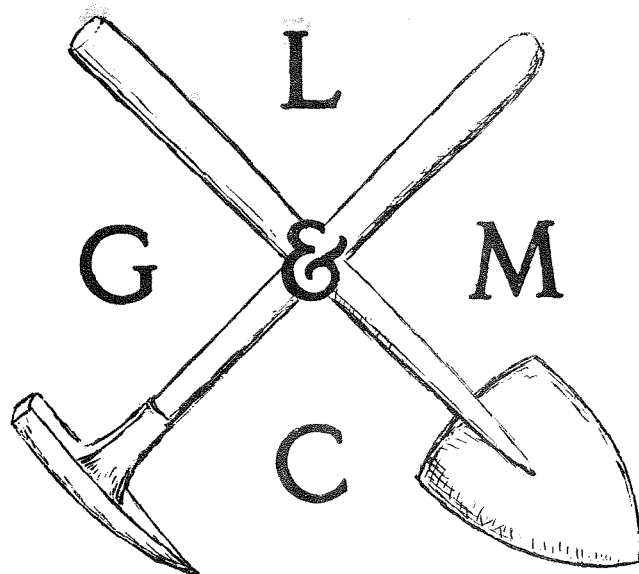


THE PICK & SHOVEL



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)

Regular Meetings: 4th Saturday of the month, September thru May, 7:30 P.M.
1978 - Trabert Hall, Lower Level, 2202 So. 11th St.

1978 ELECTED OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

President.....	Howard Taylor	910 New Hampshire	Lincoln, 68508	432-3707
1st Vice Pres....	James Marburger	1910 So.26th,Apt.B	Lincoln, 68502	432-0214
2nd Vice Pres....	Florence Boring	2836 S. 40th St.	Lincoln, 68506	488-6243
Recording Secy..	Frances Tracy	3420 Frost Court	Lincoln, 68510	475-1885
Treasurer.....	Joella Olson	4831 S.Haven Drive	Lincoln, 68516	489-5380
Board Member....	Don Carter	1101 Driftwood	Lincoln, 68510	489-3442
Board Member....	Bob Daniels	2941 No.42nd St.	Lincoln, 68504	467-4051
Board Member....	Virginia Green	6120 The Knolls	Lincoln, 68512	423-5032
Board Member....	Ray Lambert	1201 N. 79th St.	Lincoln, 68505	464-8552

Nominating Committee-3 years..Marita Bigley,Lynn Wells; 2 years..Marie Wells,
Irl Everett; 1 year..Phyllis Parks, Ray Lambert

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

Program	Florence Boring	Liaison & Calling	Marie Taylor
Education	James Marburger	Committee	
Hospitality	Vera Lyman	Refreshments	Bob/Sylvia Daniels
Historian	Lois Everett		Dick/Shirley Roberts
Librarian	Stan/Hazel Greenwade	Scholarship	Edwin/Vivian Johnson
Membership	Marita Bigley	Publications	Larry Bigley
Field Trips & Safety	Frank & Ton Rule	Housing & Property	Laurence P. Wightman
Sunshine Corner	Susan Taylor	Audit Comm.'78	L. Wightman, R. Pabian & E. Daniels
NAOESCI Reporter	Evelyn Ulrich	1978 Show Chairman	Don Carter
1978 Christmas Program Committee	Glen/Flossie Litzenberg	1979 Show Chairman	Clen Lyman

LONG RANGE PLANNING & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1 year remaining-Frank Rule & Phyllis Parks, 2 years-Larry Bigley & Don Carter
3 years to serve-Nelda Oliver & John Harrison (John-Chairman for 1978)

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF: Chairman Larry Bigley (466-0211)
Editor Evelyn Ulrich, 3521 S.48th St., Lincoln, Ne. 68506, Phone 488-9051
Club News Helena Baegl Artwork Stenciling Jim Parks
Typist Flossie Litzenberg Publisher Phyllis Parks

Deadline for material to be printed is 1st of month it is to appear.

Subscriptions to the Pick & Shovel are \$3.00 per year mailed. Advertising by a rock-hobby business or interest permitted with approval of Poard, at a rate now set at \$10.50 per full page per insertion. 1/2 page-5.25, 1/3 page-3.50, 1/4-2.75(min)

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.

General Meeting...Saturday February 25, 7:30 P.M.
Trabert Hall, 2202 South 11th

Program.....Slide presentation of Bigley's
trip to Mt. Antero, Colorado,
Labor day in 1977 by Larry Bigley.

Refreshments.....February honors George Washington
and his cherry tree. Members
please bring cherry pies for
refreshments. Left over pies
will be auctioned for the benefit
of the AFMS Scholarship fund.



LGMC Board of Directors' Meeting...Thursday, March 5 at the
home of Howard Taylor, 910 New Hampshire

Welcome new members:

Daniel C. Wehler, 877 north 26th Street, Apt. 29, Lincoln, Nebr.
68503 Telephone 435-5193

Paul and Beverly Reuter, Murdock, Nebraska 68407

1978 Dates to Remember

Feb.. 25-26	Waterloo, Ia.	Black Hawk Gem & Min. Soc. Show Rec. Center 225 Cedar St.
Mar. 10-12	Kansas City, Mo.	Earth Sci. Clubs of Greater K.C. K.C. Trade Mart, 250 Richards Rd.
Mar. 18-19	Vermillion, S.D.	S.D. Gem & Min. Show
Mar. 31-Apr.2	Lincoln, Ne.	State Show, hosted by Lincoln Gem & Min. Club. State Fairgrounds.
Apr. 9	Yankton, S.D.	Lewis & Clark Gem & Min. Show
Apr. 21-23	Wichita, Ks.	Wichita Gem & Min. Soc. Show Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd.
Apr. 21-23	Hastings, Ne.	Central Nebr. Rock & Min. Soc. Hastings City Auditorium.
Apr. 22-23	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Sioux Empire Gem & Min. Soc. Show Masonic Temple, First Ave.&14th St.
May 6-7	Lexington, Ne.	State Swap at Fairgrounds
May 20-21	Hot Springs, S.D.	Picture City Gem & Min. Soc. Show at City Auditorium.
June 2-4	Norfolk, Ne.	Northeast Ne. Rock & Min. Soc. Show, Villa Inn, Convention Center.
June 10-11	Hebron, Ne.	Fort Butler Rock & Gem Club Swap.
June 17-18	Beatrice, Ne.	Homestead Gem & Min. Soc. Swap.
July 14-16	Columbus, Ne.	Loup Valley Gem & Min. Soc. Show Holiday Inn
Sept. 2-4	Omaha, Ne.	Nebraska Min. & Gem Club Show Holiday Inn.
Sept.29-Oct.1	North Platte, Ne.	Platte Valley Rock & Min. Soc. Show, National Guard Armory.
Oct. 14-15	Grand Island, Ne.	G.I. Earth Science Soc. Show.

LAST MONTH Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club's general meeting was attended by 44 members, 3 junior members and 11 guests. Guests were Mr. & Mrs. Richard Powers, Marilu and Al Rogers, Lorene and Earl Messelheiser (former members); Mr. & Mrs. Ted McConnell of Crete and Mr. & Mrs. Hal Horak and Daughter of The Nebraska Mineral & Gem Club of Omaha. Hal is currently President of NAOBSCI, and was informally presented with the new Nebraska State Case constructed by Mr. Don Gless in behalf of LGMC. Formal presentation will be made at the 1978 Nebraska State Show in Lincoln.

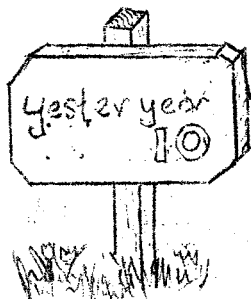
1978 Show notes was given by Chairman, Don Carter. Howard Taylor reported on the first meeting of the National Show Planning Committee and they selected Ray Lambert to assist them as Secretary, for the Committee as they begin preparations for the 1980 National Show.

John Harrison has appointed the Auditing Committee for the 1977 books with Marita Bigley, Chairman and Flossie Litzenberg and Glen Lyman assisting.

Delegates for the annual meeting of the Nebraska State Association at our show this spring will be Glen Lyman, Frank Rule, Larry Pigley and Phyllis Parks.

Roger Pabian presented a program with many highly magnified gemstone slides showing inclusions and identifying characteristics which are not normally visible to the naked eye. These photos may be used in recovering stolen or lost gems. These inclusions are in nearly every stone, they are seldom the same, and they may be used to tell the difference between natural and synthetic stones.

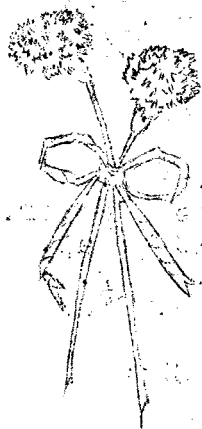
Cakes decorated for the 23rd birthday of LGMC were served by our refreshment committee. Mrs. Glen Lyman had prepared the delicious and beautiful cakes.



In February 1968 Mr. Bill Moore showed his slides of our big "Rockrama", held in September 1967. An auction was held of the rocks owned by Mrs. Griffith. They were shown by Mr. Earl Andrews of Nebraska City.

Greetings from The Sunshine Corner:

All sunny skies would be too bright;
All morning hours mean too much light,
All laughing days too gay a strain;
There must be clouds, and night, and rain,
And shut-in days to make us see
The beauty of life's tapestry.



This month get well cards were sent to:

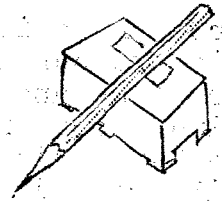
- Norman Engelhart
- Flossie Litzenberg
- Mrs. Albert (Olga) Olson

Sympathy cards were sent to

- Ruth Krejci
- John & Lillie Lewis

Susan Taylor

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Fellow Rockhounds,

I hope you all enjoyed our anniversary party. I thought the cake was really nice. Thank you, Mrs Lyman, for a job well done. I also want to thank Stan Greenwade for setting up the caddies for the chairs to be stored on.

We now have a full compliment of people to fill our officers and appointed positions. Please note these on the inside of the front cover.

The time is closing in our show. I hope you are all planning your displays. There are still committees that need help. If you have some spare time, Call Don Carter and tell him. He will put you in touch with a chairperson of the committee that needs people to work. This is your show, so let's all help to make it one of the best.

It would please me if people in the club would come and let the board know their wants, or ideas, for some of the coming meetings. Please give us your ideas.

Spring is coming closer: What do you want for field trips? Frank and Tom Rule are ready, and anybody with ideas, talk to them. How about a trip to Iowa, Illinois and Missouri for fossils and geodes? This would have to be on a three day weekend. Are you interested?

Our library is now located at Stan and Hazel Greenwade's house. If you want to check out any books, Stan said to call him to make sure he is home. They live at 6027 Fremont, and the phone number is 466-4788.

Howard Taylor

Members who have books checked out from the LGMC library, will you please turn them into Stan Greenwade.

From the editor's desk...We are happy to announce a new addition to our bulletin - a library corner. Our 1978 librarians are Stan and Hazel Greenwade. Stan, who is an avid reader has kindly consented to furnish us with a book report each month. We hope this will encourage a more extensive use of our Club library which contains many fine books that all Rockhounds should find useful. Susan Taylor will be in charge of the Sunshine Corner.. We are very glad to welcome Susan to our list of regular contributors. Our young folks are a great asset to our Club. Do let Susan know of anyone who is ill or bereaved.

We are very sorry if any of you missed getting your January bulletin. Being human we get "fouled up" once in awhile. Do let your editor know if you didn't get your bulletin. We always have some extra ones and getting one to you is no problem.

We all have a busy month ahead--also a busy next two years! There will be a lot to do before our 1980 show. Let's all get on the band wagon.

I received a nice note from Ollie Wittmann which I wish to share with you:

Dear Evelyn: Just a note to give you a few highlights of our winter down South.

After spending Christmas with our children, we left December 27 for Harlingen, Texas in the Lower Valley, spending time between Harlingen and McAllen. Have spent the month here hunting local Rio Grand Valley agates and enjoying the climate and weather.

Had a nice visit with June Culp Zeitner.

We are preparing to head through western Texas, southern New Mexico and on to Tucson, Arizona for a Show there February 10-12. Will hunt and prospect along the way and also over several areas of Arizona after the Show. We will roam our way home the first week of March.

Hope you get the snow all shoveled before we get there.

Ollie and Witt

People who won't get involved with their club are like the two shipwrecked men in a lifeboat. From their end of the boat they watched as the people at the other end bailed frantically to keep afloat. One said to the other, "Thank heavens the hole is not on our end of the boat!"

Chert Chatter via Chips and Facets

Tact is the art of building a fire under people without making their blood boil.

Southwest Gem via Tule Smoke Signals



1978 Officers present at the Christmas Party, held in December 1977. From left, Secretary Frances Tracy, 2nd Vice President Florence Boring, 1st Vice President Jim Marburger, Calling & Liasion Officer Marie Taylor, President Howard Taylor and Outgoing President John Harrison, Jr.

HE IS FAITHFUL

Are you passing through a testing,
 Is your pillow wet with tears?
 Do you wonder what the reason,
 Why it seems God never hears?
 Why it is you have no answer
 To your oft repeated plea,
 Why the heaven still is leaden
 As you wait on bended knee?

Do you wonder as you suffer,
 Whether God does understand,
 And if so, why He ignores you,
 Fails to hold you in His hand?
 Do black doubts creep in assail you,
 Fears without, and fears within,
 Till your brave heart almost falters
 And gives way to deadly sin?

All God's testings have a purpose-
 Some day you will see the light,
 All He asks is that you trust Him,
 Walk by faith and not by sight.
 Do not fear when doubts beset you,
 Just remember, He is near-
 He will never, never leave you,
 He will always, always hear.

- copied,

If less time was spent laying the blame, whatever was wrong could be corrected that much sooner.

The most common causw of error is knowing you are absolutely right about something.

1978 SHOW NEWS

In less than two months, the 1978 show will be history. It promises to be one of the greater moments in the history of Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club. The most important feature display will be gold crystals and gold nuggets from the Denver Museum of Natural History. This display will be sure to create much interest with both the avid rockhound and general public. Also of interest will be displays of minerals from the Black Hills of South Dakota and lectures by Dr. Willard Roberts of the South Dakota School of Mines at Rapid City. We will also have an excellent display of star garnets never before seen at a show that will be provided by the Eagle Rock Shop.

There will be twelve dealers at the show and it appears that they will have a superb variety of materials, minerals, equipment, and other rock-related paraphernalia from which to choose. This is just a reminder to save your dollars to be able to take advantage of many of the fine offerings the dealers will have.

The retail dealers are as follows:

Rolene Rock Shop	Eagle Rock Shop
Wonder World of Rocks	Tophams Gems
Rocksmiths	Hobbies Unlimited
San Juan Gems	McDermotts
Everetts Lapidary	Jims Rock Shop
Lentz Lapidary	Hutsells

There will also be two wholesale dealers and admittance to the wholesale area will be allowed upon presentation of proper credentials.

Working demonstrations will include rock pictures by Beverly Carroll of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Gold Wire Jewelry by Ed and Mary McNamar of Des Moines, Iowa; Silver Smithing and Scrimshaw by Erma, Patty, and JoAnn Pharoah, Omaha, Nebraska. We will also have a working shop with many interesting lapidary displays.

The "Friends of Agate" will have a first organizational meeting with technical sessions and symposium on Saturday, April 1, from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM. This group is intended to serve agate collectors in much the same way that Friends of Mineralogy or Friends of Echinoderms serves their members. The "Friends of Agate" will concentrate on the geological and historical aspects of agate only. This will be a first for the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club. Hopefully, the third annual meeting will be held at Lincoln during the 1980 National Show.

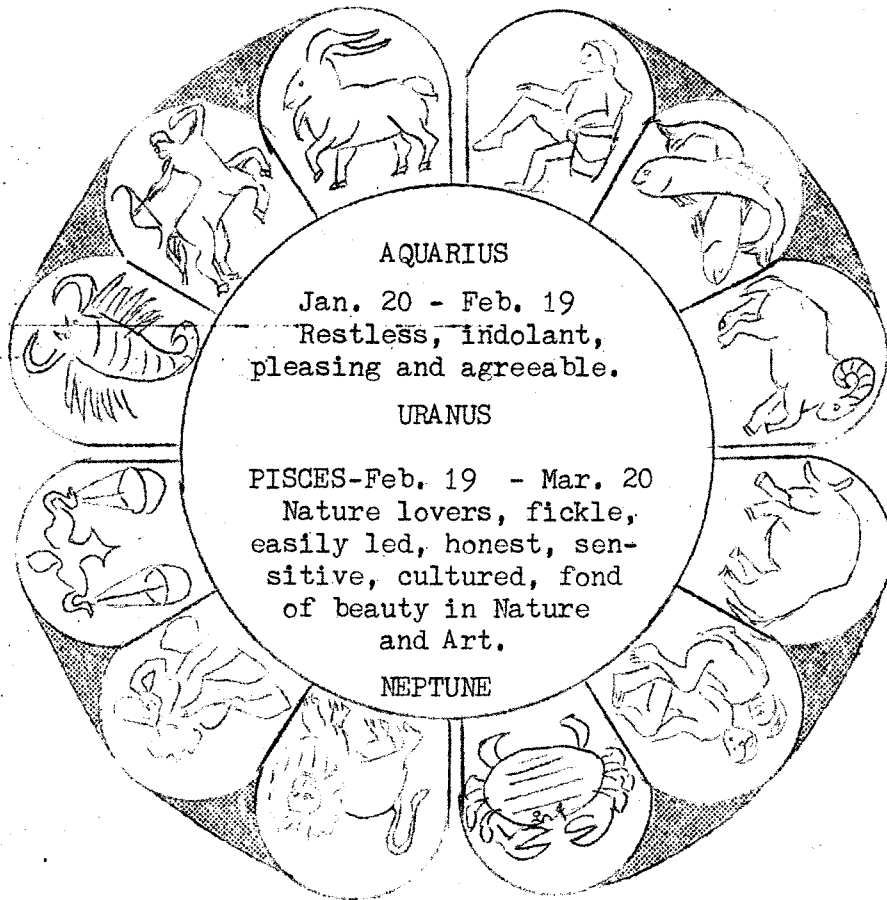
Raffle tickets for the vibro lap and tumbler are now available. A donation to the educational fund of LG&MC will qualify anybody for a chance(s) at either of these fine prizes. You can only find out the details by attending the February or March meeting.

Promotional shows will be held at Gateway Shopping Center on February 25 and 26, 1978, and March 4 through 17, 1978, at the National Bank of Commerce Garden Mall. We will need displays and workers for these shows. We will have 20,000 discount coupons to distribute and will need a lot of workers for this important job. We will also have discount coupons at the February meeting for members to pass out to friends, acquaintances, and associates.

We are planning a good competitive program for our members and guest exhibitors to get in tune for the 1980 National Show. We hope that the competitive program may continue to grow in strength. The competitive chairman has copies of the uniform rules for anyone who wishes to try out his luck. It is a very educational thing to try out a competitive display.

Whether you hope to display competitively or not, we hope that you are making up your display for the show. We need every category of display---gemstone, mineral, fossil, metal work, and in every level of advancement from beginner to master. We can not show the whole aspect of the hobby with only the works of the latter group. We need workers for set up day and workers for the promotionals and workers for the school day. This is your show---make it the best one ever.

Roger K. Pabian
Publicity



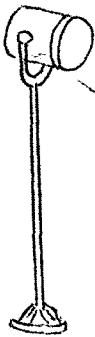
AMETHYST - BIRTHSTONE for FEBRUARY
By Flossie Litzenberg

Amethyst: is a crystalized form of quartz. It is purple to violet color. It has a hardness of 7. Its composition is silicon dioxide. In ancient times it was believed to be a remedy for drunkenness and was used to make amulets. Drinking cups were made of amethyst to prevent users from getting drunk. Amethyst can be found in cavities of igneous rocks where it forms geodes. The richest sources are found in southern Brazil. Sometimes the color of some amethysts will fade when exposed to light. If amethysts are heated to 250 degrees Centigrade, they turn yellow. Some manufacturers have turned out artificial citrines in this manner.

Ancient superstition:
Amethyst - A cure against intoxication.

Will members, please bring any amethysts they may have for "Show and Tell".

HIGHLIGHTS from HELENA



Glen Ulrich was being "baby-sat" by his mama Evelyn last week, with a severe cold. He moved in with his mother for a few days to avoid giving his family the germs. He is back at work, but not feeling up to par yet. Get well, Glen.

We hear that Mrs. Olga Olson, of Ceresco, was hospitalized, but glad she is home now and on the road to recovery. We hope.

We are sad to report Frank Krcji's passing Tuesday night, Jan..31. How we all enjoyed his beautiful gem faceting. His exhibits added so very much to our LGMC show. Our very deepest sympathy to Ruth.

We hear Larry Bigley was able to return to work last Monday,, but is still fighting some sort of back trouble. Back trouble! Seems that no matter how you move, comes a sharp twinge.

Irl Everett is back at work too. Take it easy, Irl.

Happy that Luella Paul is out of intensive care, and now in modified care at Bryan Memorial Hospital. We are all pulling for you, Luella.

Has anyone heard from the McGinnises? We'd like to hear of their travels and if they've made any great "finds".

My Business Woman's Club at St. Paul Methodist church was privileged to have Florence Boring bring us an excellent program January 11th on "Nature's Beauties - Semi-precious Stones." She had a wonderful display of both gems and minerals, and our members were impressed. Thank you, Florence!

We are sorry to learn that John and Lily Lewis lost their 6½ month old granddaughter in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Norman Englehardt is in the hospital, but we have no particulars at this writing. Hope it is temporary.

HELP! I need news. I am a real late stayer-upper, and you can call me anytime before 12:00 midnight. 432-3859. If it's important, call me even later!

Lawyer, reading will, to assembled relatives: "He turned it all into traveler's checks and took it with him."

Bernhardt in Friar via Reader's Digest

One, but not forgotten:

Frank Krejci laid down his rock pick for the last time on February 1, 1978.

He was a rockhound of many accomplishments. Whatever he undertook in our hobby, he completed.

In the fifteen years I knew him, I saw a lot of his work and marveled at all that he did. His faceting became very well known because he received the highest award that could be presented to an individual from the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. He received this award in 1974.

All of his displays--faceting, lapidary, carving, sphere-making, gold, silver and intarsia--were of top grade.

He participated faithfully at all of our shows.

To those of us who knew him, I am sure we all gained some of our knowledge from him.

He leaves behind a multitude of friends who will miss him.

I will miss him too, Ruth.

Howard

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SAID:

You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.
 You cannot help small men by tearing down big men.
 You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.
 You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.
 You cannot help the poor man by destroying the rich.
 You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.
 You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.
 You cannot establish security on borrowed money.
 You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence.
 You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.

courtesy Harry Moore via Tule Smoke Signals

.....

COMMUNIVERSITY COURSES which you might be interested in for the month of March are CREATIVE LAPIDARY, under the expert guidance of Roger Pabian. Lectures will cover gem drilling, bead making, sphere grinding, bowl cutting, sculpture elements, transparencies, and wall pieces. Adaptation of common tools to perform the lapidary functions is covered. Another interesting course will be HISTORY OF GEOLOGY, instructor Smith, tracing the development of Geology, the science of the earth, the origin of rocks and fossils, the cause of earthquakes, and the increasing importance of geology on our lives today. For information you can call 483-4751.

GOING TO EXHIBIT?

BETTER TAKE ALONG A "TACK BOX"

by Marge Mills AFMS Newsletter

If-so-let's say when getting your case ready for the coming show, include a 'tack box' in your plans. A well stocked one will certainly "pay its way": It will help to avoid that near hysteria which can beset you when a light bulb suddenly burns out or any of the many other things that seem to happen while you're setting up your case--and home is so far away. You may never need most of the items, but it is comforting to know you're prepared. Your ingenuity will provide the type of box necessary for your emergency kit. The old timers use everything from fishing tackle boxes to make-up kits.

As a check list for your needs:

1. Those extra light bulbs.
2. An extension cord and 2-way plug for each case.
3. (Contrary to the old adage "don't be in a place with a double-faced tape, and it can be used on the end of a pencil to retrieve those specs of dirt that evade you.) Single tape will have uses too.
4. Pins, common and/or T-pins for propping specimens, lapidary or jewelry pieces invisibly.
5. Thumb tacks, particularly if covered boards are used as case liners.
6. A soft brush (or masking tape) for cleaning dust or extraneous material from your case after setting up.
7. Scissors - These speak for themselves.
8. A screw driver and a small hammer. The latter to encourage those thumb tacks that never want to stay; and the former just on general principles.
9. White cotton gloves for showing lapidary and jewelry, not fingerprints.
10. Those exhibiting jewelry, in addition to white gloves, include some silicone paper (eye glass cleaners) or rouge cloth for that extra touch up.
11. A roll of paper towels, preferably lint free, for your glass case.
12. Small pieces of styrofoam (a knife or saw to cut it) prove helpful for extra propping of your material, but don't let them be shown in your case.
13. A bottle or spray can of glass cleaner. Be sure to clean the inside of the glass, too.
14. If you're a pessimist, include extra labels and a specimen or two.
15. An apron with large pockets is a back saver.

via Magic Valley Gem News

When making matched stones, put a piece of paper between the two stones and glue together with mounting glue, then shape as decided in one grinding. A light tap with your hand will separate them when finished.

Stoney Statements, Rok-Tok, & Pyriter

"YOUR" Library

There is some fine reading and study in the collection of books and other materials in the club's library. Now is a good time to go on an arm-chair, by-the-fire field trip. It's cold outside! Books on Geology, Minerals, Help-in Lapidary Work, etc. Also Lapidary Journals and other publications. Most, if not all of which have been donated by past and present members. There are also reference books which could help in preparing for Field Trips and as guides while on one..



One book is: Introduction to Historical Geology by Raymond C. Moore. 'K. Ulrich' is written in the book so she must have donated it to the club. Copyright 1958.

The first sentence in this book reads:- "The aim of this book is to give an account of the salient features of earth history in a manner suited to persons having no previous acquaintance with the subject." There is an appendix in the back which is a glossary of words which one may not be familiar with.

Many questions of what happened, when and how, one might have, are answered in this book.

Starting with Chapter 4 (Cryptozoic Eon) the chapters are about the different eras down to the present. (Cenozoic Era)

Many pictures, some which are marked showing different time unit boundaries in the stratas, etc., and illustrations, maps and drawings are included.

A very small sample of the contents: "No where in the world are known outcrops of rock that may be interpreted as 'original crust.' Oldest rocks found are mostly crystalline and are of originally sedimentary material, which have been highly metamorphosed and warped, and volcanic rock and intrusive granite.

There are many outcrops of Precambrian rocks in the U.S. besides those of the Canadian Shield Region. The Plack Hills is a Precambrian area which is very ancient and is older than some rocks in the Shield. Closest to Lincoln is the one in N.W. Iowa and S.E. South Dakota near Sioux City.

Some others, - in the structural center of the Ozark Uplift in S. E. Missouri, south of St. Louis. The Wichita and Arbuckle Mts. in Southern Oklahoma and in the Llano Uplift of Central Texas near Austin San Antonio. Also along the axis of the uplift in the Rocky Mts.

Some Mesozoic Crinoids had stems 50 feet long while ordinarily most were not over 2 feet.

On page 517 there is a small map of the Pleistocene Epoch Rivers in the North Central States. There were no Missouri and Ohio river trunk streams and the course of the Mississippi was across Central Illinois.

The Badlands of South Dakota and Western Nebraska are of the Oligocene Epoch, roughly 40 million years ago, and Bryce Canyon of Utah are Eocene Epoch, roughly 50 million years ago.

The evolution of the horse is more completely shown by discovered fossils than probably any other Mammal group."

As you see this is a very interesting and informative book. More so if one wants to study the subject of Geology some. It can also be read just to get a general outline of past events and life of and on the earth. It also has a very good and interesting time chart of past life on the back of the front cover and the first page.

"Stan"

--Please remember -- if you now have one of L.M.C.'s books, let me know or get it back to me so we can update our Library Listing for the 1978 Who's Who.

HANDY HINTS

Silver-smithing Tips

Try using stainless steel solder in silver work as it is cheaper, easier to handle and does a beautiful job.

If you 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.

Breccia via Gemdrops

Driftwood Finishing

Clean the wood in its dry form. A scrubbing brush or whiskbroom will do. A wire brush should be used only on very hard, rough pieces.

Let dry well. Bleach in straight laundry bleach, without dilution, dipping the small pieces and pouring bleach over larger ones. Better use rubber gloves and old clothes and work in the open air. Let dry some, but while still damp wash it again in cold water. This removes the pigment the bleach has brought to the surface. Let dry for several days.

Polish with a hard wax, using lamb's wool buff on power drill. Simoniz automobile wax is used. This does not darken the wood.

Tulip City Conglomerate via Slab & Gab

Gold is where you find it

About a hundred years ago a burial service was held near Pikes Peak, Colorado. One of the mourners noticed a golden sparkle in some of the upturned earth from the grave. His hasty departure to the commissioner's office was noticed by the other mourners and soon all of them, including the preacher, left the grave to file claims. This done, they returned to finish the service. Another Colorado Gold Rush soon followed.

Alabama Min. & Lap. Soc. via SIES Club News.

SUNDOGS --- Rockhounds, beware!

By J.D. Young

"Vend' sundawgs bane outt, Severson bane in!" In the Minnesota Northwoods, where Myrtle lived her nature-blessed first 10 years, Severson was the epitome of everything a successful trapper should be and know. So that replay of weather-wisdom was plagiarized from my "Better Half", and she tells it as truth.

That expert trapper's Viking ancestors (horned or polled) had passed survival techniques down through generations of battle with the elements. They knew that fickle weather could not only spoil the joy of hopeful anticipation in a lengthy, rugged run of the trapline, but it could turn into a "dad-ratted, cuss'ed experience". They observed every time-tested sign, whether phrased in a catchy jingle or not.

Severson knew that a brilliant display of sundogs was warning to stay in, and toast his chilblains near the cozy log-fire while enjoying his "cut-plug" and "Copenhagen", though he may already have won a sweepstakes "bonanza" on the frosty trapline. He would delay the harvest, and let the wolverines foul up the situation (their normal nasty habit) until the weather improved.

Trapping was still rather primitive. The age of electronics had not yet blossomed. There was no radio, no T.V., no airplane vapor trails for weather warnings, and there was no comfy catalytic heaters. Morning papers (No!); telephones were rare and unreliable in this he-person's land. Survival was dependent on one's own good sense, and he had it.

Old weather signs are too numerous to mention, so let us zero in on a common phenomenon, called parhelion by meteorologists; plural parahelia. We laymen are content to call this, - sundogs.

Some rockhounds may wonder about when these "dogs" are "whelped" and what they are like. I consulted a few books and also jogged my memory. They usually occur early or late in the day (mostly wintertime) when the weather is about to become bitter cold. They appear as bright colorful patches, one on each side of the sun at an angle of about 22 degrees, on a visible streak of light passing between them. This may also occur vertically in the same manner, the lower patch generally not visible because of the horizon. A halo of light connects them like a large "ring around the sun." Multiple rings of light and spots may appear also, making the pattern more complex. All of this is in the earth's atmosphere, not the sun itself. There can be moondogs too, but much less conspicuous.

The cause involves refraction and reflection of light rays by ice-crystals in the air, under certain conditions. I do not know why colder weather usually follows. Also, a shower of glistening ice-crystals in cloudless sunlight precedes a cold spell. This occurred just recently before our January freeze-out, and I have never seen it fail.

SUNDOGS --- Rockhounds, beware; continued

I recall seeing an unusual sundog display once as I slogged home from our country school through frozen cornfields. A ring of parahelia was spaced around the atmosphere, completely circling the horizon, level with the sun. I do not remember the ensuing spell of weather, but it must have been "a doozy!"

L.G.M.C. Honorary Member, the Poet Neihardt, in his many writings, painted fitting word-pictures of Nature's activities. Here, for example, are three excerpts featuring our current topic:

P. 59 Song of the Indian Wars

Through ten score miles of frozen hell they come,
Frost-bitten, wolfish -----,
The sun was like a sick man in a tent
Crouched shivering between two feeble fires.

P. 91 Song of the Messiah

Night long about their tepees raved the blast.
The moonset and the morning came as one.
Cold as the sinking moon, a triple sun
Arose to mock them. -----.

P. 191 When the Tree Flowered

Next day the wind was dead. The sun
came pale between two cold fire.
The air was like a knife.

J.D.Y.

P.S. Old Severson wasn't just kidding!
(and "Flaming Rainbow", the Poet, wasn't either.)

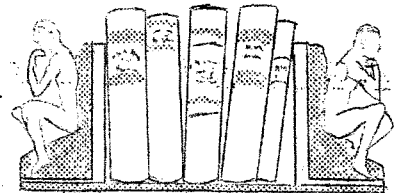
Editor's Note:

I'm sure reading Mr. Young's article will bring back memories of sundogs that you have observed. When I was a little girl my mother, who was a great lover of Nature, taught me to be observant of such natural phenomena. We also observed the moon dogs and recalled the old weather prophecy that the visible stars within the ring around the moon numbered the days until the storm arrived.

PLATINUM IN KENTUCKY! A platinum discovery of major proportions and unique in the U.S. has been reported near Ashland, Kentucky! Geochemical reports have confirmed the presence of platinum, industrial diamonds, corundum, garnets, gold, silver, and other earth minerals! (South Bay Agatizer)

BOOK REVIEW

THE ART OF THE LAPIDARY, Francis J. Sperisen, Bruce Publishing Company, New York, New York, 1950, revised edition, 1961, \$9.95.



Revised editions of classic works are rarely as good as the original version. This adage holds true for most fiction as well as technical works, but, fortunately, it does not apply to Sperisen's "Art of the Lapidary." Usually the revised editions omit many of the technical details of tools and equipment that were in vogue at the time of the first printing and replace this section with updated information. Since many of the tools of the lapidary of the 1950's are a far cry from the modern, diamond tools, we may think the descriptions of equipment are out of date. Such is not the case, however, since many of the ancient methods are still the only ones that will produce certain types of cuts that are necessary to make imaginative lapidary creations. The descriptions of the equipment of the 1950's is good, historical reading and gives the student some perspective on the development of the hobby. Without such works, we will never know our rockhound "Roots."

The book follows a very logical order, beginning with sections on history of gems and precious stones and on the physical characteristics of gems. The section on classification of gems seems much too long for a book of this type. There are some exceptional good photomicrographs of typical inclusions in gems that are very important for separation of natural from synthetic gems. Unfortunately, the mode of reproduction of the photomicrographs did not yield good plates and the novice is not really able to appreciate the things one must know to identify gems. Secondly, most of the projects described by the author do not require gem materials that can be tested only by optical methods.

After a brief description of tools and equipment, Sperisen discusses sawing and points out that this is where a quality lapidary project begins. If the rough is improperly sawed, a whole project may rapidly deteriorate. The first project to be described is polishing a specimen, either rounded or flat. In the old lapidary school, the prime function of a piece of rough was to produce a specimen for its' sake alone. Lower qualities of material were delegated to cabochons and other gem uses. In other words, the lapidaries of old tried to preserve as much material in as close to its' native state as possible, some grinding and polishing being the only lapidary treatment the rough received.

Cabochon cutting is treated next and it is very interesting to see the great differences in equipment that existed in 1950 compared to 1968. Other than that, the treatment of stones was done in much the same manner. From ordinary cabochon, the reader is led to the treatment of phenomenal stones (cat's eyes, star stones, etc.) and then on to other projects that are extensions of cabochon cutting. The reader is introduced to making beads, cylinders, spheres, drop forms, and silverware handles with gem materials. This section is well illustrated. The line drawings are excellent but the photographic plate quality leaves some to be desired.

The reader is then into sections covering "fancy shape" cabochons and such projects as concave grinding, making tools to do fancy work, and adapting equipment to do fancy shapes are well treated. From there on, the projects become more complex---bowls, ash trays, cordial coupes, watch cases, snuff bottles, and holo-lith rings are covered.

The important feature of the book is that every project is treated as an extension of sawing, specimen preparation, cabochon cutting, hollowing, and drilling of rough material. This valuable book should be added to the club's library for its historical value as well as for the value it will have in leading the lapidary in a logical sequence to greater projects. It is also the only book of its type that discussed diamond polishing in any detail and very carefully separates this activity from faceting colored stones with pre-set equipment.

JUNIOR PAGE

JUNIORS, HOW ABOUT MAKING A ROCK PLATE FOR THE STATE SHOW?

Wouldn't it be fun to have a table of rock plates on display for the up coming state show? David Green made one in his 4-H project for which he won a purple ribbon.

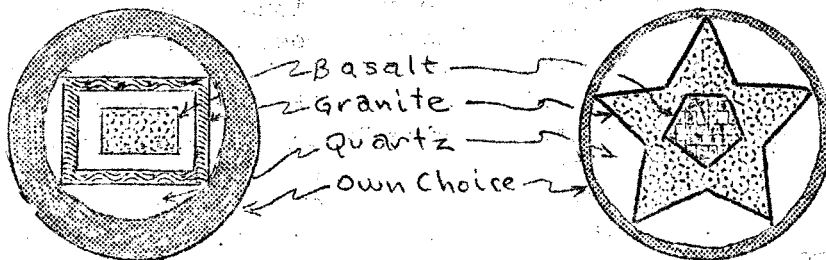
Find four different rocks..

1. One rock should be quartz. It should have a WAXY LUSTER (quite shiny) and a clear white or other light color.
2. One rock should have a DULL LUSTER. It should be finely granular, green, dull green, gray, or black like basalt.
3. One rock should be granitic. It should be very coarse-grained and may contain pinkish fragments of feldspar.
4. One rock may be of your own choosing.

Directions:

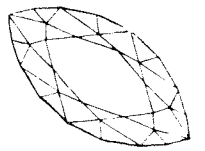
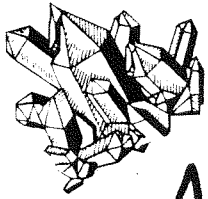
Break the four rocks (preferably goose egg size) into small pieces with a hammer. David found the best way to do this was to put the rock in a heavy paper bag like a sugar or flour sack and support it against something solid like a cement block. Break into pieces the size of your small finger nail. Save the rock dust, makes good filler. (You may want your dad to help break the rock.)

Next draw a solid geometric design on a paper plate. After your design is ready, glue the pieces permantly on the plate with clear-drying cement such as Elmer's Glue-All.



Your picture rock plate can now be hung for display on a wall.

O.K. Pebble Pups let's see how many interesting plates you can come up with and display at the show.



1978

NEBRASKA STATE GEM AND MINERAL

SHOW

HOST:
Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31,

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, APRIL 1 & 2

AGRICULTURAL HALL - FAIRGROUNDS

RINGS

LINCOLN

BLANK
MOUNTINGS

AGATES

OPAL

FINISHED GEMS

ROUGH

Gemstones

TUMBLERS

JADE

SPORTS

FOSFIS

MINERALS

AMISHYUS

SHOW HOURS

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

FREE PARKING

FOOD IN BUILDING

FREE DEMONSTRATION

ADMISSION

Adults \$1.50
Students 1.00*
Children .50
Senior
Citizens .50*
Children under 12-
free with parents.
*With ID, no discount

Continued from front page.....

El Rancho Motel, 415-846-2742, 34 Units, \$12 S, \$16 D, 2025 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton, California 94566.

Palace Motel, 415-447-1515, 15 Units, \$13-\$15 S, \$14-\$17 D, 1321 Portola Ave., Livermore, California, 94550.

Town House Motel, 415-447-3865, 22 Units, \$16.96 S, \$25.44 D, 1421 1st St., Livermore, California 94550.

For those wishing to camp there are three camping areas.

Camping Area 1: Unlimited spaces, no hook-ups. Fresh water, restrooms and showers are available. All vehicles must be self-contained.

Camping Area 2: Limited spaces. Electricity and water hook-ups, no sewers. Vehicles must be self-contained. First come, first serve, determined by postmark. You will be notified if selected.

Camping Area 3: Limited spaces. Full hook-ups. Spaces will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis, determined by postmark. You will be notified if selected.

All spaces carry a base rate of \$3.00. Camping Area 2 will be \$1.00 more per night. Camping Area 3 will be \$1.50 more per night. (Pay additional fee upon arrival.) Group camping will be available in Camping Area 1 if applications are submitted as one package.

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.

Gem of the month

FEBRUARY... AMETHYST GEM OF PERFECT BEAUTY

In Biblical lore, your February birthstone, the Amethyst, means perfection; and where beauty is concerned, the Amethyst is truly perfection.

Not so hard as the Diamond and in recent times far less expensive, the Amethyst still offers the qualities of transparency, lovely coloring and soft brilliance which brought it into popularity centuries before the Christian era.

WORN BY AARON

The Amethyst was the third stone in the third row in the jeweled breastplate containing twelve precious stones worn by Aaron, the high priest of the Hebrews. In the New Testament, these stones became the foundation stones of New Jerusalem described in Revelation. Each stone was identified with a prophet. The Amethyst stood for Matthias, who had the gift of tongues and was filled with the desire to please God.

DON'T LITTER!

CATASTROPHIC EXTINCTION THEORY IS DISCREDITED

Stephen M. Staley, a paleobiologist at Johns Hopkins University recently declared that a single catastrophic event can no longer explain the extinction of such animals as the dinosaurs.

The most massive extinctions came with the ends of the Permian and the Cretaceous periods. Staley notes that the large animals were the ones driven out, not the small animals, and not the plants. Alfred B. Fischer of Princeton points out that the major crisis in animal life in the past eras are associated with sea level drops. Dinosaur families declined as the shallow seas were drained. With the disappearance of the shallow sea environment large animals had to roam farther for food, and compete with many other species.

Ocean bottom cores raised by the Glomar Challenger show that at the time of the extinctions the oxygen in the receding seas appeared to have moved downwards allowing the survival of deep dwelling marine life, but not the surface life on which the large animals fed.

Other factors in extinctions are inbreeding, competing with other species, climatic changes due to disappearance of seas, and parasites. Numerous naturalist now believe that the dinosaurs were warm-blooded creatures, requiring great amounts of food because of high metabolism. The Ice Age was probably the crowning blow to these animals.

SPACE SCIENTIST HAVE AMBITIOUS PLANS

Space Scientists are talking about the possibility of landing a robot on Mars to dig deep and bring back 200 pounds of soil samples, in hopes of finding fossil evidence in the past of Mars. Previous studies have indicated that the atmosphere of Mars was once a lot different than now, and may have resembled Earth.

Scientist would also like to send a space vehicle to rendezvous with a comet and return with pieces of the comet's tail.

Other ideas are to put vehicles on Io and Callisto, two of Jupiter's moons. Scientist would also like to investigate Saturn's moon Titan, which has an atmosphere similar in density to that of Earth.

The reasons for these plans are to find the origins of the solar system and to find out about the evolution of life in the universe.

GREAT SALT PLAINS OF OKLAHOMA MAY YET BE SAVED

Elsie Matthews, Chairman of Save the Selenite Crystal Beds, reports that David Steele, US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa Division, has said that there are seven suggested plans for the Chloride dams, which threatened destruction of the crystal beds. According to Steele, three of the plans would not disturb the crystal area at all, and one of them, number 7, would make them stronger.

Because of the 6,000 signatures collected by her committee, Dr. Naff was appointed to make a survey of the area. If nothing contrary to the Engineers plans is found in the Naff survey, the Engineers will present one of the three positive plans to their Washington, D. C. headquarters.

Mrs. Matthews says it is not too late to send more signatures to help save the selenite crystal beds. For more information, write her at 926 Sandstone, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

Midwest Federations 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 Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311

February 1978 - Issue No. 182

Silent auction planned to aid scholarship fund

by Paul Good, MWF President

At the 1978 Midwest Federation Show to be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, all clubs in the MWF will be able to build their percentages of contributions in the AFMS Scholarship Fund. We hope that this new opportunity will be an annual affair at our future MWF Convention/Shows.

We need the help of each club in the MWF. A Silent Auction will be offered by the Federation during the show. All auction material should be donated by the member clubs. All monies will go to the AFMS Scholarship Fund and credit will be given to the donating club.

All material **MUST** be labeled as to what the material is, where it was found (if possible), and which club it is being donated by.

The materials should be anything relating to the Rock Hobby: rocks, minerals, fossils, books, etc. Finished jewelry usually brings the highest prices.

The materials will be brought to Cedar Rapids by the club delegates or some other representative. Individual donations will be accepted and credited to that person's club or if they are not members of a club, it will go to the club of that person's choice and thirdly, if no choice is made, the host club will receive the credit.

The auction will run for four to six hours for two or three days depending upon the amount of material received. The chairman will need some help to run the auction. A schedule will be made up of workers to help with the auction. They will be working probably two hour shifts.

All clubs donating will be notified by the Federation of the percentage points being credited to their Scholarship Fund account a few weeks following the show.

All Federation Clubs are encouraged to begin **NOW** to gather materials for this auction. BE sure to label all materials and put the **NAME OF THE CLUB** that is donating. It will be very important for this to be done.

1978 DIRECTORY IN PREPARATION

The 1978 Midwest Directory is now in preparation and Diane Dare, Directory Chairman, says it will be going to the printer in a matter of days.

Copies will be sent to all clubs when it is ready and additional copies will be available from the Directory of Supplies.

Silver anniversary

The Evansville Lapidary Society, Evansville, Indiana is celebrating its Silver Anniversary during 1978. The club was formed and joined the Midwest Federation 25 years ago.

Evansville Lapidary has planned special Silver Anniversary features throughout the year including it as their theme for their annual November show. Persons visiting the Evansville area are invited to attend their Monday night workshops and meetings on Monday evenings at the YWCA.

President during 1978's Anniversary year is Lloyd (Nelly) Owen.

Early reservations suggested for National show

If you are planning to attend the National Show and Convention in Pleasanton, California, July 27-30, early reservations are suggested. Every year many are disappointed by not reserving motel, hotel or camping space well in advance and having to take alternate accommodations or none at all.

Here are nine motels in the area. California 6 Motel, Howard Johnson's and El Rancho are closest to the Alameda County Fairgrounds, show location.

California 6 Motel, 415-462-2626, 76 Units, \$11.45 S, \$17.45 D, 5102 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, California, 94566.

Holiday Inn, 415-443-4950, 90 Units, \$25 S, \$30 D, Las Flores Rd. & Interstate 580, (Be certain to mention this show)

El Dorado, 415-447-2348, 22 Units, \$15-\$17 S, \$18-\$22 D, 3979 1st St., Livermore, California 94550.

Sands Motel, 415-447-6500, 25 Units, \$16 S, \$25 D, 3787 1st St., Livermore, California, 94550.

Town Motel, 415-447-1885, 9 Units, \$12 S, \$16 D, 3068 1st St., Livermore, California 94550.

Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, 415-828-7750, 92 Units, \$22 S, \$30 D, 6680 Regional St., Dublin, California 94566.

Early Reservations... continued on back page

Everett Lapidary Shop

THE CAPITOL CITY'S FIRST ROCK SHOP

2941 North 65th

PHONE 466-6204



MAKE A DATE FOR '78
AT OUR SHOP.

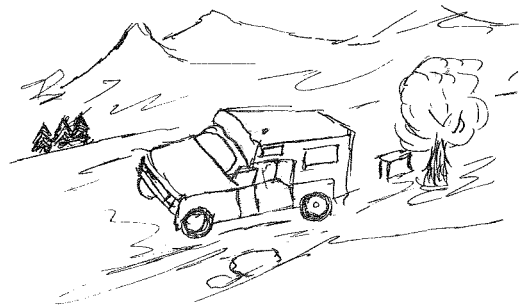


"SATISFIED CUSTOMERS ARE OUR BEST ADVERTISEMENT"

TELEPHONE
466-1697

TOM & LEFTY'S ROCK SHOP

6333 KEARNEY STREET
LINCOLN, NEBR. 68507



COFFEE POT IS ALWAYS ON



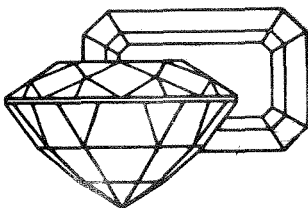
JEWELRY AND CUSTOM CUTTING

Larry's Gems and Minerals

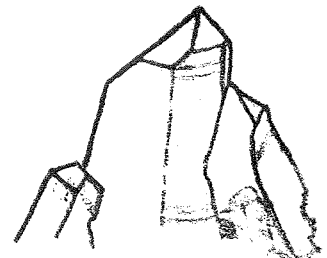
Phone (402) 466-0211

6126 Hartley Street

Lincoln, Nebraska 68507



CUSTOM CUTTING



Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club
Box 5342
Lincoln, NE 68505



BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LINCOLN, NE
PERMIT NO. 709

Exchange Editor: Evelyn Ulrich
3521 S. 48th St.
Lincoln, NE 68506

Historians File
2941 No. 65th Street
Lincoln, NE 68507

