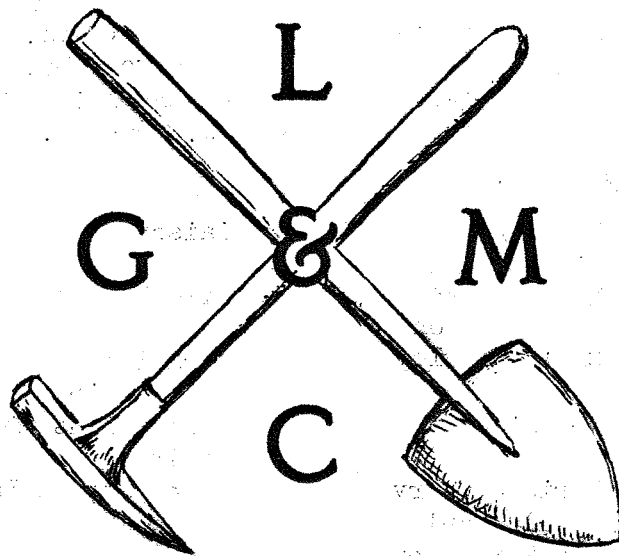


THE PICK & SHOVEL



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

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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... Saturday, Febr..28, 1976, 7:30 P.M.

* 100F Hall, 1101 No. 56th St.

Program.....Big Bend Region, West Texas. A slide program presented by Roger Pabian. Details elsewhere in this Bulletin.

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



LGMC Board of Directors' Meeting... March 4, 1976. Home of Larry Bigley, 6126 Hartley. 7:30 P.M.

Change of Address...Zarins, Andrejs, 2801 Q St. 68503. Tel. 435-7541

1976 Dates to Remember

Mar. 12-14	Kansas City, Mo.	Hosted by 7 Clubs of Greater Kansas City. Kansas City Trade Mart 250 Richard Rd. (Old Mun. Airport)
Mar. 26-28	Bridgton, Mo.	St. Louis County, Mo. Rock Hobby Club Show, Machinist's Union Aud. 12365 St. Charles Rd.
Mar. 27-28	Lincoln, Ne.	Lincoln Gem & Min. Club Annual Show, Agricultural Hall, State Fair Grounds
Apr. 3-4	Cincinnati, Oh.	Cincinnati Gem and Min. Show, Convention Center, 5th & Elm
Apr. 10-11	Cedar Rapids, Ia.	Cedar Valley Rocks & Min. Society Show, Hawkeye Downs, 6th St. S.W. Hwy. 30 & 218.
Apr. 16-18	Hastings, Ne.	Central Nebraska Min. Soc. Show, Hastings City Auditorium
Apr. 23-25	Wichita, Ks.	Wichita Gem & Min. Society Show, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd.
May 15-16	Hot Springs, S.D.	Picture City Gem & Mineral Show
June 12-13	Hebron, Ne.	Fort Butler Rock & Gem Club Swap
July 3-5	Lincoln, Ne.	Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Swap
July 22-25	W.St..Louis County, Mo.	MWF Convention and Show, Show Center, 9785 St. Charles Rock Rd. West St. Louis County, Mo.
July 31-Aug.1	Norfolk, Ne.	NAOESCI State Swap
Sept. 4-6	Omaha, Ne.	1976 NAOESCI State Show, hosted by Nebraska Min. & Gem Club, Holiday Inn, 3321 South 72nd Street.
Sept. 17-19	Kimball, Ne.	Plains Rock & Mineral Club Show
Oct. 15-17	Grand Island, Ne.	Grand Island Earth Science Society Show.
** Apr. 3-4	St. Joseph, Mo.	10th Annual Rock Show, LeBlond High School

Austin Gem & Mineral Society will host the American Federation and South Central Federation Show June 17-20 1976. Austin, Texas.

* Note to all LGMC Club Members - February Door Prizes will be Gift Certificates redeemable at the 1976 LGMC Show, March 27-28

Last Month

...The January 29th meeting of the LGMC was extra special. If you weren't there you really missed out on an enjoyable event. As a Bicentennial salute, the club has begun giving the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the U. S. at the opening of the meeting. The business part of the meeting was conducted by our very capable newly-elected president, Larry Bigley. Roger Pabian announced that courses in Gemology will begin in March at the Nebraska Center. Details will be found in another part of the Bulletin. Information concerning the Mall Show to be held at Gateway was also given by Mr. Pabian. Mr. Young requested that members contribute articles of historical interest to his address at 5845 Vine St., 68505, with a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you desire their return. An auditing committee of three was appointed by President Bigley. The members of this committee are: Ray Grabher, Rev. Raymond Pfeiffer, and Art Howlett. Beautiful mineral prizes were presented by the president to the three people who scored highest on a surprise quiz on the content of the January issue of the "Pick & Shovel". Roger Pabian, Marie Wells, and Joella Olson received the prizes.

Phyllis Parks and Nelda Oliver were in charge of the program which was an observance of the 21st birthday of the LGMC. Blue and gold life-membership cards were presented to Irl Everett and Frances Tracy along with a carnation boutonniere for Mr. Everett and an orchid for Mrs. Tracy. Cards will be sent to Maurice Tracy and Clyde Benham who were unable to attend. These people had been awarded life-memberships at the 15th birthday of the LGMC in 1970. There were eight people recognized as having been members for 20 years. They were the four just mentioned plus Mr. & Mrs. C. Ray Waddle, Helena Baegl, and Ewald Paul. 94 people were recognized as having been LGMC members for from 5-21 years.

Mr. Frank Marsh, Nebraska State Treasurer and also member of LGMC, presented Irl Everett, founder of the LGMC, with an Admiralty in the Nebraska Navy. Before he began his slide talk, Mr. Marsh told how effective the friendliness of Rockhounds can become. He has a supply of polished blue agates, the Nebraska State Stone, which he shares with foreign visitors to his office in the State Capitol. After a visit to his office, a Cuban physician, now a resident of Orlando, Florida, telephoned him and ordered 1,220,000 bushels of corn to be shipped to Mexico. The order was filled - and all this for friendliness and a piece of blue agate!

Slides of the many new edifices going up in Lincoln were shown, also views of the State Capitol including the carvings - the pierced carvings depicting the signing of the Declaration of Independence, King John signing the Magna Charta, and the writing of the Constitution of the U. S. were remarkable. Mr. Marsh ended his talk with slides of spectacular Nebraska sunsets.

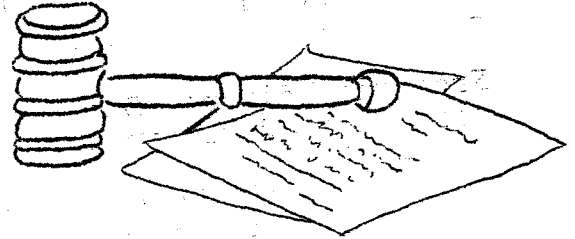
Don Carter gave a talk on Competition, and urged members to become more active in this feature of the Annual Show.

The beautiful white birthday cake, decorated with blue roses and gold leaves, was served at a table covered with the Club's blue and gold table cloth. The greenery, blue and gold carnations in a golden container, and the golden candles added elegance to the setting. The cake was served by Lois Everett, the coffee by Frances Tracy, and the punch by Marie Carveth. Both the '75 and '76 refreshment committees assisted in the kitchen, with the ready help of the Bigley daughters.

Phyllis and Nelda are to be commended for a lovely birthday party - and Marie Caryeth for her artistic table setting.

Editor

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Club Members;

As summer draws nearer thoughts of field trips and camping comes to mind more and more. Sooner than we think they will become a reality. But we should also stop and give them some thought, try to plan ahead. Most of us have probably not looked at our equipment since last fall. What kind of shape is it in? Why not take one of the beautiful days that we are having and check them out. How are your hammers? Does the face or pick end need dressing? More than likely your chisels and pry bar will need a bit of sharpening and dressing too. Now what about those safety glasses and goggles? Do the lenses need replacing or maybe you and the family need new ones. Also, possibly you need a new sweat band for your hard hats.

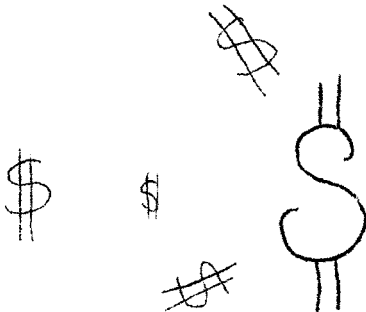
Now that winter is coming to a close is no time to neglect your vehicle. That good old thing got you through the ice snow and cold, but you probably didn't take any long trips this winter. How are those tires? Will they stand up to a trip of several hundred miles and a little rough ground? Remember you may be quite a ways from help. Check the battery again, also the fan belts and hoses and drop a couple quarts of oil in the trunk.

Well now that we've checked our equipment and car how about ourselves. It's just about time to get started exercising and loosen up those muscles and if need be get a checkup by your Doctor. Now, we should be ready to go!

Second Vice Don Carter and our program chairman Roger Pabian have asked and been given permission by the Board to spend some money this year to pay for, as need be, our meeting programs. As the program part of our meetings is the best way for many of us to learn and add to our education of our hobby we felt that this was one way to spend our money so that all may benefit. But the only way anyone will benefit is to attend the monthly meeting. The time and effort of all the special committees this year should be considered a resource from all of us to draw on. Remember if you don't pump the handle the well won't give up any water. From the way the different chairmen are working together this should be one fine year for all.

Roger Pabian was elected as Show Chairman for 1977. I'm sure Roger can use volunteers for his show and the sooner the better. Time is important and the more of it you have to work with the better the end product will be.

Harry E. Bigley



The LGMC Board has voted to give three special door prizes at the February meeting. They will be Gift Certificates, one each in the amount of \$5.00, \$3.00 and \$2.00, which will be redeemable at the 1976 Show by our club treasurer. Come to the February meeting, see the fine program prepared by Roger Pabian and perhaps be the lucky recipient.

From the Editor's Desk... In lieu of an editorial this month, here are some gems of wisdom from others upon which you may reflect:

Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not. It is the first lesson that ought to be learned; and however early a man's training begins, it is probably the last lesson that he learns thoroughly.

Thomas Henry Huxley

No matter if you're "Jaded"
Or your brain is "Agatized",
You needn't be a "Fossil"
If your thoughts are "Crystalized"
On what a "Gem" your life is
With "Geodes" bright and rare,
If you just try to "Dig" it,
And "Tumble" it with care;
With all its sparkling "Facets"
When you "Shovel" off this earth
A "Perfect Termination"
Will have been given birth.

Mrs. Jane W. Corbett via THE CORAL GEODE



VAJA CON DIOS - May God be with you

A card was sent to:

Dorothy Englehart (Get well)
Flossie Litzenberg (Get well)

In Memory

Happy Birthday to "Flaming Rainbow"-
Jan. 8 would have been his birthday--
We remember - We remember -
"Neither spirit or bird
That was my flute you heard -
Last night by the river
When you came with your wicker jar
Where the river drags the willows
That was my flute you heard" -

Shoshone Love Song

Submitted by Marie Carveth

BOARD MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING.....

The January 8 meeting of the board of directors of Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club was called to order by the President, Larry Bigley, at 6126 Hartley Street at 7:30 P.M., with seven board members and three committee people and Glen Litzenberg.

Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved as read, with correction Birthday Party of club at IOOF Hall, to clarify where the January 29 meeting was held.

Treasurer report by John Harrison, Jr., and approved as read. It was approved to pay \$84.50 for one year federation dues, \$20.00 for one year post office box rent and \$15.00 for January garage rent. After discussion a motion by Howard Taylor to give treasurer authority to pay bill for garage for as long as we need the space, seconded Flossie Litzenber. Carried.

Bills were read. Motion by Don Carter to pay bills as read, seconded Nelda Oliver. Carried.

We now have three \$1000.00 certificates dated January 1, @7½% interest on 6 years. Interest to go towards Scholarship. (American Federation Scholarship fund). Treasurer has one subscription for \$3.00 for the Pick & shovel.

A discussion on the money collected from the 'kitty' at the meetings last year. A motion Howard Taylor to donate the money to the AFMS scholarship fund, seconded Evelyn Ulrich. more discussion, carried.

A discussion on CAC. Their year is from June to June and they assessed us \$25.00 dues. A motion by Howard Taylor to accept the assesment, seconded Nelda Oliver. More discussion, carried.

Nelda Oliver to check proceddure for NRL.

A motion by Evely Ulrich we open our General meetings as a Bi-Centennial Salute to the Flag, seconded Howard Taylor. Carried.

Motion Flossie Litzenberg, we purchase 1000 envelopes and have them printed as sample shown, seconded Don Carter. After discussion Flossie ammended her motion to read, to include 1000 letterheads printed with club emblem, seconded John Harrison, Jr.. Motion carried. Amendment carried. Roger Pabian will check with the Uni. Printing to see if they still have the cuts from the '74 show.

Jim Marburger reported on the '76 show. Will have a show meeting tomorrow night and will have more to report later. Coupons are printed (800). Roger Pabian asked for 15000 coupons for the mall show.

Roger Pabian reported he and Flossie have contacted Channel 10 and have a couple of shows lined up for Channel 10. Mall show will have 40 cases. Club cases will be used so all members will have to furnish will be the backcloth and the material. Will need 36 cases filled. Pebble Pups will fill 2 cases. There will be no dealers or selling. Need people to help set up Friday evening, February 13 and on Saturday all day, Feb. 14th. President, Larry Bigley, stated all board members are to have a case.

BOARD MINUTES CONTINUED.....

A motion by John Harrison, Jr., cases be alloted for this display, seconded Flossie Litzenberg. Carried.

After discussion, Don Carter amended the above motion to read, 'providing the cases are available', seconded Flossie Litzenberg. Carried.

Phyllis Parks needs supplies. The show voucher is to be handled as she has in the past for printing, and all on one voucher, with a running total account, for the show.

Phyllis to use voucher #2 to purchase supplies from Latsvch Bros. for printing supplies. Silk Screen, electra cut stencil for back cover, and Blue paper.

Evelyn or Phyllis to check about the ads for 1976.

After discussion on membership, a motion by Nelda Oliver that membership chairman does not call any members whose dues are not paid by January 31, seconded. Carried.

Motion John Harrison, Jr., after discussion, that the board recommend to the general membership we pursue a 1980 National Show as a club project, not as a committee, seconded Howard Taylor. Carried.

After discussion a motion by Nelda Oliver that Roger Pabian be speaker to the general membership on hosting a 1980 National Show, seconded Howard Taylor. Motion carried,unanimously.

President, Larry Bigley, asked members to get behind the commitee people and support them. Everyone can help by contributing to the scholarship fund at the meetings.

Discussion on second scrapbook. President would like to have Evelyn and a helper of her choice go thru the material and perhaps the board can help later to get the items filed for future use.

Art Howlett discussed postage. He is to check and report at the next board meeting.

President, Larry Bigley, asked about the by-laws committee checking on writing into the by-laws an attendance clause for the board as well as general meeting members.

We have 79 paid members at this time.

Meeting adjourned

Nelda Oliver, secretary

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.....

After some discussion at the February board meeting about door prizes, it was decided to ask each member of the club to donate one rock, mineral, fossil or any item pretaining to our hobby to the club meeting at the begining of each year. These will be held by one of the directors and two or three will be brought to a meeting for drawing each month. The balance that will be left over, will be used for a silent auction and the monies from the auction will go into the AFMS Scholarship fund. PLEASE BRING YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE FEBRUARY MEETING. THANKS Nelda Oliver

LGMC February Program...Big Bend Region, West Texas
By Roger Pabian

The slides take us on a trip from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists 1974 convention, in San Antonio, across southern Texas to the Big Bend Region along the Rio Grande. Trip leaders, Dr. Ross Maxwell (who did the original geological work of Big Bend) and Dr. John Dietrich (who trained our astronauts in geology) show us some of the most hostile geological settings in the world, such as the Appalachian Mountain structures plunging under the Rocky Mountain chain. Views of the complex Big Bend geology are climaxed with an agate hunting trip into the Tertiary basalts exposed at Woodward Ranch near Alpine.

LGMC 18th Annual Show...March 27th and 28th

An interesting and varied program will be available for those attending the 18th annual show of the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club March 27th and 28th at the new agricultural building at the State Fair Grounds. In addition to excellent slide presentations and demonstrations pertaining to the hobby, there will be two outstanding bicentennial features.

The bicentennial features will be a daily presentation, "A Historic Ride to the Bicentennial", and a 45 minute sound movie, "First Road West". These are the reports and pictures of a trip made on horse back in the summer of '75 by a group of Nebraskans following the Old Oregon Trail. The men and one twelve year old boy are the only living people who have traveled the historic Old Oregon Trail. Show goers will enjoy seeing and hearing about the many experiences encountered on the trip and a first hand accounting of some of the difficulties faced by our early pioneers making the Westward trek. Allen Maybee, Wagon master, will be the narrator for the slide program and the film covers the part of the trip through Wyoming. This historic ride was under written by the Scottsbluff, Ne. Chamber of Commerce and is a bicentennial project recognized by Nebraska Bicentennial Commission.

Submitted by Marie Wells

The Overland Trails across Nebraska are the records of the westward march of the American people. The broad furrows across Nebraska remain a reminder of the journeys of thousands of men, women, and children with ox teams, carts, wheel barrows, and on foot who wished to settle in the great country to the west.

The most famous of the trails is the Oregon Trail. It was begun in 1813 by the returning Astorians. Later people from the East, who learned about this trail westward, began their trek at Independence, Mo. The trail began at Independence, ran across the northeast corner of Kansas and entered Nebraska near the point where Gage and Jefferson counties meet on the Nebraska-Kansas line. It followed the Little Blue River across Jefferson, Thayer, Nucholls, Clay and Adams counties, then across the divide to the Platte near the head of Grand Island in Hall county, then along the south side of the Platte through Kearney, Phelps, Gesper, and Dawson to a point in Keith county about seven miles east of Big Springs where it crossed the South Platte and continued up the south side of North Platte through Keith, Garden, Morrill and Scotsbluff counties - on into Wyoming.

Editor

Gemology Classes

Classes will begin Wed..Mar. 3, 1976 7:30 P.M. Nebraska Center.
 Tuition: \$20.00. There will be 5 sessions. Advanced classes on how to
 identify cut gem stones will begin April 7th. Tuition: \$20.00.
 For more information contact Roger Pabian 300 Sycamore, 68510,
 Telephone: 489-3081.



February 1966

John Hufford of Omaha told about "Prince of Wales Island" in Alaska and showed slides. Members were invited to bring any gem or mineral specimens from Alaska.

From the notebook of LGMC Historian,
 Lois Everett

Editor, Evelyn Ulrich, received a letter from Ralph Ulrich, along with a copy of the 1975 issue of the Arizona Highways magazine. A portion of Ralph's letter follows:

"We were browsing through a gift shop in Fountain Hills and came across this February 1975 copy of Arizona Highways magazine. I wondered if perhaps some of the Club members had not been given the opportunity to read the fascinating article about peridot. I am sure Roger Pabian has covered this gem in his classes. This article will give a little more information on just where and how it comes about. Please place this copy on the display table at the meeting so anyone who is interested may read it. The copy may then be placed in the Club library as LGMC property".

Ralph further stated that he had had a nice visit with Art Bloyd who is now manager of the Arizona Mineral Museum.

Rosa Lee and Sandra sent best wishes to Evelyn and all the other Club members.

The Arizona Highways was passed around at the January meeting. It will be placed in the Club Library. If you didn't get to see it at the meeting be sure to check the Library for it. The gem stone reproductions are fabulous.

Our thanks to Ralph for this lovely gift.

The Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people.

John Adams



What about 1980?

A 1980 Show? Another National Show?

I have been requested by the Board of Directors to present to the Club the possibility of Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club hosting another National Show. For a person who once said; "Never again!" that must be a classic example of role reversal. I've had time to think it over and the thought is not as far from possibility as I would have once imagined. Various events take place that help a person to change his mind.

The Christmas Season following the 1974 National Show brought in a lot of cards and greetings from the many friends that I had made in the planning and carrying out of that great event. For me, the 1974 show was still in progress and it really hasn't ended yet.

Some nice things happened during and after the show. During the show, an unidentified woman came up to me and shoved a package in my hand with the explanation: "you need these!" She quickly disappeared without ever giving a name or any other explanation. The package contained a dozen pair of new, clean socks, a real treat for hot and tired feet.

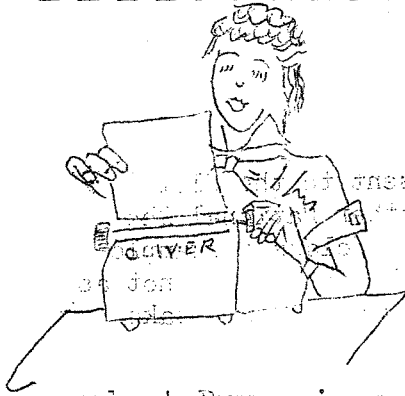
The Christmas following the show brought quite a surprise. One lady from Michigan apparently noticed my penchant for sunflower seeds, and she sent me a package of her home-style, home-roasted sunflower seeds that were the finest I ever had. We still correspond regularly.

The other side of the picture is a lot of work that must be done for a big show. I think we all learned a lot from the first time around and a great many of the mistakes and duplications of effort would be eliminated. I also learned that our show committees for a National Show need not be composed solely of persons from our own club. After all, it is a National Show and, therefore, every rockhound's show.

The future will hold many challenges for the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club. Another National Show is a possible challenge. We can look at it as something we can do bigger and better than the first time or as something we can let some other club do. The board will call for a vote from the membership at the February meeting.

I feel that the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club has the necessary imagination, ability, talent, and congeniality that is necessary to host another National Show. We also have the potential exhibits to make up the nucleus of such an event. I think that we can do it again and that we should seriously consider such a possible future action. The vote will be yours at the February meeting. I know which way I will lean. Each member of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club should think about another National Show and cast his vote, either Aye or No.

Roger K. Pabian



Card received from the McGinnis's by Evelyn reads: Hope this finds all well. We are busy and okay. The Jamboree, which is an offshoot of the Fow-Wow, started Sunday. That is where Mac is tailgating. B.L.M. officials say half a million people here. The Civic Center is where the show was held and about 500 tailgaters parked around it. Mac was off to the right of this where another 500 were. Tell all "hello". Signed The Macs.

Ollie Wittmann was recently seen at the emergency ward at Bryan in a wheel chair. Seems they had been 'ice fishing' in Minnesota and had gone to a restaurant for evening meal and returning to the car she fell in the parking lot. haven't heard if she was just shook up or had a bad strain or broken bones. Might give her a call at home.

Flossie Litzenberg is really getting around good from her last surgery and is looking real good also.

Dorothy Engelhart has been hospitalized for surgery recently and is planning another stay at Bryan Hospital. She has to build up her strength first so she will be in good shape for the repair work.

By the grapevine, I hear the mall show was a great success. Heard more people brought displays than they had cases for. A lot of interest was said to have been generated and lots of literature and coupons were given out. Congratulations to Roger Fabian and his staff and also to the members who worked so hard getting it set up and taken down. Also to the many members who helped by displaying.

Mark your calendar now. The MARCH MEETING OF LINCOLN GEM AND MINERAL CLUB WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY NIGHT, MARCH 25, 1976. Don't forget the show starts officially March 27.

Members, remember to bring your contribution for door prizes to the February meeting. A box will be there for you to put them in. Try to put them in a sac or box and it would be nice if you would put what your material is and also your name, so you can be thanked properly.

The door prizes for February meeting will be three gift certificates to be redeemed at the March show. They will be \$5.00, \$3.00 and \$2.00. for a total of \$10.00. The treasurer will redeem them at the March show only. Plan on attending, Roger Fabian will be having a real good program for us, also.

Members saw former member Ed Wooten, back from his tour of duty in the Navy, after the mall show and have invited him back to the meetings.

Sorry to see that former member Charlie Kitchen passed away.

The Roger Simmons family has been recovering from a virus and have had to be treated by the Doctor. Margaret had to miss a trip south because of the illness.

Plan to volunteer to help Jim Marburger, show chrnm., get the tables, etc. set up for the show. See him at the Feb. meeting to volunteer.

'76 SHOW PROGRESS REPORT

The 18th Annual Gem and Mineral Show for 1976 of the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club has been approved as a BICENTENNIAL EVENT.



Show Committee Chairmen are:

Floor Chairman:	John Harrison
Dealers:	Howard Taylor
Publicity:	Flossie Litzenberg
Special Features:	Roger Pabian
Work Shop:	Larry Bigley
Competition:	Don Carter
Recognition & Courtesy:	Joella Olson
Open Displays:	Luella Paul
Programs:	Marie Wells
Registration & Information:	Farel Hyland
Historian:	Lois Everett
Printing:	Phyllis Parks
Hospitality:	Stan & Hazel Greenwade
Rock File: ???	HELP!

25¢ coupons will be available at the February 28th Club meeting to give to your friends. Members are expected to DISPLAY, WORK, or PAY. CASES are needed. Try competition this time. There are so many categories you can surely make your display to fit one of them. You'll never know how good you are until you try and the Judges' Criticue will explain afterwards how you could improve and so you learn. If you have won in competition before, change your display and enter another category. Don't stop just with one winner. Roger Pabian will describe in detail "How to Show" at our February meeting.

Retail Dealers that are already signed up are: Ebersole Lapidary, Rolene Rock Shop, Lapidary and Gem Cutters Supply, Melvin Lentz, Jim's Rock Shop, Eagle Rock Shop, Everett Lapidary, Gerald Terhune, and Lovelace Lapidary is a Wholesale Dealer.

Special Features are:

Lake Superior Agate - Bill Boltz - Topeka, Kansas
 Silversmithing - Duke Meyers - Kansas City, Missouri
 Scrimshaw - Jerry Moffit - Columbia, Missouri
 Glass Knitting - Gene Eno - Lincoln, Nebraska
 Rock Painting - Art Henry - Omaha, Nebraska
 Gold Wire Jewelry - Ed and Mary McNamar - Des Moines, Iowa
 "Witching" - Stan Shurtleff - Humboldt, Nebraska
 Italian Terrazo - Melvin and Bernita Lentz - Mulvane, Kansas

If you havn't filled out a blue slip informing John Harrison what space you need and how you intend to help out, please do so at the February meeting. Slips will be available. Most every committee chairman needs help too, so please, feel it your duty to the Club to respond in some matter. Thank you.

Jim Marburger, Show Chairman

WILL THE GREAT SALT PLAINS SELENITE BEDS BE INUNDATED?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently conducted a public information session in Tulsa and some Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society's members attended. John Sanders secured a packet of hand out material which I have summarized as follows:

Result of the first comprehensive study of water quality in Arkansas River Basin by U.S. Public Health Service in 1957 was a determination in 1959 that five major salt sources in the Arkansas River Basin supplied 10,700 tons per day of pollution. Subsequently the Corps was authorized to determine if water quality could be improved for beneficial uses downstream. Area I, as designated by the Corps, is the source for which alternative plans for water improvement include the possibility of innundating the selenite beds of Great Salt Plains Lake..

Area I contributes 2,400 tons average salt emission daily. The objective of the Corps project is to reduce chloride content of impounded Keystone Lake water 250 milligrams-per-liter or less 98% of the time. Keystone water would thus meet Public Health Service drinking water standards. Five alternate plans have been outlined to solve the Great Salt Lake chloride problem (Area I). These are:

Alternate 1. Construct dike upstream of Great Plains to create a fresh water lake fed by Salt Fork of Arkansas and Medicine Lodge rivers and construct a fresh water diversion channel around Great Salt Plains Lake. Brine storage in Great Salt Plains would innundate selenite beds!

Alternate 2. A system of wells would be constructed to draw down brine water table to prevent brine surface emission. Pool elevation of Great Salt Plains Lake would remain essentially as now.

Alternate 3. Construct a ring dike around Great Salt Plains Lake and divert fresh water in a channel around the Lake. New flood control lakes would be constructed upstream to contain Salt Fork and Medicine Lodge run-off. Great Salt Plains Lake's pool would remain essentially unchanged.

Alternate 4. A fresh water and flood control diversion channel combination would permit raising Great Salt Plains Lake level and innundate selenite beds.

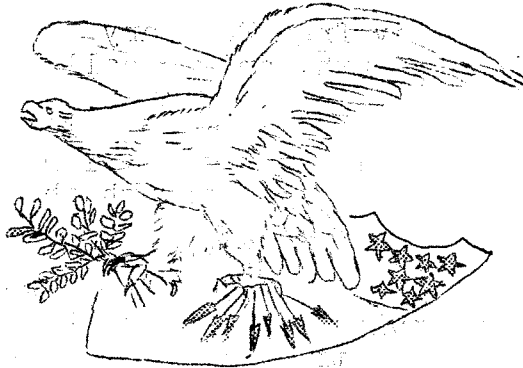
Alternate 5. Operate Great Plains Lake as a "dry lake" including diversion of fresh water around lake. Flood flows would temporarily be stored in lake and very likely innundate selenite beds.

No matter how you look at this chloride control project it is obvious that federal construction will most certainly change things from their natural state...Three of the five alternative plans seem certain to cross off selenite crystals at Great Salt Lake from the rockhound's list of collectibles...I suggest you do your selenite crystal collecting now!

Jack Kelley

This article was taken from the January 1976 issue of the T-Town Rockhound.

1776



1976

BICENTENNIAL SENSE AND NONSENSE---edited by J.D. Young

Concerning Leap Years and Calendars

Of course, we all know that February is our shortest month, and is featured by two famous birthdays. Not everyone knows the reason for its brevity, and few are aware of the fact that George Washington's birthday was originally February 11, 1732.

England and the American Colonies still used the Old Style (Julian) calendar until 1752 when they adopted the New Style (Gregorian) which most of the civilized world had employed since 1582. Eleven days had to be "jumped" to make the adjustment, and February 22 then became "Honest George's" official natal day anniversary. He has been said to have favored the old date.

Resistance to change seems to be an innate human characteristic. The British must have been superhuman, for they long continued with clumsy systems of monetary and physical measure. Very recently they seem to have "Caught on".

When England replaced the old calendar there was rioting in the streets, and people shouted, "Give us back our 11 days". Similar demonstrations occurred in America about a century ago when Standard Time zones were established. Some people seem to resent any "meddling with God's time".

Conservative inch-worms may resist being dubbed 2.54 centimeter loopers; and die-hard Texans probably will "want no truck" with 37.85 liter hats. Anyway, we should be ever grateful for our decimal system of coinage, and the freedom to personally enjoy it in all its glory!

Gem, mineral and rock hobbies involve some metric as well as English measure. We are proud to be progressive in worthy activities. All over the world people now recognize the importance of universal measurement systems for time, matter and energy. Instant communication and the sensitive web of international affairs leave us with no alternatives.

Now, about the short month of February; how did it happen, and why is a day added every fourth year? The extra day is needed because the period of revolution of the earth about the sun is near six hours more than 365 days. Even with modern devices person-kind cannot change that. But, why is our second month short, though it once had 30 days?

continued next page

Julius Caesar removed one day from February and then attached it to Quintilis, the fifth Roman month, and we call it July to honor him. Augustus Caesar, not to be outdone, "swiped" another day from the already shortened month and added it to Sextillis, and it became August for his glory. The whole story of calendar evolution is interesting, but too long to review here, though the subject is moot.

If one day is inserted in our calendar every four years there is still a slight error. After several centuries the discrepancy becomes important. The well-known rule that year numbers evenly divisible by four denote leap years is not true when the year completes a century, unless it is divisible by 400.

Now we know why amorous maidens in the centurial year 1900 could not "pop the question". The year 2000 will qualify for such equal-opportunity activities; assuming that the age-old institution called "marriage" is still solvent.

Future male chauvenists beware, and take care! - and Good Luck!

Remember-LGMC members are invited to submit articles of interest for this monthly feature. Refer to January, 1976 issue for details.--J.D.Y.

It is known that Lincoln had no great admiration for mere financial success. "Financial success", he once said, "is purely metallic. The man who gains it has four metallic attributes: gold in his palm, silver on his tongue, brass in his face, and iron in his heart".

via THE JASPILITE

New times demand new measures and new men;
The world advances, and in time outgrows
The laws that in our father's day were best;
And, doubtless, after us, some purer scheme
Will be shaped out by wiser men than we,
Made wiser by the steady growth of truth.

James Russell Lowell

Oh, what a blamed uncertain thing
This pesky weather is;
It blew and snow and then it thow,
And now, by Jing, it's friz!

Philander Johnson, 1895 via Nebraska Rock Hunters



LINCOLN MAY HAVE BEEN A ROCKHOUND



"Abraham Lincoln probably was a rockhound", writes J. Emil Smith, editor of the ILLINOIS STATE JOURNAL. Whether or not this may actually be true, we may only conjecture, but as a young "rail-splitter", spending much time out of doors in close contact with nature, it would not be unreasonable to believe that his keen intellect and powers of observation may have directed his attention in this direction.

Editor Smith quotes Dr. Ben Hur Wilson, (since deceased) an alumnus of Iowa Wesleyan College of Mount Pleasant Iowa as follows: "That Abraham Lincoln was probably a "rockhound" is one of the interesting and little known Lincoln sidelights.

D.A. Hayes, president of the local rock club, discovered Lincoln's possible interest in geology while chatting with Dr. Wilson, editor of EARTH SCIENCE.

Wilson, an acquaintance of Hayes, through the Midwest Federation, once mentioned that he had seen in the museum of the Iowa Wesleyan College, a small rock collection made by Abraham Lincoln. On Lincoln's birthday in 1974 Hayes received a letter from Dr. Wilson in part:

"In regard to the A. Lincoln relic my recollection is as follows: Mineralogy and geology were taught in the old college before the Civil War days and afterwards discontinued. Back in one corner of the museum was an old case of dusty miscellaneous minerals of interest to me". The collection first introduced Senator Clark, the "Copper King" of Montana, to minerals when he was a student at Wesleyan, and in this collection there was a small cigar box partitioned off with cardboard marked, "collection of rocks made by A. Lincoln", and as I remember, his signature was written on one corner of the lid.

"Now as to how it got there, Senator James Harlan, who was the college president, was also a member of Lincoln's cabinet, and Lincoln's son, Robert, married Harlan's daughter, Mary. She spent much time especially in the summers, in Mount Pleasant at her parent's home, with her children. And later when the Harlan home was broken up, this box was found and placed by someone in the mineral case at the college, just across the campus".

"I have never doubted the authenticity of the box, and although it has been a good many years since I have seen it, I have been told recently that it is still there..I believe it to be genuine".

The Earth Science Digest, September-October 1954
via Gems

FOR SALE...Knockdown Pony case... \$20.00 - Judy Walt, 2911 Jackson Dr.
68502 Telephone 423-8477

SILVER-SMITHING TIPS

A Stockton, California club member uses stainless steel solder in silver work as it is cheaper, easier to handle, and does a beautiful job.

If you will use 1/3 lacquer and 2/3 thinner, you can dip the polished silver in it and the polish will last indefinitely. It also keeps the silver from staining some people's skin.

The success of the final polish on silver depends on the number of buffing wheel threads-not the amount of rouge used. A cheaper buff just will not give the same results as a quality one.

Plain old-fashioned whiting moistened with ammonia water makes an excellent agent for polishing tarnished silver. Wipe the paste on, allow it to dry, and then rub it with a piece of lemon. Wash and dry thoroughly and the silver will stay bright longer than with ordinary cleansing..

To rub smooth the high points of a gold article, use sodium-bicarbonate with a minimum of water.

To antique silver jewelry paint the places to be darkened with raw egg yolk. Rinse off the egg and rub highlights with Linde A.

Glue your pattern on the silver with rubber cement. Removes easily.

Bon Ami applied with an old toothbrush will give a satin finish.

When you want to solder one part of a piece without having the solder run into an unwanted area, try painting the area not to be soldered with a thin paste made with jeweler's rouge and water. To remove, scrub with a stiff brush.

When you get too much silver solder on a piece of jewelry and try to get rid of it by filing, it takes quite a while. To get rid of excess solder without filing, take a narrow strip of silver about 1/8" wide and 3/4" long. Cut a small slit in one end. Heat the piece with the excess solder on it and touch the slitted piece of silver to the excess solder. The excess solder will flow up the piece of silver.

Do you have trouble with thin bezels caused by lengthy polishing processes after all soldering is done? If so, next time try giving each piece a good polish before attempting any soldering. Using this procedure your silver piece will retain their form and strength and will stand up much better with wear.

Before polishing, smooth the silver with emery cloth or pumice stone and water. Two polishing agents are used on silver-tripoli and rouge. Tripoli is used to remove any remaining roughness from the silver and rouge is used to give the silver a final high polish. After all the rough spots and scratches have been removed with tripoli, the silver should be boiled in ammonia and soap water to remove all traces of grease before proceeding to the final polishing with rouge. If a satin finish is desired, finish with a brass brush. An antique finish may be acquired by darkening the silver with carbonate of soda and then smoothing it with fine pumice.

The Crystal Gazette,
via "Serendipity Gems", via Rear Trunk

From our Publications Chairman, Mr. Art Howlett

Someone asked me what we did last year, 1975. This is what I told them.

First, we visited our son John, and family in Ohio in April. Came back through the Flint Ridge area but the Museum was closed on Monday so we did not get to see it. No one seemed to know where we could find or buy flint so we came away empty-handed.

Then we went to South Dakota, our old home state, over Memorial Day. We visited at Winner and White River. The 31st of May the the first of June was spent in two gravel pits and on top of a big hill. The gravel pits were productive as was the top of the hill where we found some green stuff that looked like common opal. We broke some out of a boulder but could not get any with a seam large enough or thick enough to make any jewelry. Back to Lincoln to plant some garden and sort the rocks.

In June we proceeded to Gering, Nebraska for the State Rock Show. We stayed at my sister's. The rock show was a good one. While there we went in to the Museum near the Armory and they had a display of rocks almost as good as the rock show. We took pictures of Scottsbluff and the nearby Wildcat Hills and looked for rocks but found none.

On to Denver to the National Rock Show. It was great! Then sightseeing and rock hunting. We looked for turquoise but found none. On our way to Denver we went through Wyoming and up to Glendo Lake and found some good rock on the way. In addition to the Rock Show we took in the Denver Mint, went to Central City, Garden of the Gods, Royal Gorge, Cripple Creek and a rebuilt frontier town called Buckskin Joe. While at Cripple Creek we went into a Rock Shop and the man showed us a piece of turquoise in the rough about a half inch thick and about two inches square. He said it was worth \$25.00! That is why we looked for turquoise.

We took off for the east coast on Monday the 14th of July. Stopped in Ohio for another visit with our son and family. On to Niagra Falls where we took a lot of pictures and bought some souvenirs. Great place! Especially on the Canadian side where there were lots of gorgeous flowers.

Then for Herkimer, New York, and Herkimer Diamonds! (quartz crystals) Herkimer is located in the east central of New York state just east of Utica and just north of Interstate 90. The diggings or open pit mines are about 5 or 6 miles north of Herkimer and a mile or two south of Middleville. We stayed in a KOA campground across the road from the mines. A beautiful campground by a little river and the murmur of the water put us to sleep real easy each night. We camped there two nights and spent one day at the mines. There are two diggings or mines, I guess you would call them surface mines, across the road from the campground and we paid \$2.00 each to dig all day at either or both mines. There is another mine on up the road about a half a mile. We looked but didn't dig there. I found one diamond in the matrix among the debris pushed back from the dolomite limestone bank where people dug for the pockets of crystals. This diamond was about 5 or 6 carats and was in a small pocket close enough to the surface to be seen. I worked around it with hammer and chisel for about an hour before I got it out. That was work and I decided that was not for me! So we just looked around for them on the ground and between the rocks where they had been dropped by the diggers and not retrieved. Fortunately it had rained a light rain the night before and as the sun would hit the facets on the crystals they could be easily seen and picked up. We got about a pint in this manner, some big, some small, mostly small; some good, some not so good, mostly not so good. So we bought some from those who dug them out of the bank. We finally had about two ounces for a display and some for jewelry. We think this was about the biggest day we ever had hunting rocks. You should try it sometime.

On to Maine and Keyser Pond, we would call it a lake, where a cousin has a summer cabin. No electricity and no plumbing, but a real nice place with a good beach and beautiful mountains in the distance. My cousin took us around and showed us the sights, and there were plenty, took us to a rock shop, and to a restaurant

continued next page

From the typewriter of Art Howlett - continued

for a lobster dinner. Lobster is not for me! We took lots of pictures of the lake, the mountains and houses. We then went to Winchester, which is just northwest of Boston, and his home and also the home of another cousin. From there he took us to Rockport, Maine to see Motif #1. On to see Bunker Hill, Old North Church, USS Constitution (Old Ironsides), Lexington, Concord, Plymouth Village, the Mayflower and many other things.

On our way back we skirted New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. because there was too much traffic for this old country boy. We did stop at Gettysburg, the northernmost penetration by Lee's army, and took in the battlefield. We came home through West Virginia, Kentucky, Southern Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Kansas. I always thought the smog was bad in California, but it was worse in West Virginia and Kentucky where they burn coal and have a lot of chemical plants.

We tried to catch up on things around home until the 19th of August, when, because of itchy britches, we took off for the Black Hills. We stayed with relatives in the southern hills for about 10 days visiting, rock hunting, etc. Rock hunting was good, especially out east of Buffalo Gap, where we got some good prairie agate and petrified wood. We also picked up about 100 pounds of calcite crystal, beautiful stuff. This we carefully packed and took them to my sister in Gering. The next day, we headed for the campground at Fort Robinson by way of Agate where we saw the fossil dig. Got to Fort Rob in time to get in on the watermelon feed that night. The next day, Lefty Rule, Bud & Helen Wasser, Hazel & I, together with a couple from Dannebrog, Nebraska, Chalmar and Dorothy Seldon, who had joined the rock hunt at Fort Rob, headed for Muddy Gap, Wyoming and JADE.

We camped at the campground at Muddy Gap, which is not a town but just a filling station and a rock shop with a huge yard filled with rock of all kinds including jade. The rock shop is owned by Lewis (Hap) P. Vondrasek, whose address is Lander Route, Rawlins, Wyoming 82303. If he can get 4 or more people to go with him, he will take them to his jade mines for \$10.00 each and you can take home all the jade you can carry. The women did not care to go and neither did I so we went to the Sweetwater agate diggings and Lefty, Bud and Chalmar went with Hap. He took them, although he was displeased not to have 4. They got some jade and we got some Sweetwater agate. While at the Sweetwater agate diggings, we got acquainted with some people from Rexburg, Idaho, William and Christie Jackomsen of 220 West 1st South, 83440. They had some polished rock with them and I was especially impressed with some Idaho opal. Beautiful!

The next day we went to the turritella agate beds. Picked up some nice specimens, took some pictures, looked around. Found some flat little agate wafers, flat little rocks about the size of a dime on up to a silver dollar and a dark blue, brown and black. Also found some algae. The turritella agates were very plentiful and the beds were scattered over a wide area. We had camped at Wamsutter and so back to camp for the night. That night, Lefty took his trailer, and with the Seldons', camped at the fork in the road that led to the agate beds as they wanted to get an early start to look for black petrified wood. However, we, the Wassons and us, got up early enough to catch them in camp at 8:00 the next morning so we all got to go looking for black petrified wood.

I will try to give a word picture of the country for what is about to happen. Interstate 80 bisects what is called the Red Desert of Wyoming. Wamsutter is in the east central part of this area. We headed south and west, mostly south, from Wamsutter. Our furthest point was perhaps about 50 miles south and 25 miles west of Wamsutter. I never did drive in high gear, mostly in low. The ground was rough with numerous ditches. We were traveling across a plain in a southerly direction with low hills to our right or west. The soil was sandy clay covered with scattered brush. The only sign of human habitation was an occasional fence. The ground was dry and very dusty and as we drove along, we raised a great cloud

continued next page

More from the typewriter of Art Howlett

of dust. So, being in the rear, I drove quite a distance behind to avoid the dust. We had crossed several big ditches with out any trouble, so when I came to this ditch which appeared to be about 20 feet across and about 4 feet deep, and, as Rusty had driven across with his little 4 wheel drive Broncho and Chalmar with his big Chevy Van, I naturally thought I could go anywhere they could go. So into the ditch I went and stopped real sudden with a front bumper on one bank and the rear bumper on the other bank and there we sat. We all got out and looked the situation over and I got back into the VW and called Rusty on the CB. We then got out our shovels and started digging. The men, that is. The women got back into the camper out of the sun. During a rest period, we noticed a little bird, about the size of a robin, grey brown in color and nearly invisible against the grey brown dirt. We probably would not have noticed him except that he came so close to us. The next rest period he was still with us so I took his picture. About that time Rusty arrived and pulled us out. We drove on to a gate in a fence and while opening and closing the gate we again noticed a little bird just like the one we had seen at the ditch. We drove on to another fence but no gate handy so drove west toward the hills for a couple of miles and stopped. Lefty and Chalmar took the Broncho and drove on to a butte a mile or so away while the rest of us waited. Bud walked around nearby to see what he could see and right at his heels was a little bird, just like the others we had seen. Bud said he had found a new friend and caught a small grasshopper and held it out to the bird. The bird immediately and unhesitatingly took hold of the grasshopper and pulled it from between Bud's fingers, all but one leg. After disposing of the part of the hopper he was successful in obtaining with his first try, he went back after the remaining leg and got that. We tried to pet him but he would not allow anything to touch his back but we could touch his sides. He would follow us anywhere and we had to be careful not to step on him. Helen, Dorothy and I took pictures of the little fellow and then put our cameras away. Finally the bird walked up to and onto Dorothy's foot and stood on her toe and looked up at her and preened his feathers. I ran for my camera but by the time I got him lined up he stepped off her foot and I missed the chance of a lifetime. Sorry to say, my pictures did not turn out too good. And we found no petrified wood. So back to camp.

In the morning Lefty and the Seldons left for home. Bud and Helen and Hazel and I decided we needed one more day of hunting so we went back to the turritella agate beds to see if we could get some better specimens. As far as we know we drove back to the exact same spot that Lefty had taken us two days before but the agate we found there was scarce and not of very good quality. The place looked the same. It was as tho someone had come in and picked it all up. Weird!

The next day we went to Kimball, Nebraska where we visited Pates Rock Shop on the west side of town. A real nice shop with a good display of specimens. Then we split. The Wassers for Lincoln and us for Gering to get the rocks and crystals we had left with my sister. We stayed there a day and then on home. Now to cut some of that pink jade and get some of those sweetwater agates and wafer agate into the tumbler. A year to remember!

(Thanks Art and Hazel! It sounds like a very busy enjoyable summer - and don't let Wyoming fool you - lots of places do look like the exact spot and can be as much as several miles apart.)

NOTICE AUCTION SALE OF JEWELER'S AND HOBBY SUPPLIES -

We received a flyer from The Grand Island Earth Science Club telling of an auction to be held Saturday, February 21, 1976, at 12:30 P. M. Items listed include precision machinery, vises, gold & diamond scale, ring sizers, desks, watchmakers supplies, and several cases and cabinets. Sounds very attractive.

SAFETY PAGE



Safety Tips on Dressing Grinding Wheels-Howard Stover,
via The Calumet Gem

1. Wear a face shield over your goggles for protection against heavy particles.
2. Round off the wheel edges with a hand stone before and after dressing to prevent the edges from chipping.
3. Use a dressing tool suitable for the job. Common tools are a diamond dresser or carborundum dresser ($\frac{1}{8}$ inch diameter stick in holder) or a star dresser. Inspect star dressers for loose shaft and worn discs.
4. Use a work rest to support and guide the tool.
5. Apply moderate pressure slowly and evenly.
6. Always apply dressers at the center or slightly below the center, never above.

Safety Tip from CFMS

The safety thought this month is about jewelry on your hands while you are working with machinery. This can be pertinent to almost any kind of work, especially where turning belts, wheels and any other working machinery is present.

When you want to work in your shop, take off your jewelry and put it in a safe place before you begin. Rings can easily get caught and can sometimes completely amputate a finger, or at least break it so badly that it has to be amputated. Watchbands can cause an injury to wrist and arm in the same fashion. Around electricity metal jewelry can be the cause of very severe burns if it comes in contact with open wires, and even if it doesn't burn, it can cause a severe shock.

Our jewelry is beautiful and we love to show it off, especially if we have made it ourselves. But let's save it for the occasions when we can safely show it off---not in the shop where it can cause us harm, and in the process, be destroyed.

Many accidents of this sort happen each year so it behooves us to THINK SAFETY in everything we do.

Bernice Achilles, CFMS Safety Chairman, via Chips & Tips



Don't depend
on a "Guardian
Angel".... be
careful in
your shop!

via The Rockpile

JUNIOR PAGE



New from the Petrified Pebble Pups

The January meeting of the Petrified Pebble Pups was held at the home of Brent and Brad Jones.

The egg carton collections were judged, and the importance of judging was discussed. Rocks were brought for identification. John Wood brought some galena and it was learned how to distinguish between galena and lead.

The advanced group had a field trip to Morrill Hall where they observed the mineral specimens.

Paul Keoster became a new member of the Petrified Pebble Pups.

Members of the Club will exhibit at the Gateway Mall Show on February 14th.

Lars and Andrew Olson are enjoying the new lapidary equipment which they have recently acquired.

BRACHIOPODS

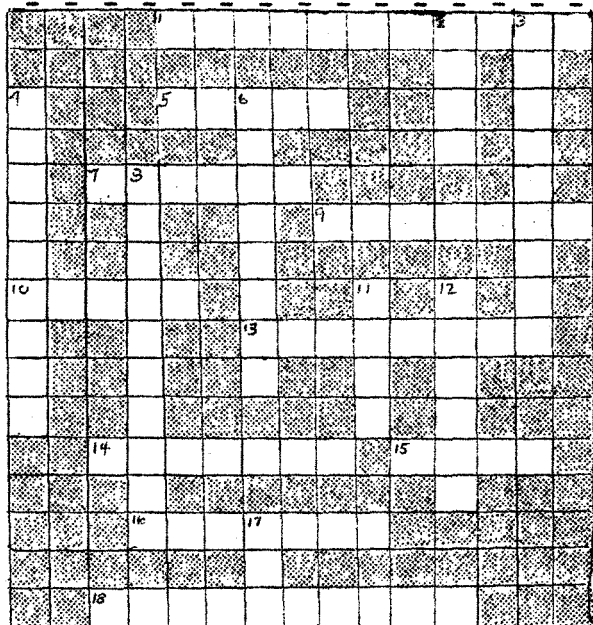
One of the chief divisions of invertebrate fossils consists of the Brachiopod. They rank high in terms of usefulness for stratigraphic correlation, value for age determination. Brachiopods are marine invertebrates in which the soft parts are enclosed by two deposits of shell, termed valves. Thus superficially they resemble the bivalve mollusks called pelecypoda or clams. Brachiopod shells are readily distinguished from clams however, by an equality of the two valves in size and shape. The name brachiopod (Brachio-arm, podfeet) refers to internal paired appendages (Brachia or lophophore), which at first were assumed to function for locomotion, like the feet of mollusks.

via FOSSILS FOR FUN SOCIETY, INC.

- Barium.... What to do with your clothes after encountering a skunk.
- Coral..... A place to keep sea horses.
- Geologist. A person whose career is on the rocks.
- Gypsum.... What an avaricious rockhound does at a swap.
- Micromount. A very small horse.
- Rock chisel. A rock Swap.

By Dave Peterson, former Ex. Ed. Geode-via Geode Newsletter

BIRTHSTONE CROSSWORD



- Across- 1 June's faceted stone
- 5 Also 30th traditional anniversary gift
- 7 First month's stone
- 9 August faceted stone
- 10 November's great stone
- 13 Stone for September
- 14 The Hope _____
- 15 Enhances birthstones
- 16 Birthstone between April & June
- 18 March's original stone
- Down- 2 July's precious stone
- 3 Much used by Indians
- 4 June's feldspar
- 6 Purple quartz
- 8 Faceted for March
- 11 Flashes many colors
- 12 Alternate for December
- 17 No. 1 across under artificial light

Submitted by Linda Parke

HITS from AMERICAN FEDERATION
NEWSLETTER

BICENTENNIAL FEATURES displayed at an early gem show included priceless and appropriate examples of pressed and cut glass, sparkling jet and amber, and gold and silver jewelry, pewter tableware, soapstone carvings, copper pots, iron tools, historic guns and a crystal radio set. Some of the larger pieces were a copper wash boiler, a steel bear trap, and a lithographer's soapstone.

June Zeitner, Bicentennial Features writer, would be interested in hearing Bicentennial Show plans of the clubs. Many are planned for this year.

February Newsletter has an article by Mr. E. W. Courter, part two, "Ground Afire" which is very interesting and covers the area known as Death Valley. Look for it at the Feb. meeting or ask to see it later in the year. Club has two copies available.

THE COPPER CONNECTION--Another item of interest starts 'A strange and wonderful metal is copper, known to early man for its uses for tools and projectiles, developed by modern man as the base of vast industries, and beloved by rock hobbyists for beautiful crystals and treasured gems.'

A news release by the Associated Press from Ohio recently said that there may actually be a real basis for the folk medicine cure for arthritis--the copper bracelet. Research involves chemical reaction, bacteria, ethylene, and mine dumps. Watch for further results.

The Federation endorses the policy of STAMPS FOR FOOD PROGRAM and urge all club members and societies to ask for commemorative stamps to use for your mail. Be sure to save all of the commemorative stamps that you receive and turn them over to your Stamp Chairman. (In LGMC it is now Florence Boring.)

Remember - ask your club officers to share the AFMS Newsletter with you.

The late Dr. Wm. Pecora, Undersecretary of the Interior, calculated that all of man's air pollution during his thousands of years on earth does not equal the amount of particulate and noxious gases from just 3 volcanoes: Krakatoa, near Java (1883); Mt. Katmi, Alaska (1912) and Helka, Iceland (1947).

He points out that nature's pure water isn't so pure after all. A few examples:

The springs feeding the Arkansas and Red Rivers carry approximately 17 tons of salt per minute.

The Lemonade Springs in New Mexico carry approximately 900 pounds of sulfuric acid per million pounds of water. (This is more than 10 times the acid concentration in coal mine discharges.)

The Mississippi River carries over 2 million tons of natural sediment into the Gulf of Mexico each day.

The Paria River of Arizona carries 500 times more natural sediment than the Mississippi River - yes, one billion tons of sediment per day.

MASTODON PARK

A committee of housewives near St. Louis is winning its fight to save a notable fossil site from which the skeletons of sixty mastodons have been removed. The state had sold the land for a development when concerned housewives decided to take action. The ladies were told that they would have to raise a half million dollars to buy the land and preserve it as a park. They were also given a deadline for coming up with the money. The Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation agreed to match funds and the State Legislature provided \$200,000. When it appeared that the ladies would meet their goal, the final \$28,000 was pledged by the McDonnell Aircraft Company of St. Louis.

Now a Mastodon Park is assured and the four housewives and their helpers are starting to think of a museum dedicated to the extinct resident of their area.

The McDonnell Douglas Gem and Mineral Club helped the Mastodon Park Committee at their recent annual show. McDonnell and other St. Louis area clubs will host the Midwest Federation Convention in July.

LARGEST BLACK OPAL

The world's largest black opal, weighing an astonishing 145 pounds, was recently found at Andamooka, Australia. Professional lapidary, Bill Moriarty, will soon cut the opal into about 30,000 pieces. The stones could bring over three and a half million dollars on the market, according to an officer of the Australian Jeweler's Association. The king-sized gem was found by a miner and sold to John Roberts and Yoshe Goldberg who named it Koninderle, the Aborigine word for rainbow.



Midwest Federation's NEWSLETTER



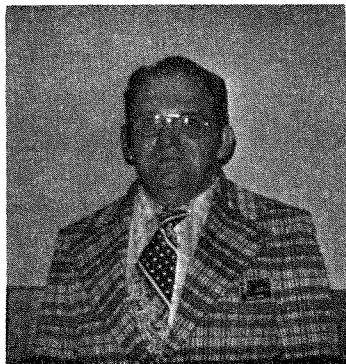
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Issue No. 162 - February 1976

Meet Paul Good

OUR SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Second Vice President is Paul Good, Griffith, Indiana. Paul has served on Bulletin Editors' Committee and showed outstanding leadership in this field. He served as President of his local club and as show chairman for local shows. He is an expeditor for a large manufacturing plant.



Bicentennial FEATURES

by June Zeitner



One of the early bicentennial gem shows was the 1975 show of the Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society of Lansing. The central display of the Bicentennial Mineral Heritage theme was a group of 20 cases of displays which showed antique articles together with the raw materials which went into them.

Materials shown were glass, iron, copper, pewter, lead, zinc, gold, tin, silver soapstone, jet, amber and sulphur. Antiques included priceless and appropriate examples of pressed and cut glass, sparkling jet and amber and gold and silver jewelry, pewter tableware, soapstone carvings, copper pots, iron tools, historic guns and a crystal radio set.

Some of the larger pieces were a copper wash boiler, a steel bear trap and a lithographer's soapstone. These larger items were placed on a platform of Chicago brick facing the entrance. Specimens accompanying the big antiques were huge and showy.

The red, white and blue background was accented by the flags of the United States, the State of Michigan and the Bicentennial flag. A low rail fence with pots of flowers enclosed the entrance display.

Co-chairmen Lola Pearson and Nancy Smith and their entire committee and club are to be congratulated for their excellent use of this theme.

Bicentennial themes are planned for 1976 by McDonnell Douglas and other St. Louis area clubs for the Midwest and by Kalamazoo, Michigan, Hot Springs, South Dakota and many others. We would be interested in hearing your plans.

Scholarship fund tops \$200,000

The trust fund of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation continues to grow at an ever increasing pace. The total reported by the Foundation Treasurer, Ellis W. Courter, is now \$202,792.05 with \$24,533.17 of this having been received during the past fiscal year. This tops all previous contributions for one year.

The contribution of the Midwest Federation for this period was \$7,739.50 which brings the grand total of Midwest contributions to \$61,649.38. Every club in the Midwest is to be congratulated for their fine support of the Scholarship Foundation over the past years.

Because of the increased income realized from the growing fund, the interest (which is the only part used) allowed three \$750 bonus scholarships to be pledged during the year in addition to the usual six grants, making a total of \$11,250 awarded during the year to support college graduate students working on their masters or doctorate degrees in science fields.

Beginning with the new 1976 awards, the amount of each grant will be increased to \$1,000 per year with each grant still covering two years. The usual six two-year grants will be awarded and hopefully funds will also be available for another bonus award. To date, 52 students have been assisted in their education for a total expenditure of \$51,900.

PUBLIC IMAGE AND COURTESY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Ruth Mogg, R. R. 1, Box 231, Grayslake, Illinois 60030

The Central Iowa Mineral Society of Des Moines, Iowa is an active club. Mr. William Ashby, Treasurer for the club, described some of their activities.

They answer questions about rocks and minerals of Iowa for the Iowa Development Commission. Some of the members have Boy Scout Troops and Blue Birds in their homes to observe and ask questions about collections. They visit grade schools to exhibit and discuss specimens and they also conduct discussions in the Adult Education Classes. They present programs for the Des Moines Women's Club and have exhibits at the Iowa State Fair and the Des Moines Public Library. This past year they had an exhibit and gave demonstrations for two days at the Des Moines Plaza Shopping Center. They also furnish displays for Drake University and have set up the Straight Collection there. They always cooperate fully with the owners of areas when they are on field trips and they welcome visiting rockhounds any time.

What does your club do? Please let us know.

SCHOLARSHIP TREASURER'S REPORT

OPERATING STATEMENT - Nov. 1, 1974 thru Oct. 31, 1975

OPERATING INCOME

Interest Earned - Bonds in Trust Fund	\$ 13,959.30
Savings Account	411.74
Gain on Matured Bonds	45.00
TOTAL EARNINGS	\$ 14,416.04

OPERATING COSTS

Office Supplies and Expense	\$ 396.50
Postage & Communications	299.76
Plaques	686.78
Bank Charges	5.00
Trust Fund Administration	537.27
	\$ 1,925.31

Scholarships Granted or Pledged	\$ 11,250.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 13,175.31

TOTAL GAIN FOR PERIOD	\$ 1,240.73
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TREASURER'S REPORT - Nov. 1, 1974 thru Oct. 31, 1975

ASSETS

Bonds - First National Bank of Minneapolis	
Public Service Electric & Gas Co.	\$ 10,148.30
American Tobacco Co.	5,002.80
Borden Co.	5,002.80
Crucible Steel Co.	8,000.00
Sears Roebuck and Co.	10,000.10
General Motors Acceptance Corp.	14,962.50
Pacific Gas & Electric Co.	10,060.60
Trailer Train Co.	5,000.00
Columbia Gas System	5,025.00
Carolina Light and Power Co.	10,000.00
Trans-Continental Pipe Line Co.	9,180.00
American Telephone & Telegraph Co.	9,775.00
Southern Bell Telephone Co.	9,950.00
Appalachian Power Co.	10,150.00
Ford Motor Credit Co.	10,100.00
Federal National Mortgage Assoc.	9,993.75
Michigan Wisconsin Pipe Line Co.	10,100.00
Virginia Electric & Power Co.	10,275.00
Ohio Edison Co.	5,125.00
European Coal & Steel Co.	9,950.00
Texas Commerce Bank Shares	9,664.50
City of Montreal	10,000.00
	\$ 197,465.35
Savings Account - American Savings & Loan Detroit	11,214.04
Checking Account - Manufacturer's National Bank, Detroit	1,226.06
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 209,905.45

LIABILITIES

Accrued Accounts Payable - 1st National Bank, Minnesota	\$ 537.27
Scholarships Pledged but not paid	7,500.00
	\$ 8,037.27

CONTRIBUTIONS (Principal fund)	202,792.05
---------------------------------------	-------------------

DEFICIT - As of November 1, 1974	2,164.60
Less: Net gain for period	1,240.73
	\$ 923.87

\$ 209,905.45

POLLUTION

The late Dr. Wm. Pecora, Undersecretary of the Interior, calculated that all of man's air pollution during his thousands of years on earth does not equal the amount of particulate and noxious gases from just 3 volcanoes: Krakatoa, near Java (1883); Mt. Katmi, Alaska (1912) and Helka, Iceland (1947).

He points out that nature's pure water isn't so pure after all. A few examples:

The springs feeding the Arkansas and Red Rivers carry approximately 17 tons of salt per minute.

The Lemonade Springs in New Mexico carry approximately 900 pounds of sulfuric acid per million pounds of water. (This is more than 10 times the acid concentration in coal mine discharges.)

The Mississippi River carries over 2 million tons of natural sediment into the Gulf of Mexico each day.

The Paria River of Arizona carries 500 times more natural sediment than the Mississippi River - yes, one billion tons of sediment per day.

MASTODON PARK

A committee of housewives near St. Louis is winning its fight to save a notable fossil site from which the skeletons of sixty mastodons have been removed. The state had sold the land for a development when concerned housewives decided to take action. The ladies were told that they would have to raise a half million dollars to buy the land and preserve it as a park. They were also given a deadline for coming up with the money. The Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation agreed to match funds and the State Legislature provided \$200,000. When it appeared that the ladies would meet their goal, the final \$28,000 was pledged by the McDonnell Aircraft Company of St. Louis.

Now a Mastodon Park is assured and the four housewives and their helpers are starting to think of a museum dedicated to the extinct resident of their area.

The McDonnell Douglas Gem and Mineral Club helped the Mastodon Park Committee at their recent annual show. McDonnell and other St. Louis area clubs will host the Midwest Federation Convention in July.

LARGEST BLACK OPAL

The world's largest black opal, weighing an astonishing 145 pounds, was recently found at Andamooka, Australia. Professional lapidary, Bill Moriarty, will soon cut the opal into about 30,000 pieces. The stones could bring over three and a half million dollars on the market according to an officer of the Australian Jeweler's Association. The king-sized gem was found by a miner and sold to John Roberts and Yoshe Goldberg who named it Koninderle, the Aborigine word for rainbow.

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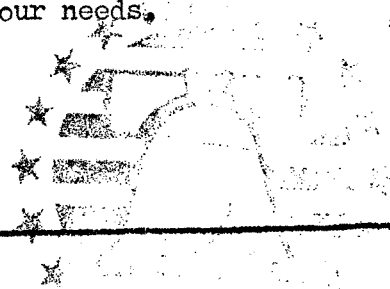


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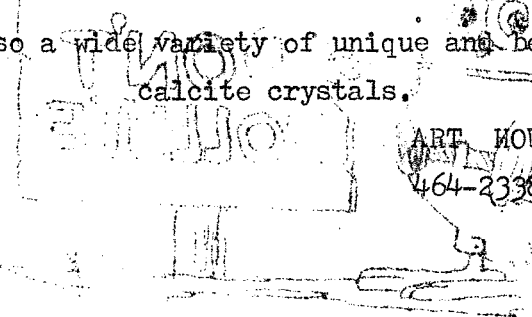


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March 27, 28, 1976

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