

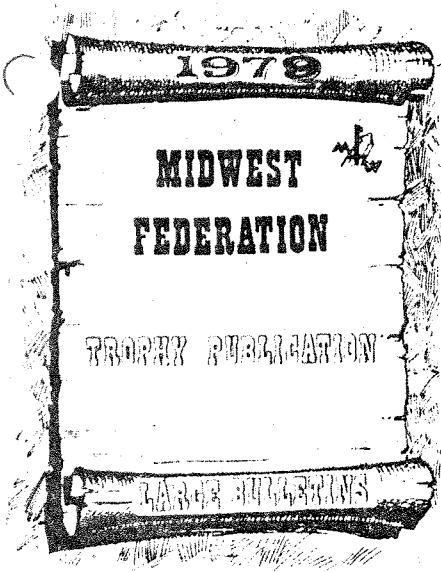


# THE PICK & SHOVEL

*highlights* in  
this issue... **AMBER**

## NEBRASKA STATE CAPITOL

and  
**AMERICAN NATIONAL**  
**gem & mineral show**  
June 12 thru 15, 1980



Volume 20  
Issue 10  
June, 1980

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

### Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 5342

Lincoln, Nebraska 68505

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)  
Nebraska Academy of Sciences  
Community Arts Council of Lincoln

Regular Meetings: 4th Saturday of the month, September thru May, 7:30 P.M.  
1980 - Trabert Hall, Lower Level, 2202 South 11th Street

1980 ELECTED OFFICERS

President.....	Roger Pabian	315 "D" St	Lincoln, 68502	474-2034
1st Vice Pres...	Larry Bigley	6126 Hartley	Lincoln, 68507	466-0211
2nd Vice Pres...	Edwin Johnson	1800 Pawnee	Lincoln, 68502	423-9075
Recording Secy..	Vera Lyman	420 N. 56th St.	Lincoln, 68504	464-6089
Treasurer.....	Phyllis Parks	2435 S. 19th	Lincoln, 68502	476-6798
Board Member....	Marita Bigley	6126 Hartley	Lincoln, 68507	466-0211
Board Member....	Virginia Green	6120 The Knolls	Lincoln, 68512	423-5032
Board Member....	Frank Rule	6333 Kearney	Lincoln, 68507	466-1697
Board Member....	Farel Nyland	6934 Francis	Lincoln, 68505	466-3387

Nominating Committee--3 years..Bob Walker, Irl Everett; 2 years..Wilfrid Wittman,  
Edwin Johnson; 1 year..Marita Bigley, Lynn Wells

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE:

Programs	Howard J. Taylor, Jr.	Liaison and Calling	Marie Taylor
Education	Marilyn Smits	Refreshments	Mary Walker
Hospitality	Goldie Quinn		
Historian	Lois Everett		
Librarian	Kay Graber	Scholarship	Howard Taylor
Membership	Mary Lambert	Outside Displays	Bruce Simon
Field Trips & Safety	Walt McCoy	Housing and Property	Dick Roberts
Sunshine Corner	Susan Taylor	Publications	Glen Litzenberg
NAOESCI Reporter	Evelyn Ulrich	Auditing Comm. 1980	TBA
1981 Show	TBA		

LONG RANGE PLANNING AND BY LAWS COMMITTEE

1 year remaining Nelda Oliver, John Harrison; 2 years remaining, Jim Parks,  
Phyllis Parks; 3 years remaining, Howard Taylor, Marie Taylor

1980 National Show Planning Committee - Selected, 1977 General Meeting -  
Howard Taylor, John Harrison, James Marburger, Tom Simmons, Roger Pabian and  
Frank Rule. Committee selected Howard Taylor as Chairman and added Ray Lambert  
as Secretary.

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF: Chairman...Glen Litzenberg  
Editor Evelyn Ulrich, 3521 S. 48th St., Lincoln NE 68506 (488-9051)  
Club News Helena Baegl Artwork  
Sunshine Susan Taylor Publisher  
Typists Flossie Litzenberg, Marita Bigley, Linda Parks

DEADLINE 1st of Month of Issue. Articles may be reprinted by credit and bulletin copy.

CALENDAR



There will be no general meeting of L.G.M.C. during June, July or August. Meetings will resume September 27th. You will be notified of field trips or any Club events either by letter or telephone call.

General meetings are held on the 4th Saturday of the month at Trabert Hall, 2202 S. 11th at 7:30 P.M. Entrance is on the east side of the building, south door.

There is always an interesting program and good fellowship. Visitors are welcome.

Field trips are to be scheduled after the 1980 National Show.

\*\*\*\*\*

1980 Dates to Remember

June 21-22	Beatrice, Ne.	Homestead Gem & Min. Club Swap
July 19-20	Columbus, Ne.	Loup Valley Gem & Min. Soc. Show
Aug. 2-3	Nebraska City, Ne.	Arbor Valley Gem & Min. Club, Swap
Aug. 16-17	Crawford, Ne.	Northwest Nebraska Rock Club, Show
Aug. 30- Sept. 1	Omaha, Ne.	Nebraska Mineral & Gem Club, Show
Sept. 13-14	Kearney, Ne.	Fort Kearney Rock Club, Show
Sept. 27-28	Ogallala, Ne.	State Show, hosted by Prairie Rockhounds
Oct. 18-19	Grand Island, Ne.	Grand Island Earth Science Club, Show

## Your 1980 Regional Show Schedule

Here are the dates and locations of the six Regional Shows in 1980. Note that the National Show and Convention will be held in Lincoln, Nebraska in conjunction with the Midwest Federation, June 12-15, 1980.

CALIFORNIA	EASTERN	MIDWEST AFMS SHOW	NORTHWEST	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	SOUTH CENTRAL
August 1-3, 1980 Pasadena, California	June 20-22, 1980 Charleston, West Virginia	June 12-15, 1980 Lincoln, Nebraska	August 1-3, 1980 Boise Idaho	June 6-8, 1980 Topeka, Kansas	August 15-17, 1980 Shreveport, Louisiana

Last month...A resume of the May meeting will appear in the September issue of Pick & Shovel. The meeting date was changed to May 31st because of the Memorial Day weekend. At this writing the meeting has not yet taken place.

\*\*\*\*\*

10 Years Ago - June 1970

No regular meeting. Frank Rule asked to resign from his duty as a board member due to illness at home. G.W. McGinnis has consented to fill his space.

Big field trip to Wyoming to hunt for Jade. June 15th. This was a fee trip; \$10.00 for 15 pounds of Jade.

20 Years Ago - June 1960

What a month! The first issue of Pick & Shovel was published. Virgil and Marie Carveth celebrated (?) their 25th wedding anniversary by helping to assemble and mail this first bulletin.

From the history files of Lois and Irl Everett

\*\*\*\*\*

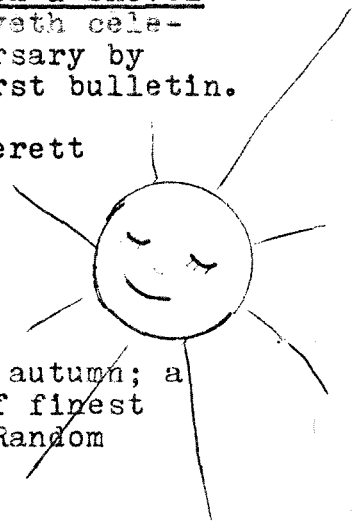
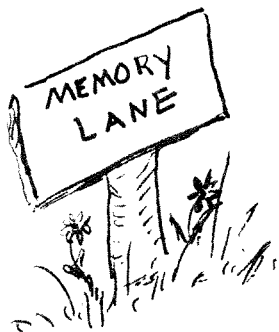
GREETINGS FROM THE SUNSHINE CORNER:

Summer (noun) : The season between spring and autumn; a period of hot, unusually sunny weather; the period of finest development, perfection, or beauty. (Source: The Random House College Dictionary)

Summer: June 12-15, 1980, Lincoln, Nebraska, the AFMS-MWF Geo-Gemboree; picnics, rock swaps, camping out, being outdoors, working in the garden, vine-ripened tomatoes; seeing all of our friends at the Show, and making new friends.

A get well (fast!) card was sent to George McGinnis who was hospitalized for a short time--get out and enjoy that summer sun Mac!

Suze Sunshine



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What more is there to say? We are just nine days away from the opening of our second national show and everything seems to be moving fast and closing in fast. Two weeks from today, it will all be just a lot of history. There will be many nice things to look back at and we will have re-kindled many old friendships and made many new ones.

My job as publicity director has been most rewarding. I have had the opportunity to work with many of the well known people in the gem and mineral world including June Zeitner and Pansy Kraus of Lapidary Journal; Jack Cox and Renata Williams of Gems and Minerals; and Marie Huizing and Linda Dove of Rocks and Minerals. Their assistance has been most helpful in our national publicity campaign. They are all great people to work with and their dedication to the rock hobby is really outstanding. My sincere thanks go to all of these editors and their respective publications for the help they have given. If success can be looked upon as a corporate adventure, I assure you that they are all big shareholders.

We will have a lot of work to do upon the completion of the show. The new club season will begin in September, and we will have many new goals to attain. There will be some club activities in the summer this year. The calling committee will keep you posted. I had hoped to have some workshops and field trips by now but the show has demanded most of the available time, all other time going for such frills as eating and sleeping.

The club owes a vote of thanks to Howard Taylor who has so ably put together the show and who has utilized our talents and desires to develop what I think history will show to be the greatest rock show to date. The quantity of displays is down a bit from 1974 but the quality is probably the highest ever. Thanks go to Irl and Lois Everett for much work. Every committee on the show has really done a good job, and as President, I commend all of the workers.

The last page of this month's bulletin contains a geologic time column. The purpose of this is to fill the page. We don't want any empty pages in the bulletin if this can be avoided. In case of any empty pages, either the editor or I will find some filler. The time column is similar to the one that appears in the Scotts Bluff circular and it was the model for it, the former ~~one~~ having the shaded areas.

A good way to avoid empty pages would be for the readership to contribute more original articles. The editor could certainly use any material on field trips, lapidary techniques, collections, etc.

One item of interest to local people will be the Red Cloud field guide that will hopefully be available by show time. This gives the directions to several outcrops of Cretaceous and Pleistocene rocks, and describes the fossils and gives an interpretation of the geology in that area.

I want to wish every member of the club successful field tripping and good collecting over the ~~summer~~ months. Drive carefully to all of your destinations.

Roger Pabian  
President

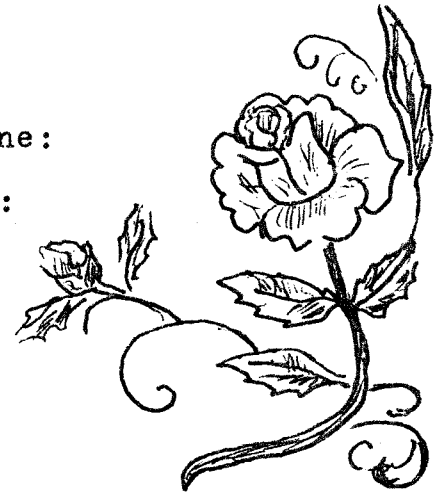
From the editor's desk...There will be no bulletin sent out during July and August. Any needed information will be transmitted by letter or telephone call. Right now we are all very much involved in preparations for the big Show. It sounds as if it will be super. The people who have worked so hard to make this an outstanding Show deserve an awful lot of credit and appreciation. Besides sharing the pleasures of Rockhounding with many, such a Show helps to increase knowledge and an awareness of our great mineral heritage. By hosting the Show we are not only rendering a service to the Federations, but we are putting LGMC on the map.

It is the wish of your editor that our readers will have a pleasant summer, and that special specimen for which you have been searching will be found.

Evelyn

\*\*\*\*\*

Ask for what end the heavenly bodies shine,  
Earth for whose use? Pride answers, 'Tis for mine:  
For me kind Nature wakes her genial power,  
Suckles each herb, and spreads out every flower:  
Annual for me, the grape, the rose, renew,  
The juice nectareous, and the balmy dew;  
For me, the mine a thousand treasures brings;  
For me, health gushes from a thousand springs;  
Seas roll to waft me, suns to light me rise;  
My footstool earth, my canopy the skies.



Alexander Pope\_ An Essay On Man

\*\*\*\*\*

Did you know that backing cabochons of rock crystal, rutilated quartz, and other translucent stones with reflecting Scotch tape produces some weird effects? Try backing translucent obsidian with aluminum foil.

S.I.E.S.Club via Template

Ever notice when a fellow says he agrees with you in principle, he's invariably getting ready to argue with you?

Grit via Reader's Digest

Praise is the best diet for us, after all.

-Rev. Sydney Smith

The man with a green thumb is a gardener---but one with a purple thumb is a Rockhound.

Tek Rock Club News

CODE OF ETHICS  
of the  
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations and rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting materials in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind, such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning materials - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supplies.

I will cause no damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will support the Rockhound Project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter, Please) and leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with Field Trip Leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my Club or Federation Officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other proper authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations and for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of Natural Resources.

I will observe the "golden rule", will use good outdoor manners, and will at all times, conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public image of Rockhounds everywhere.

\*\*\*\*\*

Your behavior either subtracts from or adds to the stature of Rockhounds as a class; always observe the "Golden Rule", and you can be sure that the "Public Image" which you are helping to create is a good one, and that will be to your advantage.

via Park Forest Earth Science Newsletter

-----  
ACTIVITIES OF LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

LG&MC is alive and flourishing! We now number 123 members, at last count. 1980 will be our second hosting of a National Show, four days, June 12-13-14-15. Our first, in 1974, was very successful, with the U.S. Postal Service honoring our hobby with four beautiful colored mineral stamps, and a number of officials coming from Washington, D.C. for the presentation, Lincoln being the point of issue. An exciting and wonderful experience. We anticipate this year's show to surpass the '74 one in dealers, exhibits, and originality of displays---despite travel expense and other inflationary factors. However, most of us do those things that we really want to do, and forego others; so we look for a good attendance in June.

The show will be in the expansive, air-conditioned, Devaney Sports Arena at Nebraska State Fair grounds---with ample parking for daily show visitors, and good near-by camping facilities. So, y'all come!

We had two good displays at Nebraska Wesleyan University this past year, with beautiful crystal and mineral specimens, cabochons, and hand-made jewelry. These were nicely exhibited in Olin Hall on NWU campus.

LG&MC celebrated its 25th anniversary in January. A delicious dinner at First Assembly of God church, and an artistically decorated cake made by Vera Lyman. Blue ribbons were given those members present, by Marie Wells, showing the number of years of membership in the club. We had one charter member present- Mrs. Frances Tracy; other charter members were lolling in Arizona's sunshine, so their ribbons were deferred til their return. Your reporter received a 24-year ribbon, having just missed charter membership by a couple of months.

Cherry pies are traditional at our February meetings, and after all are served an auction of the remaining pies brings in a few shekels for our treasury. Also, each month the "kitty" is passed for the American Federation Scholarship Foundation fund, and we are on the brink of the 1,000% status!

The club maintains a library of excellent books on rocks, minerals, jewelry-making, hunting sites, etc.,etc. All are available for check-out by members. Some are highly technical, but many easily understood by ordinary Rock Hounds.

Several times a year our monthly meetings include silent auctions or rock swaps; always interesting and profitable. Meetings are held on the 4th Saturday, with programs of slides, reports on field trips, special VIP speakers, slides showing hunting areas, and so on. Guests are always welcome.

Helena Baegl

\*\*\*\*\*

Too many parents tie up their dogs and let thier kids run loose.

-Parts Pups - Goldrush Ledger

SHOW CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This show has been planned by a seven man board which was elected by the host club namely the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club of Lincoln, Nebraska. It has been three years in the planning stage and so here is our extravaganza.

We have had several major complications such as the Iranian affair, OPEC and our fuel and energy situation plus the constant raising of our fuel prices. However, we continued our planning and we are glad you are here to see our show.

A number of dedicated people from our club have worked many long hard hours in this production. We have received help from many of our state clubs in the way of centerpieces, table favors and programs.

We have assembled some very outstanding programs, speakers, symposiums and spectacular displays. Our Latvian people have helped us with an outstanding feature in the Latvian Amber Jewelry display. This is the first time this display has been set up in a show of this size. We are very proud to have them join us. They will also put on a number of programs. Everyone should try to take in this program sometime during your stay. We are also proud to announce that we have a display from the South African Federation, several displays from Canada, a display from Guatamala and nearly every state in our own country.

Our "Kiss My Agate" badge has become very popular thru out the United States. Please visit our booth at the show and purchase the "Kiss My Agate Certificate" and help the AFMS Scholarship Fund.

You can help your club scholarship fund by participating in the Silent Auction. These proceeds all go to the AFMS Scholarship Fund.

We have a large Swap Area set up for those who wish to participate in the swapping of their rocks, minerals and fossils.

Our dealers were selected from all over this country. There are sixty dealers and forty wholesale dealers to supply your needs for the hobby. Plan to spend a day with the dealers; it figures out over one and a half miles to travel.

Our Demonstrators in number are scattered thru out the main floor of the show. You will want to visit them to get new ideas.

There is a Snack Bar on the premises and good food will also be served in a fine restaurant just east of the show site on the fairgrounds.

I want to thank each and everyone who helped in some way to make our show a success. Thanks to all the committee people for their support and endless hours of planning and working. Thanks to all who came to see the show. I do hope you enjoyed yourselves. Have a safe trip home.

Howard Taylor  
Show Chairman

### POTPOURRI

A retired carpenter from Arizona who prospects for gold and diamonds has found a diamond he thinks is worth \$20,000. He found the gem while prospecting at Crater of Diamonds State Park, Murfreesboro, Ark.

Jim Cannon, park superintendent, said the diamond found by Jim Williamson, 57, of Black Canyon City, Arizona, weighed five carats, eight point, one of the ten largest found at the park.

The park covers several acres where diamonds were mined earlier this century. Anyone can comb the fields and keep what they find.

Williamson said he found a total of 26 diamonds during 115 days of prospecting at the park. He estimated the gems worth a total of between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

Cappers Weekly, 6/26/79 via The Rockpicker

Major finds of Brazilian emeralds and Maine tourmaline have been made recently. The Brazilian discovery in Minas Gerais is said to be yielding the highest quality emeralds ever found in that country. "They are as fine as Colombian", says Dr. Vincent Manson, head of the Gemological Institute of America's Santa Monica Research Laboratory.

Dean McCrillis of Plumbago Mining Company, Newry, Maine reports discovery of a huge pocket of tourmaline and beryl. The tourmaline, he says, is "mostly flawless sweet green with no dichroic olive or yellow".

via Gem City Rock News 2/80

Use an electric fry pan to heat stones for dopping. Set it at 210 degrees and there will be no danger of cracking. Line it with aluminum foil, then put the side of the stone up that you wish to dop. Get the wax on the dop stick hot, then set it on the stone and shape.

Rock Chips via T-Town Rockhound

Field Trip Ethics...An old Miner's Rule states that while a miner's tools, equipment and personal property remain in, or next to, a digging, that digging is his until he relinquishes it either by removal of his property or announcing that he is finished digging in the area. Furthermore, any material, specimens or rocks cached near by are also the property of the miner, and shall not be touched or removed without his express permission.

Unfortunately not all of us are miners, and may not know of this custom. Please keep in mind on field trips.

East Bay Nodule via American River Currents

From Jewelers' Circular Keystone...A 1500-carat black opal found in Virgin Valley, Nevada, was recently donated to the Gemological Institute of America.

The bullion market analysts in London fear that Russia will reduce its gold sales for 1980 to near zero because of Carter's grain embargo.

### L.G.M.C. HISTORY

-by Lois Everett, Historian

The Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club was founded in 1955, the first meeting being held on January 15 at the Y.M.C.A. There were eighteen charter members with Maurice Tracy as president.

Irl Everett was founder of the Club. He first became interested in rocks after attending the Museum at Morrill Hall when his daughter, Janet, wanted to purchase a Mineral Kit there.

There are two remaining Charter Members, Frances Tracy and Irl Everett.

Through the interest of the Club members the membership has grown to the present 123.

The meetings have been held at various places. Besides members' homes there was Morrill Hall at the University, Y.M.C.A., Mundy Center, Hollywood Bowl, Union Bank, Robert's Dairy Party Room, Welfare Society Hall, Naval Reserve Training Center, W.O.W. Meeting Hall, the I.O.O.F. Hall, and at the present meeting place, Trabert Hall.

The number of Club members responsible for making this Club a success are too numerous to mention, but to each one we say a big "Thank you".

We want to mention some of the highlights of the Club's activities over the years:

The Club was incorporated in 1959, the same year that we had our first Club Show. Also, the first edition of the Club Directory was printed.

In 1964 the partial remains of a Cretaceous Age plesiosaur were discovered on the land of Adolph Rezac of Valparaiso, Nebraska. These bones were preserved for 120,000,000 years. Members of the Rock Club spent many years helping dig and later helping the museum staff in preparing and preserving the "plesy" bones. At present it is displayed at the University Museum at Morrill Hall.

Much work has been done in making displays and presenting programs to the Lincoln Public Schools. There are the visual aid cases, called "Travel Cases" which are loaned to the schools. A fossil case was presented in 1965. We also have a "Gems on Location" map case that is available.

The first Rockrama for the L.G.M.C. was held in 1967. The year was the Centennial of Nebraska statehood. All efforts put forth resulted in Nebraska's largest ever rock show attended by over 7500 people including over 40 buses filled with 1200 students from area schools. There were a total 532 displays from 15 states. The majority of the Club members were in Centennial costume. A "Miss Rockrama" was chosen.

In 1970 many hours of planning went into the Founders' Day program

L.G.M.C. HISTORY continued

by the committee: Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Carveth, Mr. and Mrs. Irl Everett, Mr. and Mrs. C. Ray Waddle, assisted by Mr. Bill Foxwell and Dr. and Mrs. Des Gibson. The program was a journey through the years... "This Is Your Life". Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club Membership ribbons were then awarded. Following these honoraries Life Memberships were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Tracy, Mr. Clyde Benham and Mr. Irl Everett. They received walnut and brass plaques created by Mr. Waddle. Space will not permit giving all of the very meaningful program.

Roger Pabian, our Club president, has written two books for the University of Nebraska: Record in Rock, A Handbook of Invertebrate Fossils of Nebraska, illustrated by Sally Heald, also Minerals and Gemstones of Nebraska. An excellent contribution, Roger.

The Pick & Shovel is the official bulletin of the Gem and Mineral Club and editors over the years have done a super job in making it a winner of top awards. The present editor is Evelyn Ulrich.

The Junior members are called "Pebble Pups". Marie Wells has been sponsor of the first 4-H Rock Club in Lancaster County.

We have a continuing participation in the scholarship fund.

In 1974 the MWF-AFMS National Show and Convention and the Nebraska State Show was held in Lincoln on the State Fair Grounds. Irl Everett was Show Director. 46,000 were in attendance with 733 displays (largest on record). One of our members, Frank Krejci, was National award winner in his class. The First Day Issuance of the Mineral Heritage Stamps also took place at the National Show. Many Club members put in long hours along with the help of other Clubs across the state which was very much appreciated.

Now again, in 1980, the L.G.M.C. is hosting the National Show to be held at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Howard Taylor, past Club president and past president of the Midwest Federation, is chairman of the Show. At this writing plans are progressing very satisfactorily. Truly there is a great satisfaction in being able to host the National Show for the second time. Thanks to each one who is putting his shoulder to the wheel to make another successful show.

If I have failed to give credit where credit is due, please accept my apologies.

Lois Everett, Historian



1974 NATIONAL SHOW  
-by Irl Everett

"That was a very good year", so the song goes, and the year was 1974.

Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club had bid on the National Show and had been accepted as the sponsor, so the Club started to work on the basic plan. First we set up a steering committee to make the guides for all the committee heads to follow. This was to be a four-year process, as it takes a lot of time and energy to cover every detail that we would encounter.

There are two members of that original steering committee working on the 1980 Show: Howard Taylor and Irl Everett.

The Show was held at the Fairgrounds, the site of the 1980 National Show.

The steering committee had set up their budget for a total attendance of around 22,000 and then in 1973, just before the Show- you remember what happened-the oil embargo! We didn't know if there would be gas to come to Lincoln, or if it would be rationed. In fact, we didn't know just what we would do, but felt we had to go on with the Show. So we revamped our budget and set it at 12,000 paid admissions and felt we were ready and able to go on as planned.

Now this would have been great, but you know how Rockhounds are. If there's a National Show they want to go to it, and they did! When the last one came through the gate we had counted a total of 46,000 and that's a lot of Rockhounds!

I remember we rented about every building on the Fairgrounds, but the Horse Barn. In fact some of our events were bursting at the seams. All the programs and lectures ran a full house, our camping facilities were to their capacity; all the eating places were crowded, but everyone was having fun.

We had 50 Retail Dealers, 11 Manufacturers and Distributors and 30 Wholesalers. So we were well represented with dealers from all across the U.S.A.

We also invited many famous people to our 1974 Show; among them was an invitation to President Richard Nixon. Of course he had to turn us down, but we felt it was a good move to ask him to be at the Show.

Our special exhibits were something to see:

1. Minerals from the Smithsonian Institution
2. Rock Art- Ivan E. Painton, Internationally known artist, poet, lapidarian.
3. Rock Pictures-Howard and Harvey Kenfield
4. Minerals from Dave Wilbus collection

Plus many other things we enjoyed.

The week of June 10-16 was proclaimed "Nebraska Rockhound Week" by the governor, J.J. Exon.

There were many,many Clubs, individuals and groups who helped on the 1974 Show, and it was such a great success that we will always remember it as one of our greatest accomplishments.

Irl Everett  
Founder LGMC

## MY THOUGHTS ON THE L.G.M.C.

-by Irl Everett

When I think back to the time the L.G.M.C. was conceived in my mind, it seems like yesterday.

The plan to start a gem club had been in my mind for some time, and when it finally came forth it did so as a birth of a child. The L.G.M.C. started small and was very feeble at its beginning, as there were not just too many folks who would confess that they liked rocks or had anything to do with them.

I remember our first meeting and most everyone who was there that night at the Y.M.C.A. Building. There were 18 the first meeting and it was from this we formed the Club and decided to move on.

From the original 18 there are just two of us left who have been active in the Club all these years—Frances Tracy and myself. We have seen the little Club grow to what it is now.

The greatest rewards we can get is to see something that was started from such a small beginning to go on to such great accomplishments.

Our Club has been a very active Club as you can read elsewhere in the Pick & Shovel—the article entitled "LGMC History".

I think there are 3 things that make a Club grow and do things:

1. The desire to move on, and set high goals.
2. The desire to keep the interest of all Club members.
3. The fellowship we have with our fellow members.

If I were to list the highlights of the Club it would be many, so I'll limit it to a couple:

1. I think the 1974 National Gem and Mineral Show hosted by LGMC was a real highlight in our history. (Read about it elsewhere in the Pick & Shovel. As I think back to '74 it seemed like an impossible task for us to perform. We as one Club taking on such an assignment—the odds were all against us. Almost all other National Shows had been put on by 2-6 other Clubs all working together, but we did it, and all of us are proud of what we have done. It takes a lot of work.

Now here in 1980 we are doing the same thing. Folks have said, "You know just how to do it now after putting on one Show before". No, the problems are all different and nothing is the same. It just takes a lot of hard work from such a few people. Like all the Clubs I've ever been in there are such a few who get in and really work at a job that helps.

2. Another smaller highlight in my association with the LGMC was in 1970 when they presented me with a plaque and Lifetime Membership card. I was touched to tears, and I'll not tell all that.

So, as I think over the last 25 years I see in my mind an active Club and a go forth Club that is not satisfied to sit and not do anything.

The LGMC has been a great part of my life and I'm proud to have been a part of it.

The future looks bright and we can expect to move on to other things.

Thank you, all you members who have been such a part of the LGMC. I'm proud to know each one of you.

Irl Everett, Founder of LGMC

-----  
TWENTY YEARS OF COLLECTING IN NEBRASKA

We could easily begin this article by asking: "Why should I go to the mountains when the mountains can come to me?" That sums up what a collector really needs to know about finding things in Nebraska. The residents of Colorado and Wyoming may like to point at their mountains and tell of their majesty. They neglect to tell us that probably as much of their mountains have been washed out of their states by such streams as the Platte and Niobrara Rivers. This last fact makes for some very interesting gem collecting in Nebraska. It is amazing to look at some of the things that have been found in this state, as the rivers have left some of the mother lodes here.

My first field trips were designed for collecting fossils, though my very first trip was to go mineral collecting at Holmesville. I have most of the things from that trip number one and some of them are very choice items such as a calcite geode with a chalcopyrite shell and a small geode with a quartz crystal cluster that is covered with brilliant pyrite crystals, and some small, ruby colored sphalerite crystals.

Many of the later field trips were devoted to collecting fossils. I had been told that there were no trilobites in Nebraska. Some time devoted a rich fauna from the Pennsylvanian Bonner Springs Shale near Louisville. Not only were these trilobites fun to collect---they led to an undergraduate National Science Foundation Grant, and, finally, to my first professional talk and first professional paper. There will always be room for exploration in geology.

At about the same time that all of the above was happening, Hal DeGraw of the Conservation and Survey Division made an interesting discovery of a plesiosaur in some of the Cretaceous rocks near the town of Valparaiso, Nebraska. For some time, the discovery went unmentioned for the lack of labor to help excavate this creature. In the fall of 1964, the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club provided some of the funds and most of the labor, and by Christmas, the museum was decked with this magnificent fossil.

During the ensuing years, some of the best collecting I had ever done took place while I worked as a geologist for the Nebraska Department of Roads. Much of the time was spent looking for gravel to be used in construction of the interstate highway. We found plenty of gravel, and petrified wood, and agate, and facetable quartz, and all colors of jaspers. All of these materials were found in terrace fills and gravel bars of both the ancient courses of the South Platte River and in its modern channels. During all of these trips, I met quite a few collectors around the state and began cataloging in my head all of the nice things that I had seen. The end result was "Minerals and Gemstones of Nebraska."

Of course, not all of Nebraska's gemstones are restricted to the gravels that originated in the Front Range, Black Hills, and Hartville Uplift. Wisconsin, Minnesota, and parts of Ontario and Manitoba were mountainous regions in the late Precambrian. Pleistocene glaciers transported many fine Lake Superior Agates and such materials as silkstone and binghamite into Nebraska. Much of this material has been very nice to cut. We can't go too far without mentioning some of the fine moss agates that the glacial deposits yield.

One of the relatively different things the collector faces now than when I did over 20 years ago is legislation. It is much more difficult to obtain permission to enter quarries and pits than it was in 1960. There have been a battery of court decisions and legislation that has not favored the rockhound or the geologist.

In 1960, entry to a quarry was little more than waving to the scale crew as we drove in. Some of the more rigid would require that we sign a guest book and the real hard places required that we sign a liability release. Many of the quarries were small, family affairs and it was not uncommon for the scale operator to run the crusher or do several other jobs at the quarry.

It seemed that the only job that all of the quarry operators had hired someone else to do was their blasting. All of the quarries in Cass and Sarpy Counties were served by one explosives technician whose name I do not recall. His job kept him in close contact with every face in the quarry. I should qualify that as rock face---not visitors. He had a keen eye for many fossils and would always lead us to some of the better collecting. He steered many collectors and professionals alike to some excellent fossils, although he never kept any.

The early sixties were marked by quite a bit of new road construction in Nebraska. This included both primary and FAS roads. The new cuts as well as the gravel pits excavated for these roads often were exceptionally good places to collect. Much agate, wood, jasper, and other cutting materials were to be had.

Much of the 1950's and 1960's were dedicated to flood control projects by the Corps of Engineers. Many excellent quarries were opened along the Missouri River, including Queen Hill, King Hill, and Ace Hill. All of these pits are now inactive and their collecting status varies from year to year. Most are quite badly overgrown. In 1960, it was a common site to see a dozen or more rockhounds visiting one of the hills, usually Queen Hill, on a Sunday afternoon. Many excellent fossils were recovered by these early collectors in the Nebraska Pennsylvanian. Many of these collectors are still here to tell their tales. Queen Hill was probably the Queen of all Nebraska localities. It truly had some material to appeal to every interest. The fossil collecting was the very best. Some exceptionally fine pyrite octahedrons up to a couple of inches long came from there, and the lapidary could obtain some very fine honey onyx as well as agatized coral.

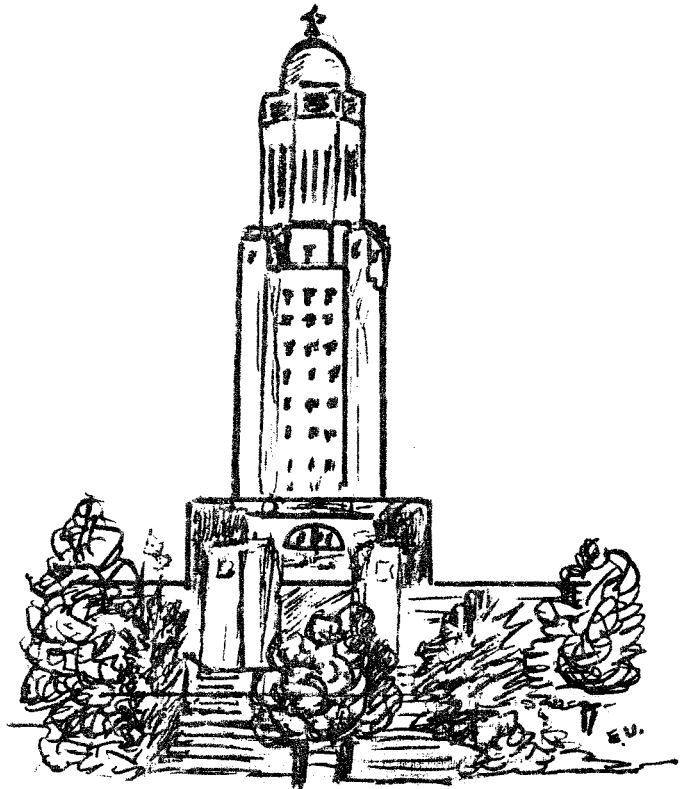
All of the above areas were great places to collect in Nebraska. I'm glad to have been involved in much of the early activity at those spots. However, nothing is built on memories. Rock collecting can keep alive and well only by the collectors being able to adjust their habits to meet changing times. We can't preserve the same things forever and to try to do so would be unproductive. The road cuts of the 1960's produced some nice agates but my best year of agate collecting was in 1978---in no year before or after have I found more good Lake Superior agates. 1980 has started out as a humdinger though.

Nebraska is a great place to collect rocks. The gravels from both the west and the north, as well as the indigenous gems will always be sought by collectors and lapidaries. We have to keep in mind that the tricks that help us find things in 1980 probably won't work in 1990. To be successful collectors, we have to adapt to changes in the whole environment, to changes in laws, changes in transportation habits, and all other things. The success of the future is up to each of us.

NEBRASKA's CAPITOL — Lincoln the Capital  
—by J.D. Young

Lincoln has many points of interest, governmental, educational, historical, and commercial-industrial. I shall not attempt to elaborate about all, but our magnificent State Capitol Building will be my main feature. Visitors also should find the State Museum (UNL Campus), State Historical Society (15th and R Sts.), and Educational Television (1800 N 33rd), all three Greats of their fields.

Our Capitol ranks among the great structures in the world, attracting visitors world-wide. The unique design and architectural features are unsurpassed anywhere — and it was paid for when finished! Nebraska did not go in debt for this beautiful State House. The cost was under \$10,000,000, a mere fraction of the expense at today's prices. Inflation had not yet come to pass.



This superb building in 1948 was rated as the "Fourth Architectural Wonder of the World" by 500 leading architects after considering twenty-five of the world's best buildings of all time.

Many books and other sources extol the exquisite beauty of this Capitol, some featuring detailed photographic coverage of its exterior and interior charm. Only by a leisurely visit, with expert guidance, can one fully absorb its magnificence and realize the cultural immensity of this "Tower of the Plains". A casual, hurried tour, even without a guide, is an impressive experience, but little of the symbolism, so ably presented through such media as painting, carving and sculpturing, will be gained. A competent guide, familiar with all details, can make the visit much more meaningful.

The Capitol grounds cover four city blocks, bounded by "H" to "K" Streets, and 14th to 16th Streets. Lincoln's early planners omitted "I" Street from the alphabetical scheme, so the building's center is in line with "J" and 15th Streets. The names of the State's 93 counties are carved at intervals on the outer wall surface surrounding the building. The low outer structure encompasses the four open-air courts with the great central tower in the center.

Symbolic tales of historical events, ideas, people, animals et cetera are depicted in bas-relief, and inscriptions cut into the exterior surface at various places around the lower, outer structure and also on some parts of the tower. The latter is 80 feet square by 400 feet high and is topped by the 19 foot bronze figure of the sower, the symbol for "sowing seeds for better and nobler living", visible for many miles away.

-----  
NEBRASKA'S CAPITOL - Lincoln the Capital continued

Various points in the Capitol honor the American Indian as well as the early pioneer settlers of Nebraska. To do this, several skilled artisans, historians and engineers were employed. The original architect, Bertram G. Goodhue, began his duties in the late summer of 1921, and he died suddenly April 23, 1924 at age 55. His assistant, William L. Younkin, carried the plans to completion.

An amazing amount of planning, pre-testing, research and selection was done, from the conception of the building to its completion over a decade later. Probably few of the world's wonders have been given such attention and coordination. The total time-span began in February 1919 by Legislative Act to approve the Capitol Commission and ended in 1934 with landscaping contracts. Considering the magnitude of the complete work the time was short. Some "world's wonders" have involved generations of effort.

A few facts about the building are to be noted: The chief stone in the structure is Bedford, Indiana limestone, containing some small fossil inclusions. Much of the material used in the strikingly beautiful interior (columns, panels, mosaics, etc.) were imported from several foreign lands, notably Italy, France, Belgium and Spain. Some came from various states - Arkansas, Colorado, Minnesota, Missouri, Utah and Vermont, for example. Rare woods and other materials came from many places.

A temporary railroad was built to the west side of the grounds to transport the enormous amount of substance and equipment involved, incoming and outgoing. The old Capitol was demolished and removed after the outer, lower part of the new one was functional. The lower part of the new Capitol was built around the old one, leaving an opening to the west side until all interior work was finished, such as removal of the old structure and the completion of the central tower.

Pre-testing included scientific measurements of the foundation site, especially the portion to support the great weight of the central tower. Fortunately, the underlying layer of Dakota sandstone was not too deep to serve as bedrock. Well-re-enforced piers or piles were imbedded into it to carry the load. So, Lincoln should never become the site of another "Leaning Tower". Pisa needs not worry about competition.

J.D.Y.

P.S. Capitol visiting hours: Tours from north door, Sunday 1,2,3,4; Monday-Friday tours: 9,10,11 A.M. ; 1,2,3,4 P.M. ; Saturday 1-5 P.M.

J.D.Y.

\*\*\*\*\*

Places in Nebraska to visit: Bancroft: John G. Neihardt Center; Beatrice: Homestead National Monument; Grand Island: Stuhr Museum; Minden: Pioneer Village; Omaha: Western Heritage Museum; Nebraska City: Arbor Lodge State Historical Park; Schramm Park, 6 miles south of I-80 exit No. 432.

## ROCK OF THE MONTH: AMBER

Amber is an organic substance of vegetable origin rather than a mineral. Resin from prehistoric coniferous trees that are now extinct fossilized into natural amber. Rather than a homogenous substance amber is made up of different constituents of varying solubility in organic solvents plus an insoluble bituminous material. The formula given is  $C_{10}H_{16}O$ . Hardness is 2.5 on the Mohs scale so that amber can be scratched with a knife blade and possibly some fingernails. Fracture is conchoidal. Amber is tough and not brittle. The resin is transparent to translucent to opaque. It has an amorphous structure and is consequently singly refractive with a Refractive Index of 1.539-1.545 but is "always in a state of strain sufficient to show bright interference-colours in polarized light" (Smith, 1972, p.511). Specific Gravity is 1.05-1.10 and amber will float in salt water. A very poor conductor of heat, amber feels warm to the touch and forms a good insulator that is used in electrical and radio apparatus. Melting point is 250-300 degrees C. When rubbed vigorously with a cloth, amber produces negative electricity which allows one to pick up bits of materials like paper with it.

Amber formed in the Oligocene division of the Tertiary period 40-50 million years ago, and is therefore one of the youngest of gemstones. The sap flowing from coniferous (e.g. pine) trees was extensive in that time and the sticky resins outside tree trunks trapped insects, beetles, butterflies, even small lizards plus plant leaves, buds, flowers, pine needles, and inorganic matter like minute crystals of pyrite. Then the resin was heated and pressed under mud and stones and finally cast into the sea. Even Pliny knew of amber and its inclusions of "ants...,gnats,lizards" (Smith,1972,p.511). Axon (1967) displays a photograph of a complete fly trapped in amber (p.114). These specimens are valuable for scientific research because of the information they provide about life in the past. A large collection of amber inclusions was destroyed by fire in 1944 in the amber museum at Kaliningrad in Russia (Fisher, 1966). Amber plates excavated near Stonehenge, Salisbury, England were dated back to 2000 B.C. (McKelvie,1973).

Until about 1850 amber was obtained from the Baltic seashore during low tide and called sea-amber or sea-stone. Amber is washed up on the coasts of eastern England, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, and Finland. Later large underground deposits were discovered near Königsberg, East Prussia (now Kaliningrad, Russia) so that by 1966 most amber was obtained by open-pit mining of marine glauconite sand called blue-earth in the Lower Oligocene strata which was overlain by beds of sand, lignite, clay, and soil. The tree from which the resin originated is the Pinus succinifer, (Smith,1972). Dredges and steam shovels were used at a site 140 miles west of Kaliningrad. Amber was separated from the blue-earth by powerful streams of water. This pit-amber contained 25-30% gem quality amber. This Baltic amber is the most common amber material. Called succinite it contains and also yields succinic acid, several resins, and amber oil. The material is found in irregular amorphous masses varying in size from very small pieces to lumps of several pounds. Sometimes more regularly formed masses called "drops" or "tears" are found. Kraus and Slawson (1947). Those authors also noted that the largest piece of amber found weighed 20 pounds.

## ROCK OF THE MONTH: AMBER continued

Kraus and Slawson (1947,p.278) describe five types of Baltic amber: Clear amber is perfectly transparent, ranging from water white to yellow to brownish-red in color. Fatty amber is slightly turbid because of the presence of air bubbles and resembles goose or duck fat in appearance and color; the Germans call this amber flohmig. Bastard amber is quite cloudy with many small air bubbles. Bony or osseous amber resembles ivory or dried bone and contains many minute air bubbles; it takes a good polish. The fifth type, Foamy or frothy amber, is opaque chalk white and does not polish well. Some of the cloudy varieties of amber may be made more transparent by careful heating in oil to allow the oil to enter the resin and fill the air spaces.

Baltic amber ranges in color from pale yellow to very deep yellow to dark brown. Other colors that are rarely seen are white, green, red, blue, and black.

Rumanite is the name of amber from Rumania, most commonly from the province of Buzau. Coloration is usually brownish-yellow to brown. The resin is transparent to translucent with occasional fluorescence. Although numerous cracks are frequent, the material can be worked without shattering (Kraus & Slawson, 1947). It differs from succinite in that it is composed of less succinic acid but more sulfur. Heat produces an aromatic odor. Deposits are smaller than in the Baltic area.

Simetite amber is from Sicily, most commonly from the shore near the mouth of the Simeto river. Coloration is reddish-yellow to pale to reddish brown are described also. The material may show blue-green fluorescence.

Amber found in the valley of the Hukong, one of the upper tributaries of the Chindwin river, Burma, is named burmite. Color ranges from honey yellow to deep red or dark brown with pale yellow most frequent. This resin type is slightly harder and denser than succinite. Frequently the material contains many cracks filled with calcite (Kraus & Slawson, 1947).

Amber is also found in Mexico, Canada, and in the United States on the Atlantic coast and rarely in the marl pits of southern New Jersey (Sinkankas, 1962) Ford (1932) noted other fossil resins from other regions are called retinite, gedanite, glessite, krantzite, chemawinite, delatynite, ajkaite, etc. Gedanite is softer than succinite.

Ambroid or pressed amber is made from small pieces of amber which are first carefully selected by color, scraped to remove impurities, then heated in the absence of air to 200-250 degrees C in a hydraulic press and kneaded together. The substance is then forced through holes of desired diameter in a metal plate into rods or into molds. Smith (1972) points out that "pressed amber closely resembles the natural substance in appearance and physical properties; it may most easily be distinguished by the elongation of the contained bubbles, the general flow character of the structure and the pattern of the interference-colours, which are no longer uniform over a large field, but are in the form of a patchwork of contrasting tints" (p.512).

## ROCK OF THE MONTH: AMBER continued

The composite resin is also double refractory. Ambroid is sometimes altered with special colors and tints and is easily worked and finished. It was first made in Vienna (Kraus & Slawson, 1947).

The decorative uses of amber include rounded beads for necklaces and brooches where the degree of wear is desirably minimized, because of its limited hardness. Beads have been known in Britain since the Bronze Age (Smith, 1972). Other jewelry designed of amber include pendants, baroque necklaces, bracelets, and rings; wear can be a problem with the latter. Amber objects include jewel cases, umbrella handles, cigar-and cigarette-holders, and mouthpieces of pipes.

Both the softness and the relative non-brittleness of amber contribute to its ease of carving and work on a lathe. Most varieties of amber take and retain a fairly good polish. Sinkankas (1962) describes procedure for the lapidarist: "Ordinary steel implements such as jeweler's saws, files, knives, etc., cut amber with ease; finishing is done with water to prevent heating. Polished quickly with flannel, felt, or flexible leather impregnated with tripoli powder or tin oxide. Leather used damp is preferred. Depressions in carvings are smoothed with paste abrasive using medium hard sticks of wood, shaved to fit. Similar sticks are used to polish" (p.246). Facet cutting is sometimes done. Smith (1972) writes that amber may be artificially stained with colors such as black or green.

Other natural organic resins and artificial plastics may resemble natural amber. Copal is a modern resin from Zanzibar and New Zealand that looks like amber, and may also have animal inclusions. It can be distinguished from amber by its "goose-skin" appearance, by its dull spot produced by ether drop that won't appear with amber, and by its fumes that do not contain hydrogen sulfide as do those from the fossil resin. Many plastics such as bakelite, erinoid, galalith, and celluloid can easily imitate amber. They are differentiated from amber by the following: when tested with a knife, plastics peel while amber chips or splinters; amber has a lower Specific Gravity than plastics with the exception of styrene; and the odor of amber when a piece is heated on a knife is usually characteristic due to either the irritation from succinic acid or the smell of hydrogen sulfide (which will turn lead acetate paper black). Styrene is distinguished from amber by its Refractive Index of 1.59 which is higher than that of the natural amber. The plastic bakelite deteriorates in clarity, color, and taste over time while amber remains more stable, and this provides differential data (Kraus & Slawson, 1947). Glass beads that resemble amber are denser and weigh more, are colder to touch, and have a different luster than amber.

In Pliny's time amber was claimed to have mystic powers to cure fevers, blindness, and deafness; other legends suggest that amber is good for throat problems, poisons, producing unconscious confessions from wayward husbands or wives during their dreams, fastening loose teeth and maybe false ones, and as a general antibiotic (McKelvie, 1973). Although the name amber comes from the French *ambre jaune* (yellow amber), the Greek word for the natural resin was *elektron* from which our word electricity has come.

ROCK OF THE MONTH: AMBER continued

A more thorough study of amber is presented by Bauer (1969).

References

- Axon, G.V. The Wonderful World of Gems. New York: Criterion Books, 1967
- Bauer, M. Precious Stones: Their Characters and Occurrence. Rutland, Vt. : Charles E. Tuttle, 1969.
- Fisher, P.J. The Science of Gems. New York: Scribner, 1966.
- Ford, W.E. Dana's Textbook of Mineralogy. New York: Wiley, 1932 (4th ed.)
- Kraus, E.H., & Slawson, C.B. Gems and Gem Materials. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1947.
- McKelvie, M.G. Gems of the Good Earth. Philadelphia: Franklin Publ., 1973.
- Sinkankas, J. Gem Cutting: A Lapidary's Manual. New York: van Nostrand 1962 (2nd ed.).
- Smith, G.F.H. Gemstones. (Revised by F.C. Phillips) New York: Pittman, 1972.

Marilyn R. Smits, Ph.D.  
Education Chairperson

FIGHT FOR YOUR RV

Did you know that right now there are people trying to pass laws that would limit and closely regulate your right to enjoy your RV vehicle and that soon you may not be able to enjoy your RV fully because different groups and state legislators are trying to find ways to:

1. Tell you the minimum miles per gallon your vehicle must get, and impose stiff penalties on those RV's that don't qualify?
2. Increase your costs for gasoline and oil?
3. Ram gas rationing down your throats (even though bigshots in government feel free to drive around in big cars and fly all over the world)?
4. Even limit your right to park your RV, even on private land?

Be determined not to let these government officials push you around. We've already got some legislators in our camp, but we should enlist more of them to our side. We all love our environment and are willing to do our share to help keep it safe and to conserve, but we should also make sure RV owners don't have to do all the sacrificing.

If you want to use your RV in the years to come you better let your state and federal government officials know. Write to your Congressman and express your feelings.

JUNIOR PAGE

Hi Juniors:

By the time you get your bulletin school will be out. I'm sure you have been looking forward to vacation even though you like school. It's nice to be able to do the things you want to do when you want to. If you do some rock hunting this summer, why don't you write a little article about it for the Junior Page, September issue? It will help keep you in practice for your English assignments when you get back to school, and it will give us some interesting reading. I hope you have some cases ready for the Show.

Have a good time this summer.

Mrs. Ulrich



\*\*\*\*\*

Some things you need to know about identifying minerals:

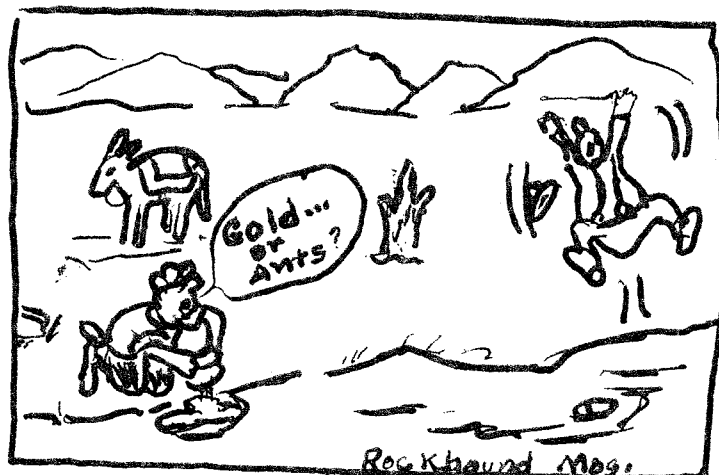
Form: This may be crystalline, which shows the shape of the crystals definitely; granular, like marble, the grains having the internal structure, but not the external form, of crystals; compact, which is without crystalline form, as limestone or flint.

Color

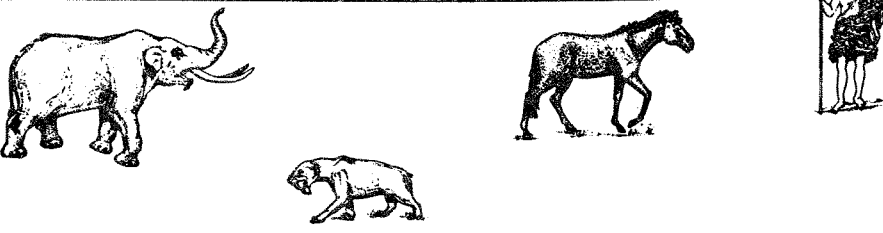




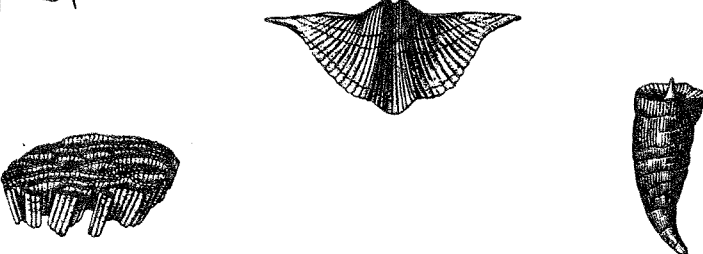

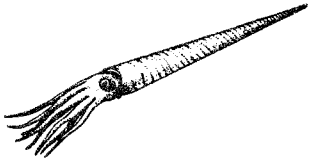

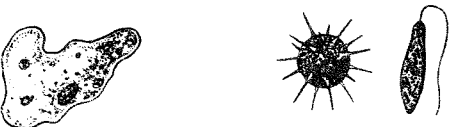
Luster or Shine: May be glassy like quartz, pearly like the inside of a shell; silky like asbestos; dull; or metallic like gold.

Hardness: Easily scratched with the finger nail; cannot be scratched by the finger nail; easily scratched with steel; with difficulty scratched with steel; not to be scratched by steel. A pocket knife is usually the implement used for scratching.

\*\*\*\*\*



# GEOLOGIC TIME CHART

	Time Units Era and Years	Important Life Forms	Succession of Life
1.0 CENOZOIC 0.70	Recent		Mammals spread with development of modern grasses. Mollusks important on land and in the sea
	Pleistocene		
	Pliocene		
	Miocene		
	Oligocene		
	Eocene		
	Paleocene		
MESOZOIC 0.225	Cretaceous		Decline of dinosaurs and ammonites Development of modern invertebrates
	Jurassic		Earliest birds Reptiles abundant Cephalopods
	Triassic		Comeback of ammonites
PALEOZOIC 0.600	Permian		Decline of ammonoids Extinction of trilobites
	Pennsylvanian		Plants, insects, and marine invertebrates
	Mississippian		Crinoids, blastoids and brachiopods important
	Devonian		Trilobites waning Brachiopods, corals, first land plants Fishes
	Silurian		Brachiopods, corals, crinoids, trilobites
	Ordovician		Trilobites, corals, graptolites, crinoids, and nautiloids important
	Cambrian		Trilobites, inarticulate brachiopods, and gastropods important
PROTEROZOIC and ARCHEOZOIC ERAS 4 1/2 billion years			

# Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July and August as a service to member clubs. All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information should be sent to the Editor, Haydon Peterson, Parrot Printing, 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311

**PRESIDENT**  
Mrs. Bernice McCloskey  
P.O. Box 527  
Elm Grove, WI 53122

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**  
Milford J. Sharp  
3901 West 210th St.  
Fairview Park, OH 44126

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**  
Larry Nawojski  
22757 Redwood Drive  
Richton Park, IL 60471

**SECRETARY**  
Miss Jean Reynolds  
107 Tuttle Avenue  
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

**TREASURER**  
William Parch  
Oakdale, WI 54649



June 1980 - Issue No. 205

## A Message From Bernice McCloskey, Midwest President

March, April and May were busy months with club shows every weekend. Joe and I attended as many as we could and I am happy to report we found high quality exhibits any rockhound could be proud of. But best of all we found an abundance of enthusiastic club members. ENTHUSIASM is the key ingredient in any activity but beware, it's contagious!

June - the beginning of summer - is the time for fun and relaxation, a time to regenerate the forces that make us tick. Many of us will be gardening, fishing, picnicing, and as always, rock hunting. Whether you spend the summer close to home or traveling the vast expanses of our country I hope you will make new friends, add a little something to your collection and have a wonderful time.

See you in Lincoln!

## DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

New address for Treasurer William Parch:  
P.O. Box 180, Fountain City, WI 54629.  
Telephone 608/687-8539.

Assistant to Treasurer: Marian Parch.  
(Address as above).

Parliamentarian: Katharine Steinbrenner,  
2813 Patricia Drive, Des Moines, IA 50322.

Geology: New Assistant: Dr. Robert Hatch,  
2223 E. Maple Lane, St. Paul, MN 55109.

Public Image: New Chairman: Ruth Mogg,  
Route 1 - Box 231, Grayslake, IL 60030.

Uniform Rules: New address for Harriet  
and Calvin George: 1824 Harvest Lane, Glen-  
dale Heights, IL 60137.

Assistant Uniform Rules: Jacque Nawojski,  
22757 Redwood Dr., Richton Park, IL 60471.

Directory, Page W-6: Price of the Uni-  
form Rules Book is \$1.00, plus Postage and  
Handling.

Directory, Page G-12: International Thum-

bnail Mineral Collector's Society - should  
be listed under Michigan clubs (where the  
club is incorporated) thought MWF mail goes  
to a Kentucky address).

Russell Reiman, Assistant Directory for  
Michigan: His street address should read  
10639 Balfour.

Russell Greer, named an Honorary Member  
in 1972, was omitted in error from the 1980  
Directory.

## OHIO HAS NEW STATE DIRECTOR

Midwest President Bernice McCloskey  
has appointed Leo Learned, now serving as  
an Assistant State Director for Ohio as the  
new State Director for that state. He suc-  
ceeds Peg Johnson who has resigned. The  
Midwest wishes to thank Peg for her service  
to the Midwest. (Note your Directory for  
address of Leo Learned.)

## LIBRARY SURVEY

The Midwest is making a survey of the  
number and titles of books in the various  
club libraries. Please list yours and send  
your list to President Bernice McCloskey.

## CHANNEL 13

CB Channel 13 has been selected by the Lincoln, Nebraska CB Club as the official Gem Show Control channel. Beginning on Monday, June 6, the club will monitor the channel for rockhounds coming to the show who need information to reach the fairgrounds or other destinations in Lincoln.

## DORMS AVAILABLE

Dorm space will be available in Lincoln at the University of Nebraska for those wishing these accommodations. Price is \$12.50 single and \$18.00 double. If interested, write Gurina Wittstruck, 1100 Seaton Hall, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588. The Dorms are within walking distance of the show.

## COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

The Eureka Rock and Gem Club, Mountain Home, Idaho has a unique way of calling attention to saving commemorative stamps used on their bulletin "Eureka News".

They use the word "Save" on the left side of the stamp and "Stamps" on the right side with the word "Commemorative" across the bottom. The stamp fits into this box formed by these words.

Are you using commemorative stamps?



On Friday, June 6 the 1980 Federation show season will get under way in Topeka, Kansas when the first of the Regional shows opens. The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society will host the Rocky Mountain Federation.

It will be the start of a brilliant summer of shows in various parts of the country as the six Regional Federations present their individual shows.

The Topeka show will be followed on June 12 when the American Federation joins with host club The Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club to present the annual show and convention, in Lincoln, Nebraska

During the past months we have carried stories about all of the six Regional shows and much copy about the AFMS National Show and Convention. It is hoped that everyone will be able to attend at least one show this summer. Plan to do so as it is an excellent time to see fine rocks and minerals, fossils, jewelry and renew acquaintances. And There will be dealers from all around the country with fine specimens and supplies from which to choose.

If you have not already made your reservations it is time to do so. You won't want to miss out on the accommodations and activities of your choice. Don't be disappointed by waiting too long to make your plans.

With this June issue we come to our annual summer recess. We do not publish in July or August. Our next issue will be September... out about the middle of August. Have a fun filled summer!

## ILLINOIS STRATA BOOKLET

A booklet titled "Illinois Strata" by Andrew Hay has been published by the Des Plaines Valley Geological Society of Des Plaines, Illinois. It contains 11 pages and covers the various strata and a map of Illinois counties. Persons interested in the booklet should write Des Plaines Valley Geological Society, P.O. Box 91, Des Plaines, Ill. 60017 for prices and other details.

PATRONIZE YOUR ADVERTISING DEALERS

MEXICAN MINERALS - SLABS - TUMBLED STONES

# Everett Lapidary Shop

THE CAPITOL CITY'S FIRST ROCK SHOP

2941 North 65th

PHONE 466-6204



AUTHORIZED DEALER FOR ALL LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT

"Satisfied Customers Are Our Best Advertisement"

## J J & L ROCKS & MINERALS

"from the novice to the discriminating rockhound"

2 GREAT LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

330 Locust  
Hickman, NE  
402-792-2337

6126 Hartley  
Lincoln, NE  
402-466-0211

Jim Marburger - John Harrison - Larry Bigley

CUSTOM CUTTING  
FOSSILS

ROUGH  
MINERALS  
SPECIMENS

CABACHONS  
FINDINGS  
SLABS

FINISHED JEWELRY  
SUPPLIES

Read your bulletin to spot *new materials* or *specials* of the above advertisers.

*Advertising* by a rock-hobby business or interest is permitted with approval of the Board, at a rate now set at \$10.50 per full page per insertion, paid in advance.

1/2 page \$5.25, 1/3 page \$3.50, 1/4 page \$2.75 (min). These ads will be placed throughout the bulletin as space permits.

*Subscriptions* to THE PICK & SHOVEL are \$3.00 per year mailed.

*Dues* to LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB are as follows:

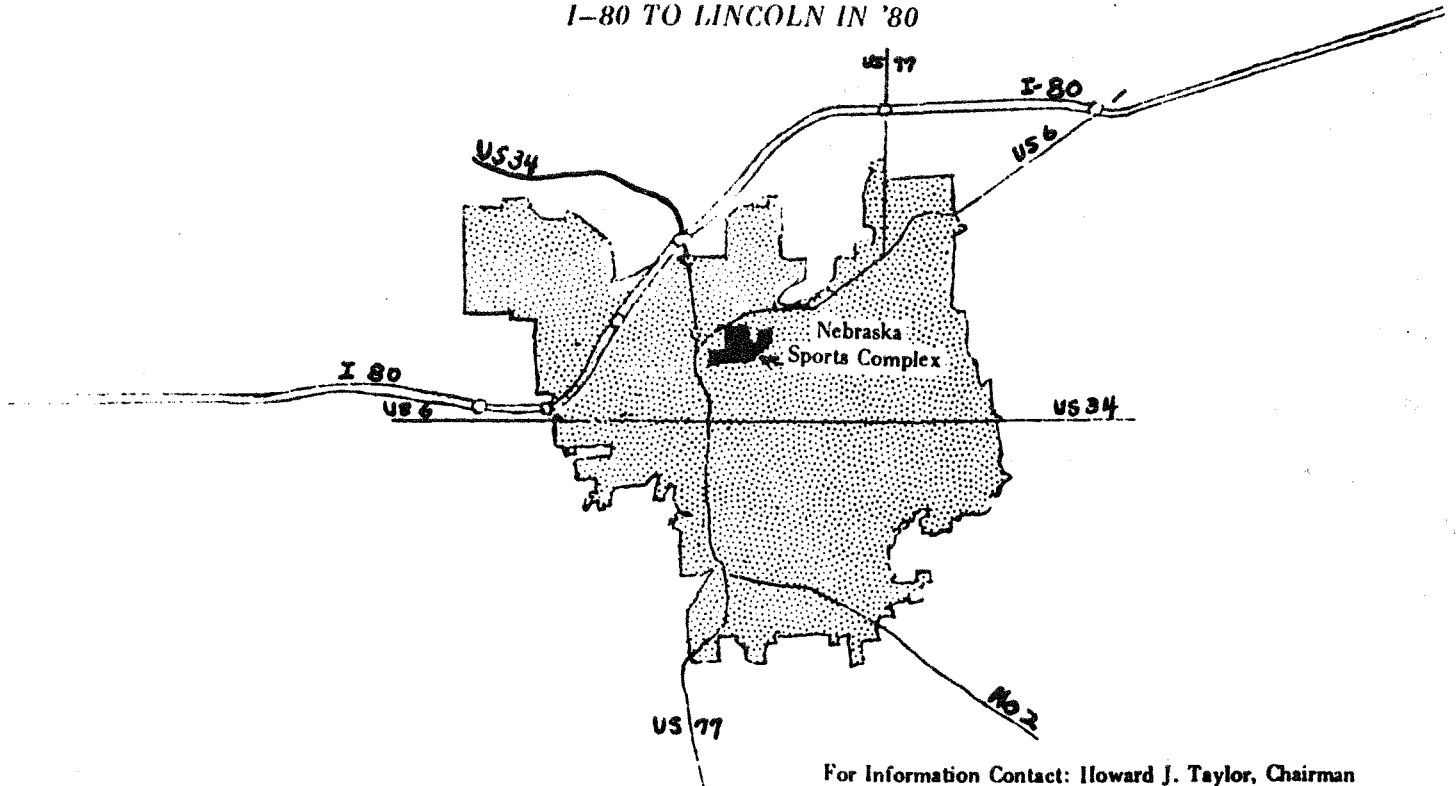
Adult membership fee **\$5.00** (age 16 and over)

Junior membership fee **\$1.00** (age 12-16)

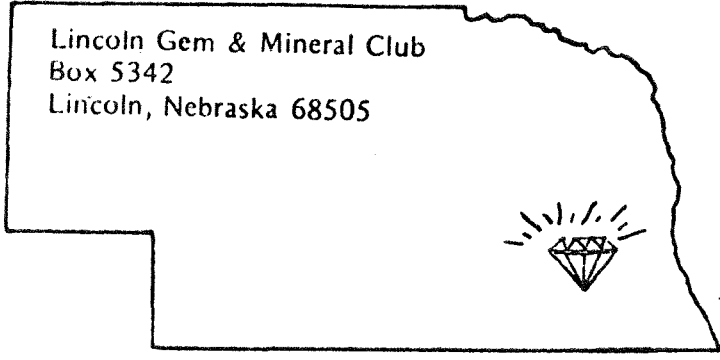
Family membership fee **\$11.00** (husband, wife and all children under 16 - permanent residents of household)

*New membership* must be approved by the Board, after applicant attends at least one (1) regular meeting of the club, and pay the above dues plus \$1.00 registration fee.

HOST TO  
NATIONAL GEM AND MINERAL SHOW, June 12-15, 1980  
I-80 TO LINCOLN IN '80



For Information Contact: Howard J. Taylor, Chairman  
910 New Hampshire St.  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
Phone: (402) 476-3707



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

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