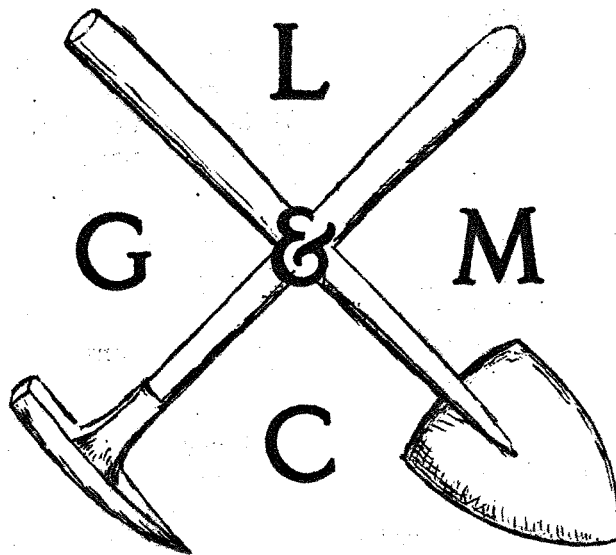


THE PICK & SHOVEL



JAN 1976

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

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

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.

MEMBER: Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies (MWF)
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)
Nebraska Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc. (NAOESCI)
Community Arts Council of Lincoln (CAC)
Nebraska Recreation League (NRL)

Regular Meetings: 4th Saturday of the month, September through May, 7:30 P.M.
1976 - IOOF Hall, 1101 No. 56th St., Lower Level

1976 ELECTED OFFICERS:

President	Larry Bigley	6126 Hartley	Lincoln, 68507	466-0211
1st Vice Pres . .	Flossie Litzenberg	1435 No. 24th St.	Lincoln, 68503	432-5672
2nd Vice Pres . .	Don Carter	1101 Driftwood Dr.	Lincoln, 68510	489-3442
Recording Secy. .	Nelda Oliver	5700 Otoe St.	Lincoln, 68506	489-5222
Treasurer	John Harrison	Hickman, Nebr.	68372	792-3825
Board Member . .	George McGinnis	3444 Somerset Ave.	Lincoln, 68504	466-4878
Board Member . .	Norma Miller	931 Cottonwood Dr.	Lincoln, 68510	489-8840
Board Member . .	Howard Taylor	910 New Hampshire	Lincoln, 68508	432-3707
Board Member . .	Evelyn Ulrich	3521 So. 48th St.	Lincoln, 68506	488-9051

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

Program	Roger Pabian	Liaison	Phyllis Parks & Marita Bigley
Hospitality	Virginia Green	Refreshments	Bud & Helen Wasser
Historian	Lois Everett	Education	Edwin & Vivian Johnson
Librarian	Joella Olson	Scholarship	Marie Wells
Membership	Marita Bigley	Publications	Florence Boring
Field Trips & Safety	Tom Simmons	Housing & Property	Art Howlett
Calling Committee			
& Vaya Con Dios	Marie J. Carveth		Larry Bigley
NAOESCI Reporter	Luella Paul		
1976 Show Chairman	Jim Marburger		

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF:

Editor - Evelyn Ulrich, 3521 So. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506, Phone 488-9051
Typist - Flossie Litzenberg
Artwork stenciling - Jim Parks
Publisher - Phyllis Parks
Reporters - Club Members

Contributions from members are welcome and needed. Deadline for material is the 1st of the month to be printed. Please send copy to the Editor.

Subscriptions to the Pick & Shovel are \$3.00 per year - mailed.

Advertising by a rock-hobby business or interest is permitted with approval of the Board, at a rate presently set at \$10.50 per full page per insertion, with approximately 10 inches x 7 inches of copy. 1/2 page is 5.25, 1/3 page 3.50 and the minimum size ad is 1/4 page at \$2.75 per insertion.

Articles published in THE PICK & SHOVEL may be reprinted if credit is given the author and the bulletin, and a copy of the publication is sent to the Editor.

Calendar

Regular Meeting...Thursday, Jan. 29, 1976, 7:30 P.M.
IOOF Hall, 1101 No. 56th St.

Program.....Illustrated talk by Frank Marsh.
Subject... Nebraska State Capitol.

Don Carter will discuss judging,
and how to prepare cases for display.

The Club's 21st birthday will be celebrated.

Refreshments.....Will be served by the Refreshment Committee.

LGMC Board of Director's Meeting... Febr. 5, 1976, 7:30 P.M.
Home of Don Carter, 1101 Driftwood Dr.

Welcome new members:

Lyman, Glenn (Vera) Brian, Larry, Greg
420 N. 26th St. 68504 Telephone... 488-6089

Pivonka, Arnold (Maxine)
2407 So. 39th St. 68506 Telephone... 488-4241

Change of Address:

Durton Barnes, Treadwell, New York, 13846

Julius Young (Myrtle) 5845 Vine St. 68505 - 466-9573

1976 Dates to Remember

Feb. 14	Lincoln, Ne.	Gateway Gallery Mall, Exhibits and Demonstrations. Pre-76 Show. Set-up time, Fri. eve. Feb. 13th.
Mar. 12-14	Kansas City, Mo.	Hosted by 7 Clubs of Greater Kansas City, Kansas City Trade Mart, 250 Richard Rd. (Old Municipal Airport).
Mar..26-28	Bridgton, Mo.	St. Louis County, Mo. Rock Hobby Club Show, Machinists' Union Aud. 12365 St. Charles Rd.
Mar..27-28	Lincoln, Ne.	Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show, Agricultural Hall, State Fair Grounds.
Apr. 10-11	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	The Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral Society Show, Hawkeye Downs, 6th St. S.W. Hwy. 30 & 218.
Apr. 16-18	Hastings, Ne.	Annual Show
Apr. 23-25	Wichita, Ks.	Wichita Gem & Min. Soc. Show, Cessna Activity Center, 2700 Washington Blvd.
May 15-16	Hot Springs, S.D.	Picture City Gem & Mineral Show.
July 3-5	Lincoln, Ne.	Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Swap
July 22-25	St. Louis, Mo.	MWF Show, 9785 St. Charles Rock Road, Brechenridge Hills, Mo.



Last Month ... Members of the LGMC enjoyed a Christmas party and gift exchange on Dec. 13th at the State Fair Grounds. The catered dinner was served to 71. Flossie Litzenberg, in charge of the program, showed slides of their recent trip to Hawaii. The 1976 officers were installed. They will assume their duties in January. A pleasant time was had by all present.



VAJA CON DIOS _ May God be with you

A card was sent this month to:

Frances and Maurice Tracy (Sympathy)



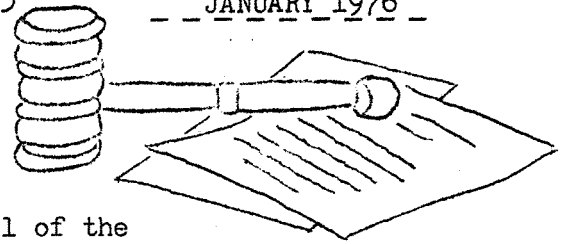
January 1966... Each member brought a specimen of his own choice which he or she had found in the year of 1965.

From the notebook of Lois Everett,
LGMC Historian

July 31-Aug. 1, 1976 Norfolk, Ne. NAOESCI Swap
Sept. 4-5-6, 1976 Omaha, Ne. 1976 State Show

Have you ever wondered how Fairburn Agates received their name? Here is authentic information taken from THE BLACK HILLS PROSPECTOR. "Gerald Lee gave a short talk on the origin of the name Fairburn Agate..He said that many years ago a lady brought a box of beautiful agates to the School of Mines and presented them to Dr. O'Hara. The agates were put away on a shelf in the museum and forgotten for a time, until one day Jim Bump found them and decided to do something with them. He went to Dr..O'Hara and asked where they had come from and it was recalled that a lady from Fairburn had brought them to him. They were then called Fairburn agates, a name which has stayed through the years. The lady was none other than the Mrs. Kern for whom the old Fairburn agate beds are named. Mr. Lee explained that the agates are formed by water carrying minerals into the crevices of rocks or clay. Chemical reaction causes the variation in color".

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Club Members;

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members who so graciously accepted appointments to head the many committees that it takes to be able to make the club function throughout the year. They are as follows:

Field Trip & Safety Chairman.....	Tom Simmons
Education.....	Marie Wells
Programs.....	Roger Pabian
Refreshments.....	Bud & Helen Wasser Edwin & Vivian Johnson
Pick & Shovel Editor.....	Evelyn Ulrich
Publications.....	Art Howlett
Calling Committee.....	Marie J. Carveth
Vaya Con Dios.....	Marie J. Carveth
1976 Show Chairman.....	Jim Marburger
Scholarship.....	Florence Boring
Liaison.....	Phyllis Parks, Marita Bigley
Hospitality.....	Virginia Green
Historian.....	Lois Everett
Librarian.....	Joella Olson
Membership.....	Marita Bigley
NAOESCI Reporter.....	Luella Paul
Housing & Property.....	Larry E. Bigley

Thank you again!

As your new President I hope that along with the new officers and Board of Directors we can lead the club onward and upwards to be able to obtain the goals we have set for ourselves. I believe the biggest goal ahead of ourselves is attendance. In the past our ratio of attendance to members has been quite poor. Maybe if there were some new blood at the meetings we would be able to obtain some new ideas and therefore be able to serve the club and the membership to a greater capacity.

We are embarking this year on programs to try to better educate and to promote participation by the members. If any of you have an idea or suggestion as to how we may accomplish this or for a program or activity that would help this cause please feel free to write or call me. Myself, I would rather have you come to the meetings and put it on the floor for discussion.

The one other basic program that needs participation by very active members of the club are the field trips. Two years ago we had two field trips that were attended by approximately 10% of the club. The other six trips taken were attended either by family members or very close friends of the Field Trip Chairman which gave us a total attendance of 8-10 people. The time and expense that is spent by the one person in obtaining permission to visit the various sites and quarries in this area is tremendous. This year I've appointed one of the most knowledgeable and capable members of our club as Chairman. It is this year that we will find out if field trips shall remain a club activity or an individual pursuit. I hope that we as a club can show Tom the courtesy and appreciation for his time spent by participating. Thank you.

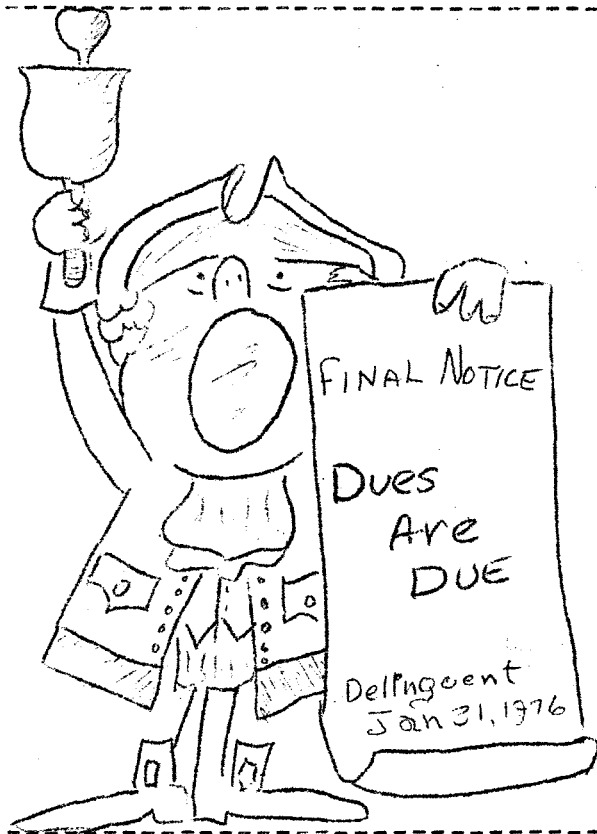
Larry E. Bigley

From the Editor's Desk... Here we are beginning a new year. A fresh start is always a challenge. From all indications this is going to be an unusually good year for IGM'C. There will be a Wall Show, an annual show, a three-day swap, and some outstanding field trips..I'm sure you won't want to miss a single meeting. Plans are being made for interesting programs that will be instructive as well as enjoyable.

As a Bicentennial project, the PICK AND SHOVEL is adding a new monthly feature to the bulletin. Mr. J.D. Young has kindly consented to edit a page dealing with interesting historical facts. Mr. Young, as a former newspaper correspondent and High School teacher, is very capable and has a wealth of interesting material to share.

I wish to thank everyone who has helped me with the bulletin the past year, and to wish you all a very happy New Year with lots of good luck rock hunting.

Evelyn



DUES ARE DUE

Dues are payable January 1st and delinquent January 31st. Don't forfeit your membership. Adult dues are now \$4.00 per year. A fee of \$1.00 plus \$4.00 will be paid for each adult applying for membership. Dues for the entire family (including children under 16) are \$9.00. The initial fee of \$1.00 is waived if one or more members have already paid the initial fee as part of an adult membership.

Dues may be mailed to the Club treasurer, John Harrison, Hickman, Ne. 68372

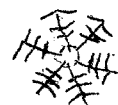
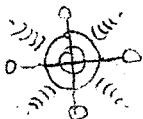
Then came old January, wrapped well.

In many weeds to keep the cold away:

Yet did he quake and quiver like to quell,

And blowe his nayles to warme them if he may.

The Faerie Queene-Edmund Spenser



Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club
Board Meeting
December 1975

The December meeting of the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club board was called to order by President Frank Rule on Dec. 4, 1975, with 5 board members and committee members Glen & Flossie Litzenberg, Evelyn Ulrich, Art Howlett and Jim Marburger present, at 5700 Otoe St.

Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer not present, no report.

Jim Marburger, Show Chairman, reported on 1976 show. Hours for the show were set for 9 to 9 Sat. and 10 to 6 Sun.. Prices for adults \$1.50, children 6 to 12 years 25¢, under 6 free. 6 to 12 year olds accompanied by an adult will be free. There will be a 25¢ discount coupon for adults in the papers, given away on radio and some distributed to members and thru other clubs.

Roger Pabian will be holding a mall show at Gateway on Feb. 14, 1976, to help advertise our March show. There will be 12 retail and 2 wholesale dealers. Special features are being contacted. They will be charged a flat \$10.00 rate and will receive 2 tables and 2 chairs with an option to sell. Jim will try to hold another meeting early in January for the Show.

American Federation rules for competitive displays will be followed. Club keeps track of exhibitors and what they have won. Can win 3 blue ribbons in novice and 2 in advance then go to master. Have to be in master to win trophy. Have to have federation trophy to win Nat'l trophy.

Marita Bigley read new membership applications for Glen and Vera Lyman and family and Arnold and Maxine Pivanka. Motion Howard Taylor to approve to membership, seconded Larry Bigley. Motion carried. Discussion on membership. Our club needs workers. Members old and new need to volunteer to officers of the club with ideas and things to do.

Meeting nights and place discussed. Nelda Oliver asked the board for permission for Thursday January 29, 1976 to complete plans for the club birthday party. Motion Howard Taylor and seconded Nelda Oliver to approve January 29, 1976 at IOOF Hall for the birthday party. Carried.

Frank Rule read notice from Community Arts Council. Seems the dues were raised and we had only paid \$10.00 for the year. There year is from June to June. We still owe them \$10.00 balance.

Nelda Oliver read letter from Frank Marsh concerning a Stamp for John Neihardt. Motion Howard Taylor LGMC support this commemorative stamp with all possible efforts. Seconded. Motion carried.

Motion Howard Taylor, secretary write to Frank Marsh of the boards action. Seconded. Motion carried.

Bills read by President for postage and string. Motion Howard Taylor seconded Nelda Oliver to pay the bill. Motion carried.

Report on NRL. Next board meeting Jan. 8, 1976 Larry Bigley home. Meeting adjourned.

Nelda Oliver, secretary

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club

18th ANNUAL

GEM AND MINERAL

SHOW

MARCH 27 - 28 1976

Saturday 9 AM - 9 PM & Sunday 10 AM - 6 PM

NEW AGRICULTURAL HALL

NEBRASKA STATE FAIR GROUNDS

17th & COURT STREET

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

GEM, MINERAL & FOSSIL DISPLAYS

DEMONSTRATIONS - PROGRAMS

COMPETITION using FEDERATION RULES

-- DEALERS --

DEALERS WILL HAVE FINDINGS, GUT STONES, AND READY MADE JEWELRY AVAILABLE

For Information Write:

James Marburger, Show Chairman

P. O. Box 5342

Lincoln, Nebraska 68505


ADMISSION

Adults \$1.50

Children25

Under 12, with adults . .

FREE



Flossie Litzenberg was at the hospital as reported in the last news column, but they released her because of a broken plate in the skin. She will reenter Bryon hospital January 12th, 1976, for surgery on her knee.

Gary Jones family are sponsoring a Viet Nam family thru the Church of the Brethern. They are a family of 29 members and they arrived from Ft. Chaffee, Ark. They arrived here on Thanksgiving.

Millie Heller has been in the hospital at Fremont, Ne., possible heart attack but definately has diabetes.

Hal and Darline Jansen have moved Darline's parents to Grand Island at Thanksgiving time due to severe Coronary her father suffered. She has had to give up her editorship. Hal expects to be moving into his new office in January

Rosilie Wright Ulrich, writes they miss the people back home and are eager to hear from us. They are planning on going to the Fiesta Bowl. They sent Greetings with their family membership dues for 1976.

Glenna and Mac seem to be having lots of fun. She writes they have been hunting 'fire agate'. They slung a 3 lb. hammer for two days. Pay a \$35.00 fee and can hunt for 30 days. This is an open hill mine run by an Indian woman who operates her own Cat. You work in holes two feet deep.

Our sympathy to Frances and Maurice Tracy in the recent loss of Frances's mother.

Just learned that our 1976 Show Chairman, Jim Marburger has put himself behind the wheel of a sparkling, new, white rock buggy. Needless to say he will use it for basic transportation, commuting to Humboldt, etc., but he has retired the faithful, blue SAAB in favor of a fine Subaru. Happy driving, Jim.

Jan. 13, 1976 - received a call from Glen Litzenberg stating that Flossie has just had the second new knee-cap installed and that all went well. Glen expects her to be in Room 350 at Bryan Memorial Hospital for under two weeks before he can take her home to enjoy her recuperation period in her own cozy, comfortable environment. We all hope that her recovery will be as great as her spirit and enthusiasm and shall be ready for her continued attacks on the promotional end of the 1976 Show. Best Wishes, Flossie!

FROM OUR EXCHANGE BULLETINS -

Few metals are as difficult to extract from the earth as platinum. It takes about nine months to bring platinum to market from the mining fields and each ton of ore yields only a bit more than enough platinum powder to cover a man's thumbnail. via GEMS

When you see no end to your troubles just remember that a diamond is only a piece of coal that has been hard pressed for a long time. Lapidary Journal June '57

By sharing in the joy of another, we increase it. By sharing in the woe of another, we diminish it. Garth Henrichs in National Enquirer

January is the month when people become tax conscious. It is hoped you will be as lucky as the author of this article after you have met all your tax obligations.

I think I'm in great trouble. I was going through my pants pockets today and I found something I can't explain. A Dollar! Yes a whole dollar!

I've paid my income tax and my sales tax, state tax, hospital tax and gasoline tax. I've paid tax for Medicare and old age benefits. I've paid liquor tax, cigarette tax, the auto tax, the school tax, and a tax to build a bridge at the other end of the country.

When I pay my lawyer 600 bucks, I pay tax and so does he. I pay tax on the money I pay the man that makes out my income tax form each year. So how come I've still got a dollar?

Obviously I've made a mistake some where, and overlooked a tax. But I distinctly remember paying my road tax, the excise tax, the defence tax, the tax to provide more scholarships for kids to go to the University so they can tell how rotten the System is. I've paid my taxes for sewers, bombs, wheat to India, the Senate, hockey rinks and public transportation. Yes, I've paid my water tax, and when they charge an air tax and clean up the pollution, I'll pay that, too. I confess I haven't paid my death taxes yet, but I will as soon as I am eligible. I've paid tax to help the farmer, the Indian, and unwed mothers, I wouldn't think of going fishing, owning a dog, or getting married without first paying the tax. I pay taxes on the tooth paste I use when I get up in the morning and on the pillow I rest my head on when the day is over.

How come I found this dollar in my pocket? Where did it come from? Did somebody put it there to get me in trouble? I'm not sure --- But I know the government is going to be sure when they find out I've got it.

via The Triangular Tumbler

I'll bet he forgot to pay his cat tax - Editor.

Gold Plated Nickels

Probably the most famous U.S. coin counterfeiter was Josh Tatum. With the aid of a jeweler friend he gold-plated 1883 Liberty nickels and made himself about \$15,000 by passing them off as \$5.00 gold pieces.

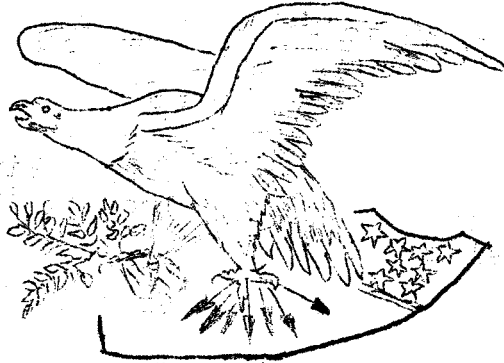
His system was to buy a 5¢ item in a store, hand the merchant what looked like a gold piece, and then pocket the \$4.95 in change the merchant invariably gave him.

Criminal charges against him were dismissed because he had never asked for change.

It was because of his antics that the government changed the reverse of the nickel and replaced "E Pluribus Unum" with the word "Cents".

Via Gems

1776



1976

THE 200th BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bicentennial Sense and Non-Sense --- edited by J.D. Young

The Pick and Shovel plans for Bicentennial Year to feature items of historic or nostalgic nature, not necessarily related to our gem and mineral hobbies, and they need not be exactly 200 years old. Contributions from LGMC members will be welcome. They may be stories or anecdotes from our country's past, or they may be interesting events from family backgrounds. Please sign your name and mail such items to J.D. Young 5845 Vine St 68505. If you wish to have the material returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope..

I shall start the project by a sage quote about the branch of knowledge called history. "History is lies agreed upon".-Napoleon.

So, if George could not have pitched a dollar across the Potomac in one delivery, maybe he did it in two.

Perhaps Benjamin didnot coax the little electrons down the kite string during that famous display of wasted energy. Some historians argue that they went up. The neutral buffs say it was a plain case of shuttle diplomacy. Luckily for Ben, fine copper wire was even scarcer than the pennies he was known to hoard in his pocket. The open fireplace might never have given way to the Franklin stove, and bifocals would still be focals.

One may wonder about Evangeline. Was she really the gal Longfellow poetized about, or was she just a country lass not yet wise to the inalienable feperson rights now championed by we persons lib all over the globe, which may be an oblate spheroid instead of a sphere?

Enough of conjecture, let's get down to reliable factual material! Why are some east coast cities paved with cobblestones? The answer is- the old sailing vessels carried them to America as ballast. They were exchanged for products from America to the old world.

How did the white man learn of the fabulous gold in the Black Hills? Answer--From the Indians. Of course, but how? There is a story about an upstream trader who, as a friendly gesture, gave an Indian, obviously peaceful at the moment, a muzzle-loader and powder, but no ball. He promised to bring the lead the next trip up the river. The trader artfully "forgot" the ball on each return, apologizing for his seeming lack of memory. Finally the Indian, his patience exhausted, drew a handful of golden nuggets from his pouch and said, "Wee make-um bullets out of yellow lead".

FREE DETAILED MAPS

These maps are free for the asking:

South Dakota Resource Area Manager
310 Roundup Street
Belle Fourche, So. Dak. 57717

Ask for Recreation Guide
Maps SD 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9

Forst Supervisor

Nebraska National Forest
or
Fine Ridge District and
Oglala National Grassland
270 Pine Street
Chadron, Ne. 69337

Ask for Recreation Guide
Map of Fine Ridge Area.
Include in your request
the pasture number map
for Oglala National
Grasslands.

via The G I Nugget

Lamentation: "Our earth is degenerate in these latter days. Bribery and corruption are common. Children no longer obey their parents. Every man wants to write a book. The end of the world is evidently approaching".

Assyrian Stone Slab, 2800 B.C. via Gems

1976 Bicentennial Quartzsite Pow Wow

Gem and Hobby Show

10th Anniversary

Feb. 5-9, 1976
Free Admission

Plenty of free parking---campers and trailers

Field trips daily.

Largest operating display of lapidary equipment in the country.
Motel reservations in Blythe 20 miles west.

For further information contact Show Chairman, Q.I.A. Box 881,
Quartzsite, Arizona 85346.

**Time
LIES**

Buzz over and pay your dues

for

1976



Handy Hints

TRANSPARENCIES - Katherine Durant - via Mesabi Media

Why don't you look for transparencies? They are easy to find and easy to exhibit. Polish them if you wish, but a lapped or sanded surface is sometimes better-gets away from the glare. Slabs too porous to polish as gems are often the best transparencies, making a beautiful display when light is placed behind it.

Care should be taken to make the specimen the CORRECT THICKNESS, as too thick a piece often gets other images in the background, distracting from the main object. One of the first things to do is to cut the slab so the figures you want are near the front surface. All pieces should be the same thickness so they will be lighted with the same brilliance. Too thin a slab or too bright a light are not desired, as the observer will be blinded. Usually 1/8 in. thickness is about right.

Light colored objects are hard to see in a transparency-the darker ones are more desirable. One good, clear spray of sagonite in a large slab is better than one good one plus many jumbled up all about it.

Dendrites, with their lacy flower forms, if set in silver, show up very well if the silver under them is polished very highly before the stone is set. The cutter should be very careful not to cut into the dendrites, but always leave them with a cover of agate to give the gem an even sparkle; and, most important, not to destroy the crystal form.

Fortification agate makes a good showing as a transparency which brings us to Iris (Rainbow) agate, the most beautiful of all transparencies. Iris agate is banded, having from 7,000 to 12,000 bands to the inch, counting as you would the life bands of a tree.

Iris agate cannot be selected by looking at a chunk of the rough, but take one cut, making the slice about 1/6" thick. Hold this up to a bright light, after covering both sides with oil. If it shows no color, it never will. If you use oil or kerosene in your diamond saw, it will coat the slice so you just have to hold it up to the light. Good agate will run about 5% Iris-good Iris agate, that is. After finding a good nodule or piece of agate, many slices may be cut from it, bringing up the percentage.

Now you are ready to polish. Take a piece of "dog rock" 1/2 inch thick and about the size of the slice of Iris agate you want to polish. Heat the "dog rock" and apply dopping wax until it covers the flat surface to which you are going to apply the slice-keep it a thin coat of wax. Lay your slice of Iris agate on the wax and push it down (but not so hard as to break the agate), and it will heat up and settle into the wax.

Polish this first surface as you would any agate. This completed, wash off all polish from both dopping rock and Iris agate. Heat the dopping rock until the Iris agate can be pushed or slid off. Do not lift the thin slice off the wax, since it may be held on by vacuum and not let go easily. Add a little wax to the dopping rock, heat and place the Iris agate again on the rock; this time be sure the wax comes clear to the edge to support the specimen. When cool, very carefully cut the wax away from the edge of the agate in several places so the slice can be lapped to desired thickness.

The thinner you lap it, the brighter the Iris (or rainbow) will appear. About twenty-thousands of an inch is a good thickness and can be done frechand without disaster. When this second side is completed, heat the dog rock again and with a small piece of wood carefully push the slice off the dopping rock. Do not try to scrape the wax off the finished piece, especially near the agate. It is recommended that you soak the slice in alcohol to dissolve the wax; brushing very lightly will help to remove it rapidly. continued on Junior Page

Safety Page

If you expect to do any traveling in your automobile during the winter it is smart to be prepared for emergencies. Some of the items that should be contained in your winter storm kit are as follows:

Several blankets
 Sleeping bags or newspapers
 Two empty three-pound coffee cans with plastic lids
 (to be used for toilets)
 Matches and a candle in a can
 Extra clothing such as mittens, caps
 High-calorie, non-perishable foods
 Transister or car radio
 Compass and maps
 Pocket knife
 First aid kit
 Shovel
 Large box of tissues
 Small sack of sand
 Plastic scraper
 Flashlight or signal light
 Spare batteries for your flashlight



The Nebraska Civil Defense Agency also advises that, if stranded in a storm, motorists stay in their vehicles. Blowing and drifting snow adds to disorientation and a car is easier for highway crew to find than a person on foot. They caution to run the car motor sparingly and keep a window opened slightly while the car is running.

Via Action Line, Lincoln Journal

Did you know that the Public Documents Distribution Center at Pueblo, Colorado puts out a bulletin called CONSUMER INFORMATION? It lists publications put out by the Federal Government that can be obtained free or for a nominal cost. Here are a few of the bulletins that might be of interest to you that can be obtained free of charge:

Food Safety. 103C. Free 8pp. 1974
 Clean Air and Your Car. 067C. Free
 Johnny Horizon '76 Children's Kit To Improve the Environment
 Free. 071C
 Save Energy. Save Money. 303C 41 pp 1975 Free.
 Tips for Motorists. 078C. Free.

These bulletins may be ordered from

Consumer Information
 Public Documents Distribution Center
 Pueblo, Colorado 81009

Bulletins deal with such subjects as: Automobiles, Budget, Finance, and Insurance, Child Care, Clothing, Fabric and laundering, Consumer Education and Protection, Health, Recreation Travel.

Dear Juniors,

I know you are getting too old for Nursery Rhymes, but here are some I think you'll probably enjoy as much as I did so I'm sharing them with you. They were written by Bea Thomas, and were printed in SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER.

Mrs. Ulrich

Rockhound Mother Goose

Old Mother Hubbard went to her cupboard
but she wasn't looking for bones,
A collection she had, and it wasn't bad,
her cupboard was filled with gem stones.

Little Miss Muffet sits on her tuffet
sorting the rocks she has found,
Along comes a spider and sits down beside her
but she doesn't know he's around.

Hickory, dickory dock
It's work time by the clock
But it's quite okay, for I'm off today,
And I'm going out looking for rocks.

Old King Cole is a merry old soul,
for he's been rock hunting today.
When he gets his rocks clean, you can bet your old bean
he will have them all out on display.



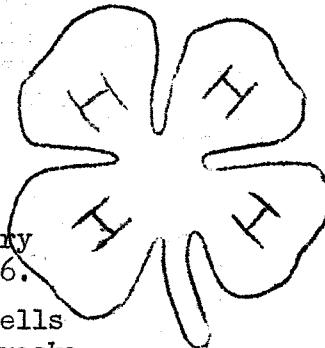
PETRIFIED PEBBLE PUPS

We met at the home of Mrs. Wells, our leader, on Dec. 13, 1975.

We answered roll call by naming things used on rock trips. We also talked about demonstrating or displaying with the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club on the Gateway Gallery Mall and also as a group at their show March 27 & 28, 1976.

The beginning group discussed their projects with Mrs. Wells and the advanced group went with Mr. Roger Pabian to Nebraska Hall to study identification.

Linda M. Parks, 4-H Club News Reporter



TRANSPARENCIES - continued from Handy Hints page

Transparencies can be displayed in several ways. Each way, however, makes it necessary to glue the piece to the underside of a pane of glass. Silicate of soda has proven a most satisfactory adhesive. Heat will not affect the adhesive qualities nor soften it, thus allowing the transparency to slide or drop off.

Please don't forget that everyone is invited to LGMC's 21st Birthday meeting to enjoy the special program presented by Mr. Frank Marsh, 'Rockhound', LGMC member, and one of our State's most ardent boosters. Thursday, Jan. 29, 1976, 7:30

Also, please don't forget this will be your last chance to keep your membership in L G M C uninterrupted and assure that your listing will be in the 1976 Who's Who, and on the Pick & Shovel Mailing list. pnp



Rockhounds! Be Careful! by Ellis Courter

Today's rock collectors who prowl the hinterlands in search of mineral goodies are bumping into the cold fact that the number of sites open to mineral collecting is gradually decreasing. This, along with the ever increasing number of collectors thronging into the hobby, means that the amount of material available to individual collectors is likewise dwindling--so much so that some of our fraternity may be returning home with barren or half-filled pack sacks.

In view of this not so comforting thought, we have the choice of closing our eyes and hoping for the best, or of standing up to the situation and undertaking a mineral conservation program to better future collecting conditions. If we accept the latter, it doesn't take much thinking to see that at least two things are necessary--to reduce greedy over-collecting, and to eliminate careless or wanton destruction of minerals. And not only must we conserve what we have, but we must not lose the needed permission to enter our present collecting sites, and hopefully we can do this by behaving and observing the safety rules.

Collectors must be made aware of the need for conservation. As collectors, we must learn to control our greed at collecting sites, to remove only what we can reasonably or practically use. In the long run that extra box of specimens that isn't needed will likely end up cluttering a dark corner of a garage or basement. How much better that they be left for a fellow collector who at some later time may visit this same place.

Careless or wanton destruction of crystals has always been frowned upon by serious collectors, yet the destruction continues. At sites yielding crystal-lined ledges, one sees far too many once good specimens that have been shattered by a hard blow from a hammer. How much better to select a suitable number of specimens, take them home and then open them in the proper manner.

In areas where delicate crystals are collected many have been ruined by careless actions. In quarries imbedded crystals are often ruthlessly broken away in fragments. To some one else these might have become prized specimens. We should also remember that Nature spends many years in creating these treasures. How thoughtless then to destroy or damage them wantonly.

To achieve conservation, we must constantly educate the new or inexperienced member. And for all the carelessly inclined, we must, to put it bluntly, see that they change their ways.

via The American Federation Newsletter

A TRIBUTE TO OUR MINERAL HERITAGE--1976 MFW 1976 Convention and Show
St. Louis, Missouri-July 22-25. 40 retail dealers - 16 wholesale dealers
from around the U.S. Show held at the new "West County Exposition
Center" located at 9785 St. Charles Rock Road in West St. Louis County.
Free parking at this site which is 5 minutes from headquarters motel.
The Ramada Inn, 9636 Natural Bridge, Berkeley, Mo. is 1/2 mile from the
airport and 1/4 mile from Interstate 70 which takes you past the Gateway
Arch. 200 rooms at special rates have been reserved.

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 the Editor, Haydon Peterson, Parrot Printing, 2125 Forest, Des Moines, Ia. 50311

Issue No. 161 - January 1976



So that our members can make plans well in advance of the Midwest annual show and convention in St. Louis, Missouri, July 22-25, we are printing the following information. Additional information will be reported in the Newsletter in the coming months.

The site of the 1976 Midwest Federation Show and Convention is the West County Exposition Center, 9785 St. Charles Rock Road in West St. Louis County just minutes away from Lambert International Airport.

The headquarters motel is the Ramada Inn, 9636 Natural Bridge, Berkeley, Missouri 63134, telephone 314-426-4700. This motel is about 1/2 mile from the airport, 1/4 mile from Interstate 70 and is about 1 mile from the show site. The Ramada Inn will provide free transportation to and from the airport and to the show site for their guests. When writing the motel for reservations, ask for "1976 MWF Convention Special Rates". The Show Committee has reserved 200 rooms and expects them to go fast so reservations at the headquarters motel should be sent in early.

The headquarters campground is "Pinewoods Park" located 1 mile west of Wentzville on Interstate I-70 at AA exit. You may write the owners, Leonard and Ellen Grimm, Route 1, Box 314, Wentzville, Missouri 63385 or telephone 314-327-3248. This campground has fishing, recreation area, pavilion, olympic size pool and a large number of camp sites with no or full hookup. Teenagers will enjoy the "Rec" room which is complete with juke box, pin ball machines and pool table.

A complete list of recommended motels and camping facilities close to the show site will be available with the pre-registration material after January 1, 1976.

Gerald Hook, 932 St. Charles Avenue, St. Charles, Missouri 63301, telephone 314-724-5427, is the publicity chairman of the show and inquiries about the show should be directed to him.

YOUR BULLETINS RECEIVE ATTENTION

Across the desk of your editor come dozens of bulletins each month. Your editor is happy to receive these bulletins, and each one is reviewed. From them I learn much about the clubs in the federations, and from time to time find items and events that I report in the Newsletter when I feel they will be of interest to other clubs. If your club has staged an unusual event which you feel would be of interest to others, please write me and call it to my special attention so that I may report it in the Newsletter and give your club recognition.

TEMPORARILY OUT OF PRINT

Clinton I. Heckert, Director of Supplies and Information, has informed us that the following items are temporarily out of print:

- AFMS Approved reference list of classifications and common names for fossils 1974 edition
- AFMS Exhibitors Manual 1969 edition
- MWF Bibliography of Earth Science Materials 1972 edition
- MWF Program Aids Manual 1972 edition

As soon as reprints or revised editions are available, you will be notified via MWF Newsletter.

NEW PROGRAMS

Our program chairman, Donald Stinnett, announces that two more new programs are ready for booking to clubs.

"The Koster Site", 87 slides, an archeological "dig" by our own Archeological Committee, Richard Ade.

"Memories of Murdo", 46 slides, goes back to the 1969 convention in Murdo, South Dakota. Short but do allow for the laughs June Zeitner wrote into it.

Please place your order 30 days prior to your showing date and give a second and third choice to assure you of a program. Include the address where the program is to be sent and a check in the amount of \$1.00. Please do not send cash.

Send your order to Donald Stinnett, Midwest Federation Fliim Library, 29462 Aspen Drive, Flat Rock, Michigan 48134.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

President Howard Taylor announced the appointment of Mr. Armin H. Steinhäuser, 1511 Raymond Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108 as State Director for Minnesota and the reappointment of Mr. Wayne Henderson, 2186 Auburn Avenue, Holt, Michigan 48842 as Chairman of the Geology Committee.

Bicentennial FEATURES

by June Zeitner



Worried about pollution? Well, don't be! According to Dr. J. McKetta of the University of Texas, a large percentage of the pollution of this earth would be here whether man was a resident or not. Many scientists agree we should take our finger off the panic button. They point out our oxygen is not disappearing, that most water pollution is reversible and that the disappearance of some species is natural and continual.

Dr. McKetta's article, as reviewed by Kathleen Bolick in "The Tarheel Rockhound" of Hickory, North Carolina, states that we are not on the verge of ecological disaster. One of his major points was that most oxygen does not come from photosynthesis. He also points out that nature is the big boss in changing the environment. Example: There is more than 10 times the concentration of sulphuric acid in the natural water of Lemonade Springs, New Mexico as might be discharged by a coal mine. Example: The Mississippi carries over two million tons of natural sediment a year into the Gulf. Example: The Paria River of Arizona carries one billion tons of sediment a year.

The late Dr. William Pecora, who was head of the U.S. Geological Survey, said that all of man's pollution of the air during his millenniums on this planet do not equal the amount of noxious gas discharged by just three volcanic eruptions, Krakatoa, Katmai and Hekla.

Dr. McKetta is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Council for Environmental Balance and chairman of the Committee on National Air Quality.

All this is not an excuse for us to be negligent in our protection of our environment, but it is the type of balanced information we need when radicals scream that we are destroying our world.

A GIFT TO THE NATION

The Austin Gem and Mineral Society of Austin, Texas has chosen as their "Gift to the Nation" a rock trail which will be set up in the Rose Garden of the Austin Area Garden Center, in Zilker Park.

The dedication of this gift will be on Sunday, June 13 in conjunction with the opening of the National Gem and Mineral Show and Convention's Gem Capers.

ASK FOR COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES

Commemorative stamps are the ones most needed in the Stamps for Food Program which the Federation endorses and urges its member clubs to participate in. When you buy stamps for your letters or your club bulletin mailings, ask your post office for commemorative issues. Those receiving the bulletins and letters are urged to save them and take them to their club member in charge of the program in their club.

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

According to our records, the Midwest clubs have contributed more than \$1,280.00 to the Scholarship Foundation since the Detroit council meeting. Clubs have advanced their Scholarship Status as follows:

Rosebud Geological Society	100%
White River Gem Society	600%
Heights Gem & Mineral Society	100%
Michiana Rock and Gem Club	1100%
Flint Rock and Gem Club	1000%
Wisconsin Geological Society	800%
Lakeland Gem Club	1100% & 1200%
Lawrence County Rock & Gem Club	900%
Pike County Gem & Mineral Soc.	500%
Lake County Gem & Mineral Soc.	1100%
Dallas County Rock Club	1300%
Duneland Rock Club	1100% & 1200%
Gem City Rock Club	300%

We do appreciate the wonderful support that our Midwest clubs are giving to the American Federation Scholarship Foundation.

Katharine Steimbrenner, Midwest Scholarship Chairman

WELCOME! NEW CLUB!

500 Earth Sciences Club
Mr. Don L. Foltz, President
7401 N. Layman Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

NEW CURATOR

The Special Displays Committee has a new Curator of the Holotype Display: Dr. Maurice Pascoe, 241 West Pine Street, Lancaster, Wisconsin 53813. Phone (608) 723-4010. Please contact him if you wish the Holotype Display for your show.

Mary McNamar, Chairman of Special Displays Committee



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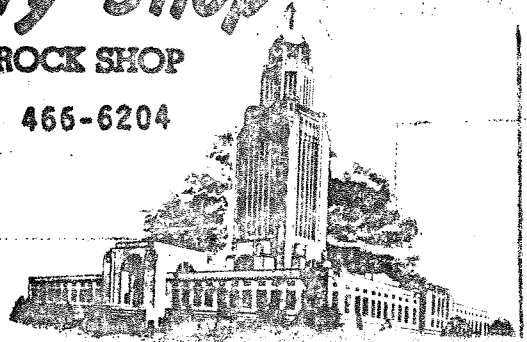
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LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB - ANNUAL SHOW March 27-28, 1976
AGRICULTURAL HALL, Nebraska State Fair Grounds
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

Show Chairman, Jim Harburger, P. O. Box 5342, Lincoln, NE 68505

