-third of the land in this country is public land - owned by the government for all its people. Five years ago the Public Land Law Commission was created to check the laws and indicate any modifications. It states that public lands shall be retained and managed, or disposed of in a manner of maximum benefit for the general public. This means everybody.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY...Even though a pat on the back is only a few vertebrae removed from a kick in the pants, it's miles ahead in results.

(via LOESS BULLETIN)

IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES...

NOW IS THE HOUR...See Fred Day, Treas.

My face in the mirror
isn't wrinkled or drawn,
My house isn't dusty,
the cobwebs are gone.
My garden looks lively
and so does the lawn.
I think I might never
put my glasses back on!
(Modern Maturity via LOESS)

ALABASTER...THERE are two kinds, each composed of different chemicals. Both of them are soft, waxy minerals with the glowing beauty of milky white glass. Both are easy to cut and polish, and both alabasters are treasured as carving stones. And though made from different chemicals, both alabasters have similar histories. They are sedimentary rocks that were deposited from chemicals once deposited in the ancient seas.

Calcite alabaster was formed from limy calcium remains of tiny shell fish. Gypsum alabaster is a watery mixture of limy sulphate. These and many other minerals were dissolved in ancient sea water. When an arm of shallow water is cut off from the sea, it often evaporates. Its dissolved chemicals are left behind as solids and deposited layer upon layer. In Italy, deposits of both calcite alabaster and gypsum alabaster were formed in this way, and Italian artists make carvings from both kinds.
(via PICK AND CHISEL)

CAUTION WHEN GRINDING AND POLISHING BERYL...The mineral beryl gives us many beautiful stones such as aqua marine, emerald, golden beryl, goshenite and morganite. But also, it is the ore of beryllium, and very toxic. Breathing the dust or fumes from beryl can cause an acute or chronic berylliosis, depending on the extent of the exposure. Berylliosis affects the respiratory system and lungs. It is so similar to pneumonia that a doctor might diagnose it as such if he did not know of the patient's contact with beryllium. Grinding of beryl should be done wet and cleanup of any dust be done with a damp cloth or paper towels that can be burned. Excess sludge on the hands should be thoroughly washed off with soap and water when sanding or grinding operations are completed
(via PICK AND CHISEL)

Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July and August as a service to members clubs.
All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information concerning publication
should be sent to P. O. Box 1130, Des Moines, Iowa 50311



Issue No. 122 - February 1972

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Each MWF club has been sent the Directory Information Form and the Calendar of Events Form. If your club has not already returned the forms properly filled out will your club do so immediately. This is important since if your forms are not received your club cannot be properly listed in the 1972 Directory.

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

As most of you know this is a rather new committee in our Federation. I feel this is one of the more important facets of our hobby, that is the young people. Without them there is no growth, but rather aging. We sincerely hope that every club will begin to do something to develop the Lapidary Arts and the Earth Sciences in their schools and communities through a "Pebble Pups" organization. This little article is being written for the purpose of asking anyone interested in this part of our club to contact Mrs. Calvin George, or myself. We would also like to hear from anyone that may have contributions to the development of Junior Activities, or a manual for juniors. Programs are a very important part of working with young people, so we are also asking for contributions from people that are potential resource people in this area.

There are three things that I am working on at the present time. The first of these is a manual for Junior Activities. The second is development of earth science lessons, and third, development of a simple manual to learn and teach the basics of the lapidary arts.

-Merrill and Donna Dykema, Co-Chm
Junior Activities Committee

NEW DIRECTOR OF SUPPLIES

Mr. Paul Blocher, Pearl City, Illinois 61062 is now Director of Supplies for the Federation. He succeeds Miss Dorothy Gleiser who has served this past year and deserves our thanks for a job well done. Orders for the materials listed on page 15 of the 1971 Directory should now go to Mr. Blocher.

CORRECTION

In the January issue our First Vice President was erroneously identified in the picture captioned "Meet your new officers" as Lee Harris. Our First Vice President is Lee Kirby of Drayton Plains, Michigan.

FIFTH ANNUAL CLUB PUBLICATIONS CONTEST

Mrs. Ruth Watson of California will be the judge for the fifth annual Club Publications contest sponsored by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Mrs. Watson has been editor, assisted by her husband, of The Pegmatite for the last nine years. This is the bulletin of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society. It was the winner of first place in the general class in the 1971 American Federation competition.

Mrs. Watson has been active in club publications affairs in the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Awards will be given this year in the following classes:

1. Three awards for first, second and third place to bulletins submitted to the judge by the six regional federations. These will be the top ten in each of the federation club publication contests, a total of 60 bulletins to be judged.

2. One award for the best club bulletin of one or two sheets. These will be submitted by club publications committee chairmen of the regional federations.

3. One award for an original article published in a club bulletin. Editors or club members should submit such articles they believe worthy of the award to the regional federation club publications committee chairman for consideration by the national judge.

4. One award to the best regional federation newsletter.

Plaques will be presented to the winners at the national convention in Anaheim, Calif. on June 27, 28 and 29.

Regional club publications committee chairmen will announce which issues will be judged in their regional contests, and winners should reach the national judge by May 1.

-Russell MacFall, Publications Chm. AFMS

FROM THE PRESIDENT
B. F. (BARNEY) PARR

Club bulletins which have been sent to me since becoming Vice President and then President have been greatly appreciated. I can assure you that all are read with great interest. It is most gratifying to see the wide range of activities that clubs have for their members as well as the many community and educational projects.

This prompts me to remind editors to be sure and enter the 1972 Bulletin Competition when it is announced. All clubs are also urged to prepare entries for the Midwest Federation Merit Awards and the AFMS "All American Federation Club" selection. Blanks and full information will be sent out in the spring. In 1971, the Midwest led all Federations in number of entries by a wide margin.

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The following clubs have reached these new percentages since the previous listings in the Newsletter.

1600%	West Suburban Lapidary Society
1000%	Richland Lithic and Lapidary Society
700%	Midwest Mineralogical and Geological Society Waterford Gem and Mineral Club
600%	Duneland Rock Club Illowa Gem and Mineral Society Lake County Gem and Mineral Society State Line Gem and Mineral Society
500%	Flint Rock and Gem Club Kettle Moraine Geological Society Lawrence County Rockhounds
400%	Cincinnati Mineral Club Dallas County Rock Club Siouxland Gem and Mineral Society Wisconsin Geological Society
300%	Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society
200%	Calumet Gem and Mineral Society Euclid Lapidary and Mineral Club Heart of Wisconsin Gem and Mineral Society Madison County Rockhounds Minnesota Mineral Club
100%	Central Missouri Rock Club

A wonderful new idea to help the Scholarship Foundation and also secure more exhibits for your show has been offered by our Scholarship Chairman, Katharine Steinbrenner. Offer a prize to the club whose members bring the most exhibits to your show with the prize to be a donation to the Scholarship Foundation from the host club in the name of the winning club.

Remember to save those Betty Crocker coupons - they are valuable. Almost 29,000 have been sent in since Sept. 1. Coupons and checks mean "Dollars For Scholars".

FIELD TRIP CONVENTION REPORT

From our Field Trip Chairman, Bob Markert comes more information about the preparations being made in Ishpeming, Michigan to insure a good time for those who will be attending the field trip and show on July 20-24.

1. All MWF registrants will be able to view the 5th Annual Upper Peninsula Gem and Mineral Show which will be in progress during the entire time that the MWF Convention is taking place - free of charge.

2. They will be shuttle bussed on Thursday and Friday to and from Convention headquarters via downtown Ishpeming, Negaunee, or Marquette depending on where they stay.

3. All persons paying the Convention Registration Fee will be able to ride the buses free on the four days July 20, 21, 22 and 23.

4. It is expected that 3000 registrations will be attained well in advance of June 19. However, if they don't then the following will become available to spouses and children of registrants on a standby basis in accordance to date of request:

- Ishpeming Kiwanis Pancake Feed (Fri. July 21)
- Marquette Kiwanis Chicken Bar-B-Q (Friday, July 21)
- Bus tickets at a discount (4 days)
- Indications for this standby consideration must be submitted in advance of the cut-off date of June 19, 1972.

5. The reason for requirements of #4 above is because the two Kiwanis organizations handling these events (meals) cannot take care of more than 3000 people and it is felt that convention registrants MUST be given preference.

6. It is important that all registrants, whether camping or moteling, inform the club where you will be staying as you will be assigned to field trips according to your location.

7. Your camping arrangement will be taken care of by the committee in charge. The important thing is to return the Campers' Application Blank. City playgrounds and parks will be the localities provided.

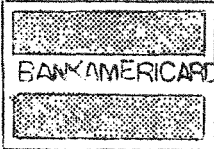
8. Everyone is reminded that two events are taking place simultaneously, the 32nd Annual Field Trip Convention of the Midwest Federation with the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, Inc. as host, and the 5th Annual Upper Peninsula Gem and Mineral Show with the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club, Inc. as host.

PROGRAM NOTE

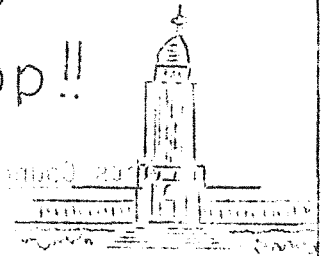
Our program chairman, Evelyn Hirsch, reports there were 291 program uses during 1971. This is an average of a little over one per club. Some clubs used the service often while others do not take advantage of it. If you do use the service Mrs. Hirsch would appreciate a letter of request at least 30 days in advance of the date you wish the program. Mrs. Hirsch says that phone calls are a hinderance to her so please write your request.

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1972 IS HERE IN FULL SWING...

ANY NEEDS??? See us

"SATISFIED CUSTOMERS ARE OUR BEST ADVERTISEMENT"

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Box 509
Edinburg, TX 78539
December 1971

Dear Editor:

TROPICAL TRAIL GEMORAMA

Feb. 4-5-6

EDINBURG, TEXAS

A new winter show in the beautiful tropical Rio Grande Valley of Texas, to be held in the just completed Edinburg Civic Center, February 4-5-6, promises excitement and fun for all. There will be special displays never before seen in this country, competitive and non-competitive exhibits, famous speakers, Mariachi bands, well known dealers, lots of prizes, demonstrations of the newest machines and techniques, and rock hunting along the Mexican border. More surprises are in store for you, so you are invited to plan now to bring your display and participate in the festivities. For more details, or for application blanks write THE RIO GRANDE MINERAL AND GEM ASSOCIATION, Box 509, Edinburg, Texas

A NEW SYMBOL COMING UP...In September the U. S. Forest Service released pictures of its new conservation symbol, WOODSY OWL. Woodsy will be the central figure in a campaign against environmental pollution. He is a fantasy and designed like Smoky the Bear, to communicate with every age group. His basic theme is "GIVE A HOOT - DON'T POLLUTE"

TIME &
FLIES

DUES ARE
PAST DUE!!!

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club
Box 5342
Lincoln, NE 68505

"THE PLACE TO GO IN 74"
Nat'l Gem & Mineral Show
June 13-16 Lincoln, Nebr.

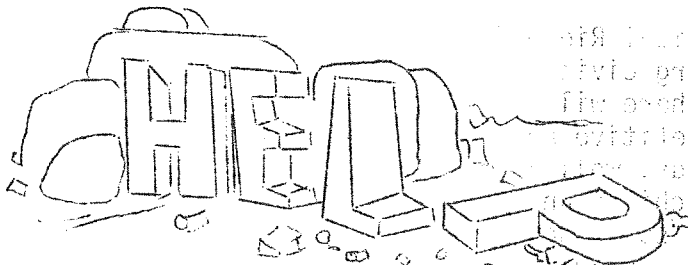


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Lincoln, NE 68506

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB ANNUAL SHOW, May 12-14, 1972, Fairgrounds, Lincoln, Nebr.
NEBRASKA STATE SHOW - April 13-16, 1972, Hastings, Nebraska
MWF FIELD TRIP CONVENTION - July 20-24, 1972, Ishpeming, Michigan
THE KEY TO PROGRESS-'COOPERATION' - Barney Parr, MWF President, 1972



HELP ELIMINATE LAND POLLUTION

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB - HOST
combined
MWF-AFMS NATIONAL SHOW & CONVENTION
and
NEBRASKA STATE SHOW
JUNE 13-16, 1974, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA