

# THE PICK & SHOVEL



MAY  
1982

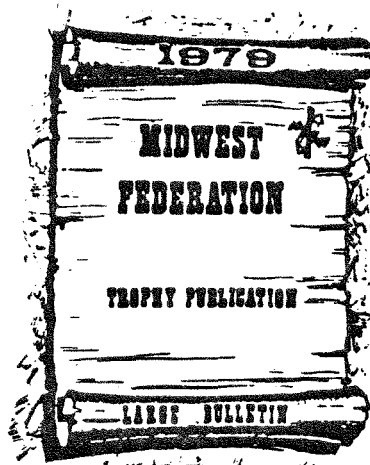
*highlights*

*in  
this issue...*

Safety Rules For Field Trips

HAVE URGE? - Then Travel

"Rainbows Are Where You Find  
Them"



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. 68505-0342

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: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)  
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies (MWF)  
Nebraska Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc. (NAOESCI)  
Nebraska Academy of Sciences (NAS)  
Community Arts Council of Lincoln (CAC)

Regular Meetings: 4th Saturday of the month, September thru May; 7:30 P.M.  
At Nebraska Center, 33rd & Holdrege

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Board Member....	Irl Everett	2945 N. 65th St.	Lincoln, 68507	466-6204
Board Member....	Virginia Green	6120 The Knolls	Lincoln, 68512	423-5032

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2 years: Marie Taylor, Jim Parks  
1 year: Bob Walker, Irl Everett

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

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Field Trips/Safety..	John Abel	Housing/Property....	Bruce Simon
Sunshine Corner....	Susan Taylor	Publications.....	G & F Litzenberg
NAOESCI Reporter...	Vera Lyman	Junior Activities...	Mary Walker
		Auditing Comm. 1981..	John Abel, Chairman Ray Lambert & Bruce Simon

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF:

Chairman: Glen Litzenberg

Editor.....Vera Lyman, 420 N. 56th St. Lincoln, NE 68504  
Circulation...Glen & Flossie Litzenberg  
Club News....Helena Baegl  
Sunshine.....Susan Taylor

DEADLINE: 1st of Month of Issue. Original articles may be reprinted if credit is given the author and THE PICK & SHOVEL and a copy of the publication is sent to the Editor.



GENERAL MEETING: Saturday, May 22, 1982 7:30 P.M.  
Nebr. Center for Continuing Education  
33rd & Holdrege Lincoln, NE  
Norfolk Room

PROGRAM: "Ground Water" presented by Claude Scott & Eldon Muehling

JUNE, JULY & AUGUST:  
On the 4th Saturday of each of these months,  
we will have Summer Program Meetings only;  
no business conducted.

BOARD MEETING: There will be no Board Meetings held during  
the summer months.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting  
will be held:  
Thursday, September 2, 1982 7:30 P.M.  
5700 Otoe St (Nelda Oliver home)

\* \* \* \* \*

FIELD TRIPS: Sunday, May 23, 1982  
Trip to Fremont, NE (Platte River Gravels)  
(exact destiny decided that morning)  
Meet at 6000 Cornhusker at 8:00 A.M.

REMEMBER  
SAFETY!

Saturday, July 10, 1982  
Trip to Jefferson County, Behrens Quarry  
to hunt Fossils, Geodes, etc.  
(Hard hats required in actual quarry)  
Meet at Nebraska Hall at 8:30 A.M.  
Southbound meet at Tate's Corner at 9:00 A.M.



\* \* \* \* \*

SHOWS: September 4-6 Omaha, NE  
Nebraska Mineral & Gem Club  
  
October 16-17 Grand Island, NE  
Grand Island Earth Science Society, Inc.

SWAPS: June 5-6 Hebron, NE  
Rock Swap  
  
June 19-20 Beatrice, NE  
Rock Swap

REMEMBER THE THING TO DO IN '82 IS THE MWF GEM AND  
MINERAL SHOW JUNE 24-27, 1982,  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

HISTORY - "Ten and Twenty Years Ago"



April 1972. . . "Show Case 1972" was the program presented by Roger & Margaret Simmons. It featured ideas on arranging personal cases for the upcoming show. A Field Trip was made to hunt fossils. Poignant memorial tributes to our fine young friend, Todd Ashmun, were written by Roger Pabian and Marie Carveth.

May 1972. . . Our Annual Club Show was held at the Fairgrounds May 12-14. Our club meeting was held at Dick & Dot Hornung's. An outdoor cookout and wonderful food were enjoyed by all. Dr. Neihardt was an honored guest. A field trip was arranged for the Keokuk, Iowa area.

April 1962. . . The program was given by Robert Killen of the State Parks & Recreation Dept. He showed slides of camping spots in Nebraska. The carveths displayed their case "Gems of the Bible." Several letters of appreciation were published thanking Dick Hedges for his classes on mineral identification.

May 1962. . . Don Hazelrig, instructor of silver smithing at the University, was our guest speaker. He also demonstrated jewelry making and silver work. Adeline Nolde had a very fine demonstration and silver display at the Hastings show.

\* \* \* \* \*

GREETINGS FROM THE SUNSHINE CORNER

"Take Time"

Take time to work,  
It is the price of success.  
Take time to think,  
It is the source of power.  
Take time to play,  
It is the secret of perpetual youth.  
Take time to read,  
It is the foundation of wisdom.  
Take time to be friendly,  
It is the road to happiness.  
Take time to love and be loved,  
It is the privilege of the gods.  
Take time to share,  
Life is too short to be selfish.  
Take time to laugh,  
Laughter is the music of the soul.

Anonymous



Wishes for a 'speedy recovery' sent this month to Janet Taylor and Bev Rueter

Hospitalized

Suze Sunshine

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May is the month in which many of us will be starting to take our annual vacations. Rock collecting trips will be part of the itinerary that many of us have made up. We should remember to read over and learn the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies "Code of Ethics." If every collector heeded the code, there would be no shortage of areas for collecting. Unfortunately, when but a small percentage of would be rockhounds violates even a single point of the code, collecting areas begin to close up. Every member of our club was provided a wallet sized copy of the code with their 1982 membership card. Please read and obey it.

We should always remember to drive safely on our way to the many collecting sites. As president of the club, I have the opportunity to read many exchange bulletins. It is not an uncommon news item to read that some rockhound in some other club was either badly injured or killed in a traffic accident. I can recall at least three such items in the past three years. Of all the stress that is given to field safety, little is given to the means we use to get there, so drive carefully on your trips, and all the time.

The state show at Hastings is now history. Their show committee provided a very worthwhile event. There were some very good displays and some very good dealers with some excellent material and some very good purchases were made by Lincoln Club members---that is, by the club members who were there. As president, I was not very happy with the low percentage of attendance demonstrated by our membership. There will be more shows sponsored by neighboring clubs this year. Perfect attendance by our club is impossible, but 25 percent is possible and we should strive for this goal.

Our club was granted the honor of hosting the Nebraska State Show for 1983. John Abel will be our able show chairman---no pun intended. We will be having the show March 26 and 27 in the Agricultural Hall at the State Fairgrounds. Several chairmanships for the show have already been named---dealers, publicity, etc. There is still plenty of room for workers and your efforts will be appreciated by both John and the club.

One particular display at the state show is worth mentioning at this time. The display is a case of cabochons cut by Freida Beckius of Ogallala. All of the cabochons were cut from petrified woods collected from the gravel pits in and around Ogallala. The object lesson is how much fine material one can find close to home.

We will have a club field trip on Sunday, May 23rd, to the gravel pits at Fremont. John Abel will be our leader. We will probably have some new faces on the trip. Instructions will be given at the meeting on the 22nd. There will be an excellent opportunity to find woods, jaspers, agates, and other Nebraska cutting materials.

We will have a second field trip to Jefferson County to look for fossils, geodes, and some cutting materials. The date and time will be announced later on this summer. Good collecting!

Roger Pabian  
President



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK - Taking a look at the illustration at the left reminds me of my own desk. It is in a state of mass confusion at the present time! Every now and then it gets that way.

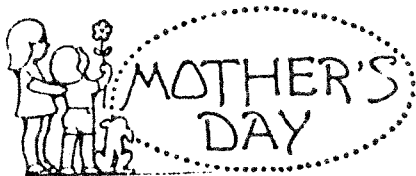
This will be the final issue of Volume 22 of the Pick and Shovel. I am planning to do some searching during the summer months for new ideas and format for Volume 23. I would appreciate any ideas that any of you might have. Remember, this is a Club project.

Be sure and keep this issue in a good place so you can refer to it during the next three months for meeting dates, field trips, shows, swaps, etc.

During the summer, always remember to make courtesy and safety your #1 priorities at shows, swaps and field trips. The number of "rocks" you bring home is not nearly as important as the means by which you acquired them!

To all of you - - a safe, prosperous and happy Summer!  
"HAPPY ROCKING"!

\* \* \* \* \*



For all you Mothers in the club and all the Mothers in your families, I hope it proved to be a Mother's Day on May 9th that you will always remember and cherish.

\* \* \* \* \*

### The Coming Of Spring

Oh would the winter never end!  
I kept counting days till Spring.  
And then one day, oh blessed day,  
I heard a robin sing.  
And then I spied a pair of them  
High in the old oak tree.  
And then I knew immediately  
That Spring had come for me.  
by Erma Fajen MacFarlane

\* \* \* \* \*

This is a story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody would do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody, when actually Nobody asked Anybody.



## Safety Rules For Field Trips

1. Never go on a Field Trip alone. Have someone along who can help, or summon help if necessary.
2. Should there be children, have the child within seeing and talking distance. A child not only could get lost, but could encounter a snake, scorpion, etc., or have an accident of some sort.
3. Do not collect directly above or underneath people where there might be danger of falling rock.
4. Park so that all the cars can get out. Do not block roadway.
5. Should you leave the Field Trip early, notify the person in charge.
6. Make sure all fires are out and wet down with water or smothered with dirt completely.
7. Break all matches in fingers before discarding, and be careful where they are thrown.
8. Break any cigarette before discarding and then crush it on the bare ground.
9. Do not throw rocks, and do not allow children to do so.
10. Avoid old mine tunnels. Never go into a mine alone. Carry a flashlight and a candle. Carbon dioxide or other gasses may be present. There may be even a lack of oxygen.
11. respect property rights and signs. Obtain permission to enter property if owned by private persons or company owned.
  - A. Inquire if there are vicious animals in the fields.
  - B. Never walk on newly planted or cultivated fields without special permission.
  - C. Be extremely cautious in hunting near abandoned buildings. You may stumble into a deep well not properly covered.
  - D. Refill any deep holes you dig, so people or animals might not fall in.
12. Respect another's diggings. If a person has left for lunch or for any reason with the intention of returning, and has left a pick, coat, or definite marker, find another place.
13. Leave any place in good condition. Don't leave papers, cans, etc., lying around to mar the beauty of the place, and to tell others you have been there.
14. Close all gates you may have opened.
15. Never eat wild berries unless you are absolutely sure they are safe.
16. Be able to recognize Poison Ivy, Poison Oak, etc. Should there be any doubt, don't touch!
17. Always be alert for snakes, scorpions, etc. Be very cautious where you put your feet and hands.

- via AFMS Safety Manual

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REMEMBER THE NATIONAL SHOW & CONVENTION IN CONJUNCTION  
WITH SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION - - JULY 8-11, 1982

# ODDS 'N' ENDS

Last month 1st Vice President Jim Taylor presided at the General Meeting in the absence of President Roger Pabian. You certainly did an excellent job, Jim and you conducted the meeting in a very orderly fashion.

Thanks to Wilfrid Wittman who volunteered his services as an alternate delegate to the Federation Show in Minnesota, should the need arise.

The letter was read by Jim from the AFMS Scholarship Foundation which Howard Taylor had received, indicating that our Club would be receiving a 1500% plaque for our contributions to the Foundation.

An excellent program; "What Your Federation Can Do For You" was presented by Howard Taylor. LGMC is a member of the Midwest Federation which consists of 14 states; exceeding 16,000 members and leading all other federations in size.

There are 5 Federations in the U.S. The American Federation is the 'Mother Federation'

Nebraska has 10 Clubs in the MWF. Marie Taylor is our State Director. A State Director is our direct line for assistance and information to the Federation.

Many services and programs, manuals, etc., are available to us simply for the asking or a nominal fee.

The second program was presented by Ray Lambert on "Agate Inclusions". Many different slides of agates with different compositions, flow structures, etc. were shown; which proved to be very interesting.

The following shows and swaps will be held during the summer months:

May 29-30	Norfolk, NE	2nd Annual Rock Swap
June 5-6	Hebron, NE	Rock Swap
12-13	Schuyler, NE	Gem & Mineral Show
19-20	Beatrice, NE	Rock Swap
July 17-18	Schuyler, NE	State Rock Swap
Aug. 21-22	Crawford, NE	Gem & Mineral Show
Sep. 4-6	Omaha, NE	Gem & Mineral Show
11-12	Kearney, NE	Rock Swap
17-19	Kimball, NE	Gem & Mineral Show
18-19	Aurora, NE	Rock Swap
24-26	No. Platte NE	Gem & Mineral Show
25-26	Ne. City NE	Gem & Mineral Show
Oct. 16-17	Grand Is. NE	Gem & Mineral Show

## YOUR 1982 REGIONAL SHOW SCHEDULE:

CALIFORNIA Long Beach, California Aug. 28-30	EASTERN Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania June 18-20	MIDWEST St. Paul, Minnesota June 24-27	NORTHWEST Pocatello, Idaho Aug. 20-22	ROCKY MOUNTAIN Denver, Colorado Sept. 17-19	SOUTH CENTRAL AFMS SHOW Houston, Texas July 8-11
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Report of Earth Sciences Section Meeting, Nebraska Academy of Sciences,  
April 16, 1982    Submitted by Roger Pabian

The Earth Sciences Section of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences met on Friday, April 16, 1982, at Olin Hall on the Nebraska Wesleyan University Campus. The meeting was chaired by Duane Eversoll of the Conservation and Survey Division-IANR, University of Nebraska.

Chris D'Onofrio of UN-L won the \$50 prize for best student paper. Chris' paper dealt with surface features of quartz sand grains from the North Loup River in Nebraska. The study showed a low rate of sedimentation in the River and that grains were altered by wind and by stream activity. Wind damage included grain rounding and alteration in the stream included quartz precipitation and etching, and some colonization by diatoms. Nebraska Geological Society presented the prize.

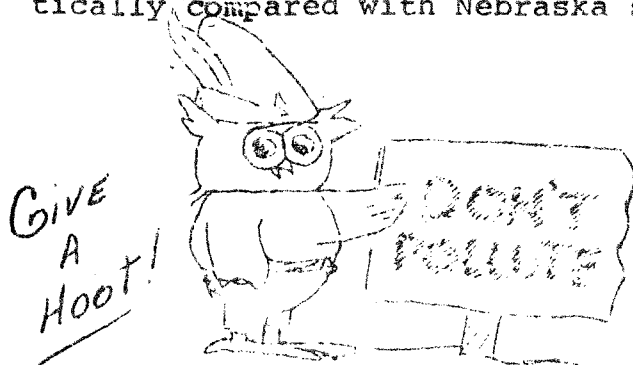
James Aber, Geoscience Department, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas, presented a paper on dynamism of glaciation in the central plains. He indicated that there were two ice lobes, one that originated in Minnesota, the other in the Dakotas. The confluent ice lobes shifted back and forth so that they do not show a distinct boundary. (This paper is of definite use to the Lake Superior Agate collector. RKP)

Gregory Brown and Kevin Seevers of the University of Nebraska State Museum talked about the problems encountered in preparing the fossils from the now famous Orchard Nebraska rhino quarry. Health hazards to the preparators were very common. George Corner from the same agency spoke on a Late Pleistocene Fauna from near Litchfield, Sherman County. The fauna contains fishes, salamanders, turtles, and snakes, to mention just a few things. Lloyd Tanner spoke on the Paleoindian bison butchering site near Ash Hollow, Garden County, and indicated that the site correlated with deposits at the Scottsbluff and Lipscomb bison quarries, and possibly the Plainview bison quarry. Mike Voorhies, also of the museum, spoke on the occurrence of fossil Alligator Gar from Brown and Knox counties---these are the first recorded occurrences of these fossils in Nebraska.

Carol Harlem, Geology Department, UN-L spoke on the Elk Creek Carbonatite in Johnson and Pawnee counties. It is coincident with the Kansas Extension of the Mid-Continent Gravity High; it is rich in such elements as barium strontium, niobium, copper, cerium, iron, titanium, manganese and nickel.

Steve Haack, physics department, UN-L, spoke on thermoregulation of sailback lizards---namely Dimetrodon, and showed a simple energy-balance model for both absorption and radiation of heat.

I presented two papers, one with Royal Mapes, Ohio University, on trilobites from the Pennsylvanian of Texas. These were statistically compared with Nebraska specimens. (to be continued)



IT'S EVERYONE'S  
AMERICA!  
LET'S KEEP IT  
BEAUTIFUL!

HAVE URGE? - Then travel!

In the spring the rockhound's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of the open road - and rocks. Myrtle and I have toured 21 of 22 contiguous states west of the Mississippi River, all but Louisiana. East of that mighty stream the count is only six. We visited most of the state universities, parks and museums, and National Monuments. Trips by rail, bus and air are not included in this article.

Fortified with that much experience I may be able to suggest some useful ideas to prospective tourists. It may seem presumptuous to offer seasoned travelers advice, but perhaps a little of it may be pertinent, and it may conjure up vivid memories for those who have already traversed the same states. I hope they are pleasant, as most of ours have been. We are aware that the one-word class yell of the "school of experience" is "OUCH!" Happy traveling depends on several factors.

Sufficient money must be readily available for the entire trip, with ample insurance coverage for all possibilities of accidents, illness and liabilities. Names and addresses of persons needed in any emergency must be carried, and accessible. The mechanical condition of the travel vehicle should have advance inspection, and necessary repairs made.

In the western states there are many long miles of highway where car trouble or personal illness may be serious, especially on roads "off the beaten path". Even on main highways stranded persons may have great difficulty obtaining help. CB radio or other distress signals may help. Food, water and emergency equipment are important. Up-to-date travel guides and a good compass should be part of the load - even if the proverbial kitchen sink is left at home!

General rules are difficult to state for any prospective trip. We do not all have the same "tastes", interests, time and money to spend, so ideas about what makes a good one will vary. Two people may differ widely in their opinions about the same scene or activity. Members of any group may react in different ways over the same experience. Fortunately our family had no problem in this regard.

Our trips have not been limited to certain seasons, especially through eighteen years of retirement, blessed with good health; for which we are thankful. Our longest journey covered over 15,000 miles, and extended almost one year's time over many areas we had previously visited in part during summers.

Preliminary to the main "safari" we took a summer swing through the Jackson's Hole country in western Wyoming, followed by an early autumn "spin" to the colorful North Dakota Badlands and back to Lincoln via Minneapolis in time to start the longer trip.

HAVE URGE? - Then travel! - continued

By Thanksgiving Day we were in Seattle, Washington. We wintered in Santa Barbara, California with a side trip to Las Vegas, and back through Death Valley. In late March we were in Tiajuana, Mexico. Returning from San Diego we marvelled at the huge telescope at Mt. Palomar, and nearly lost our lives in the Anza-Borrego Desert that evening in a collision that totaled our car.

After recuperating at Brawley we replaced our wrecked station wagon with a similar one and were in Tucson, Arizona by Easter Sunday. Then we headed back north to the "Four Corners" and stood in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah in one spot. After a few days at Mesa Verde we took in Carlsbad Caverns via Santa Fe and Albuquerque on our way to Pecos, Texas, and were back in Lincoln before July 4th.

The wonderful Nebraska University family from Minnesota to whom we had rented our furnished house wanted to remain through summer session. So, off we went again to the Yellowstone River in Montana via Medora, North Dakota. We returned with over 600 pounds of beautiful Montana fossil wood, but very few agates. The high waters prevented access to the best scrounging areas. Our "load-leveler" springs on that wagon we had bought at Brawley, California were a real joy to us, "dyed-in-the-wool" rockhounds.

Previously, while collecting on the west coast trip, we occasionally sent several hundred pounds of "rocks" to Lincoln by motor freight, the most economical way. Fortunately we had made a shipment home just a few days before our Borrego Desert car wreck. Our kind tenants accepted and stored all for us.

Limited space prevents more detailed account of that delightful first year of retirement. The western states have countless places still available to the collector and lover of nature. Anyone with a desire to observe and appreciate all of this bounty is most rewarded.

Though travel costs have risen enormously in recent years one may still enjoy this great country by being careful about certain expenditures. If we had waited until "able to afford it" we would never have gone far. A suggestion, "Don't postpone retirement so long that your ability to enjoy travel is limited, or even lost completely." "Bon Voyage!"

- Submitted by J. D. Young

\* \* \* \* \*

Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.

- Abraham Lincoln

If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone; one should keep his friendships in constant repair.

- Johnson



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Subscriptions to THE PICK & SHOVEL are \$5.00 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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PLEASE note the change in day and date for the regular Directors meeting. It will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 1982 instead of the first Thursday of the month, due to conflicting activities.

SPRING IS HERE! Thoughts of Field Trips start to enter the minds of Rockhounds. Always remember, Safety pays.

See you all at the general meeting, April 24, 1982, 7:30 P.M.  
Nebraska Center, 33rd and Holdrege

Hope everyone had a HAPPY EASTER!

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Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club  
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