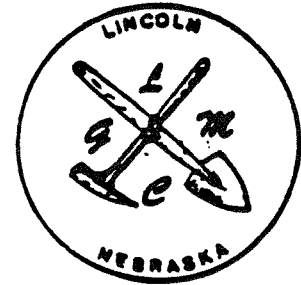
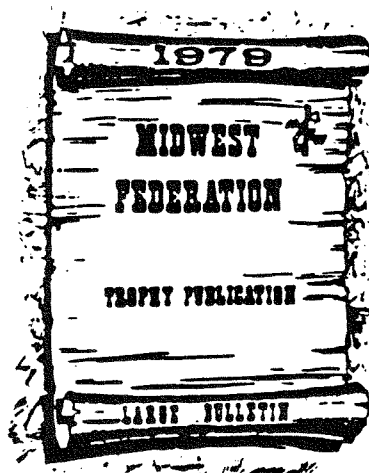


# THE PICK & SHOVEL



*February*  
*1984*

**In this issue** ..... February Birthstone—Amethyst  
1984 - A leap year  
Junior Page  
Fluorescent Minerals



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

1984 ELECTED OFFICERS:

President .....	Howard Taylor, Jr.	910 New Hampshire	Lincoln, 68508	476-3707
1st Vice Pres....	Claude Scott	4917 Normal Blvd.	Lincoln, 68506	488-0739
2nd Vice Pres....	James Null	6515 Fremont	Lincoln, 68507	467-2763
Secretary.....	Vera Lyman	420 N. 56th St.	Lincoln, 68504	464-6089
Treasurer.....	Phyllis Parks	2435 S. 19th St.	Lincoln, 68502	476-6798
Board Member....	Linda Parks	2435 S. 19th St.	Lincoln, 68502	476-6798
Board Member....	Jim Stewart	1339 Eastridge Dr.	Lincoln, 68510	489-2867
Board Member....	Marie Taylor	910 New Hampshire	Lincoln, 68508	476-3707
Board Member....	Janet Wright	3715 S. 33rd St.	Lincoln, 68506	488-1884

NOMINATING COMMITTEE -- 3 years: Jim Parks, Ervin Marshall  
2 years: Richard Haney, Wilfred Wittman  
1 year: Vera Lyman, Frank Rule  
Roger Pabian, Chairman

LONG RANGE PLANNING AND BY LAWS COMMITTEE:

1 year - Jim Parks, Phyllis Parks      3 years - John Abel, Roger Pabian  
2 years - Marie Taylor, Vera Lyman      Roger Pabian, Chairman

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE:

Calling.....	Marie Taylor	Membership.....	Linda Parks
	Phyllis Parks, Marie Wells	MWF Liaison.....	Marie Taylor
Education/Publicity...	Roger Pabian	Programs.....	James Null
Historian.....	John & Lillie Lewis	Scholarship.....	Marie Taylor
Hospitality.....	Susan Taylor	1984 Rockhound-of-yr..	Roger Pabian
Housing/Property.....	Claude Scott	1984 Annual Show.....	Roger Pabian
Junior Activities.....	Ron McColery	1985 Annual Show.....	
	Janet Wright	Christmas Party.....	Marie Taylor
Librarian.....	Jim Parks		

AUDITING COMMITTEE 1983.....Virginia Green, Vera Lyman,  
Ervin Marshall, Phyllis Parks, Treas.

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF:

Editor.....Judy McColery      2928 S St. Lincoln, NE 68503  
Asst. Editor....Vera Lyman      420 N. 56th St. Lincoln, NE 68504 (NAOESCI)  
Sunshine Corner..Susan Taylor  
Reporters.....Julius Young, Roger Pabian, "CLUB MEMBERS"

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.

# Club Calendar

February							1984
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29				

JUNIOR MEETING: Saturday, February 25, 1984, at 7:00 P.M.  
Nebraska Center, 33rd & Holdrege

GENERAL MEETING: Saturday, February 25, 1984 at 7:30 P.M.  
Nebraska Center, 33rd & Holdrege

PROGRAM: General fields methods of extracting  
Vertebrae Fossils with a slide  
presentation of Poison Ivy Quarry of  
Orchard, Nebraska. Presented by Greg Brown

BOARD MEETING: March 1, 1984 7:30 P.M.  
910 New Hampshire (Taylor home)

\* \* \* \* \*

**AREA SHOWS AND SWAPS:**

- February 11 Mid-Winter Swap  
Homestead Gem & Mineral Club  
6th & Elk Beatrice, Ne
- March 9-10-11 Kansas City, Mo.  
Association of Earth Science Clubs  
Kansas City Market Center  
Executive Park, 1775 Universal Ave.
- Mar. 31-Apr. 1 Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club  
26th Annual Show
- April 21-22 Central Rock & Mineral Club  
Show Hastings, Ne.
- May 5-6 100th Meridian - Cozad  
Swap At Lexington, Ne.

## Regional Show Schedule

CALIFORNIA	EASTERN	MIDWEST	NORTHWEST	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	SOUTH CENTRAL
San Diego	Tidewater Beach, VA	Milwaukee Wisconsin	Anchorage Alaska	Tulsa, OK	Waco, TX
July 12-15	Aug. 10-12	July 5-8		June 8-10	March 30-31 April 1

Hello from the Sunshine Corner!  
God scatters love on every side  
Freely among His children all,  
And always hearts are lying open wide  
Wherein some grains may fall.  
James Russell Lowell

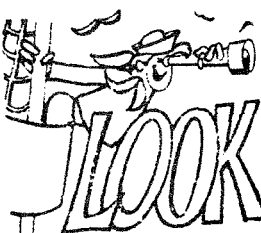
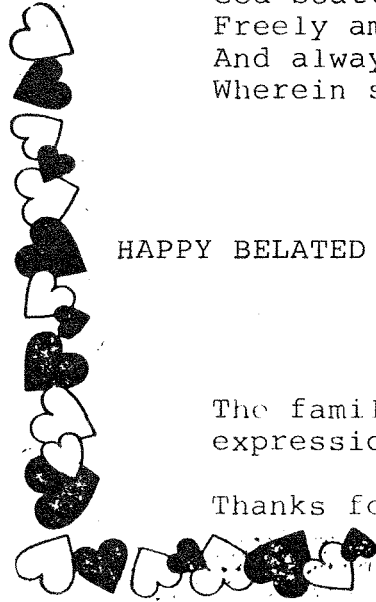
\* \* \* \* \*

HAPPY BELATED ST. VALENTINES DAY TO ALL!  
Suze Sunshine

\* \* \* \* \*

The family of Marge Heedick thank you for your kind  
expression of sympathy.  
Gary & Jenny  
Thanks for the \$25.00. It will go towards the headstone.

\* \* \* \* \*



"WHO'S WHO"  
The 1984 Who's Who will not include the  
entire Library Listing. It will include only  
the "new additions" made during 1983, The CB  
Listing will also be dropped from the '84  
issue.



ATTENTION  
PLEASE

Be sure to save your 1983  
Who's Who for this infor-  
mation.  
Thanks,  
Your Ass't Editor

## President's Message

Our Mid-Winter Swap is history. It was a successful event and an enjoyable way of starting another year of club activities. We had a nice crowd which included guests from Omaha, Bellevue, and Grand Island, and several interested people who heard it advertised locally. A good time was had by all who participated. At this time I want to say "thank you" to Claude Scott who was Swap Chairman, and all the members of our club who made it a fun event.

Now it is time we turn our efforts to our Annual Show which will be March 31-April 1. The time for our show is drawing quite close! I hope that everyone is ready and that they have their displays planned. We should all exhibit and take part in the show. Our show can only be as good as the support we give it.

Please read this issue of the Pick and Shovel thoroughly because it contains items of interest that we will discuss at the February meeting. Don't forget to bring your entries for the "rock Races." See you there!

Jim

\* \* \* \* \*

- Do more than exist-live.
- Do more than touch-feel.
- Do more than look-observe.
- Do more than read-absorb.
- Do more than hear-listen.
- Do more than think-ponder.
- Do more than listen-understand.
- Do more than talk-say something.

Michigan Gems News via  
Chip & Lick and The Tully  
Siouxland Grind  
Oct. 1983

\* \* \* \* \*

### NOW YOU KNOW---

The largest recorded stone of gem quality was a 520,000 carat aquamarine, weighing 229 pounds, that was found in 1910 in Brazil. More than 200,000 carats of gem quality stones were cut from it.

(United Press International)  
from the Daily Dispatch 10-30-83  
Smoke Signals Nov. 1983

## LAST MEETING

Our Mid-Winter Swap was well attended. We had guests from Omaha, Bellevue, and Grand Island, plus interested people who heard it advertised locally.

Roger Pabian gave a program on Moctezuma Agates from Mexico.

The evening was closed with Anniversary cake and coffee.

The February general meeting is planned for February 25, 1984. Plan to attend. An interesting program is planned.

\* \* \* \* \*

### VALENTINE'S DAY

VALENTINE'S DAY, a day on which lovers traditionally exchange affectionate messages and gifts. It is observed on February 14, the date on which Saint Valentine was martyred. The sending of love notes on that date arose in the late Middle Ages and appears to have been accidental. The most plausible of several theories relates it to the medieval European belief that birds begin to mate on that date. This notion probably suggested that lovers should exchange messages and gifts on February 14. Once the custom was established, "valentine" came to be applied both to the persons and their tokens of affection.

After postal systems were organized, the practice of mailing homemade valentine messages became common. The greeting card industry in the United States now prints millions of valentines each year. These are usually in verse and tender in nature, but sometimes comic.

- Encyclopedia Americana, Vol. 27, 1980  
Submitted by Ass't. Ed.



"Frank Rule and His Hobby" aired 3 times during Dec. For those who did not get to see it, it will be aired 4 times in Feb. as follows:

Feb. 16, 17, 18, 19 - Cable Channel 10

For those who do not have Cable, it will be taped by Tom Rule to be presented at a future Club Meeting.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB - Board of Directors - Jan. 5, 1984

Meeting was called to order by President, Jim Taylor Jan. 5, 1984 7:30 P.M. at the Taylor home. All new Board Members were present except James Null. Gail Clare Scott and Glenn Lyman were present from the outgoing 83 Board.

Minutes of the December Meeting were read by Gail Scott. Motion for approval by Phyllis Parks, second by Vera Lyman. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was read by Phyllis Parks. Motion for approval by Claude Scott, second by Janet Wright. Motion carried.

BILLS: Paid but presented for approval:

\$ 13.56	Vera Lyman - Postage for Swap Flyers to Gem Palette Copying for All-American Folder
41.50	Marie Taylor - Christmas favors and candy
25.00	Nebraska Center - Dec. Room Rent
36.05	NAOESCI - '84 Membership dues
34.13	U of N - Printing Nov. Pick & Shovel
32.63	NE Dept. of Revenue - '83 Show Sales Tax (Gate Receipts)

Motion for approval by Claude Scott, second James Stewart. Motion carried.

'83 BILLS: Presented for approval and payment:

\$322.50	Nebraska Center - 1983 Christmas dinners (56.00 for approval - Rest paid by members)
25.63	Vera Lyman - Mailing Dec. P & S (23.21) - Mailing Bulletins, Editors' Contest (2.42)
46.06	Jim Taylor - Rockhound of Year Award (Roger Pabian)
62.17	Page Trophy - President's Plaque (Jim Taylor)

Motion for approval by Vera Lyman, second by Linda Parks. Motion carried.

'83 BILLS:

\$101.00	Gem & Mineral Magazine - Members' subscriptions (this actually paid by members themselves)
----------	--

Motion for approval by Claude Scott, second by Phyllis Parks. Motion carried.

A large piece of Petrified Wood was presented to U of N Museum with LGMC receiving recognition. Tom Simmons agreed to move it to Lincoln for the Club. (Distance of 370 miles)

Motion was made by Marie Taylor to pay Tom Simmons \$ 100.00 for his efforts in behalf of the Club. Second by Linda Parks. Motion carried.

'84 SHOW EXPENSE:

\$ 4.65	U of N - Printing Show Flyers
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Motion for approval by Claude Scott, second by Linda Parks. Motion carried.

- continued

Board of Directors - Jan. 5, 1984 - continued

'84 BILLS: Presented for approval and payment

\$ 10.00 NE Academy of Sciences - '84 dues

(delete - Club has a paid up life membership in this organization) (Paid by 1980 Show Committee - \$750.00)

13.87 Phyllis Parks - Paper, receipt book & date stamp for Treasurer's office)

10.88 Claude Scott - Postage for mailing Swap Flyers

Motion for approval by Vera Lyman, second by Janet Wright. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

-- Claude Scott gave a progress report on Jan. Swap. Had a question of number of tables required. A dozen were decided upon. Marie Taylor had requested the Scottsbluff Room.

No previous discussion of Silent Auction during Swap. It was decided there would be silent auctions at 1:00, 3:00 & 7:00 P.M. Swapper Bucks with a 10-cent surcharge will be used.

The monies received from these two sources will go to the LGMC Scholarship Fund.

-- Adeline Nolde took it upon herself to present Prof Erbach \$20.00 on behalf of the Club for presenting a program at one of our meetings. The '83 Board approved the \$20.00 reimbursement to Adeline for same. She refused the return and requested that we put it in our local Scholarship Fund.

-- Virginia Reller paid an additional \$20.00 with her '84 membership dues. She asked that Club use as they see fit.

Motion for approval was made by Vera Lyman that we put it in Nebraska Academy of Sciences Scholarship. Second by Jim Stewart. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

-- Ass't. Editor requested that the '84 Who's Who include only the Library additions for the past year, and no CB listings be included to cut down on the size. Approved by the Board. Will be noted in the Pick & Shovel so members may retain their old copies for same.

-- New '84 Operating Budget was presented by President Jim Taylor.

Motion for approval by Vera Lyman to approve 1984 Operating Budget as set up by President. Second by Janet Wright. Motion carried.

To be presented at Jan. meeting and copy of same in Feb. P&S.

-- President presented slate of Committees and Standing Committees. Motion by Phyllis Parks appointments be approved as presented. Second by Vera Lyman. Motion carried.

-- Jan. meeting will be Club's 29th Birthday. Discussion. Motion by Janet Wright that Club sponsor Birthday Party at Jan. meeting 7 requested Vera Lyman to bake cake, served with coffee. She is also to purchase paper plates & plastic forks. Second by Claude Scott. Motion carried.

-continued

Board of Directors - Jan. 5, 1984 - continued

-- Motion by Vera Lyman that Club purchase Gem Palette subscriptions for all Family Memberships when '84 membership list is completed on Jan. 31. Second by Linda Parks. Motion carried.

-- Discussion . Thursday night presents problem for 2nd Vice to attend Board Meetings. After discussion, Thursday still seems most appropriate night for most members.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Board meeting on February 2, 1984, 7:30 P.M. at Taylor home.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vera Lyman, Secretary

OPERATING BUDGET - 1984

Estimated Income:

Membership Dues (100 @ 5.00)	\$ 500.00
Annual Show	1250.00
	<hr/>
Total Estimated Income	\$ 1750.00

Estimated Expenses:

Scholarships	\$ 250.00
Pick & Shovel (Printing, Postage, etc.)	750.00
Meeting Hall Rental (8 meetings, Swap)	300.00
Refreshments -	
Birthday Party & 3 meetings	150.00
Show Setup	50.00
Christmas Party	50.00
Programs	100.00
Junior Activities	100.00
Librarian	50.00
Treasurer	20.00
Secretary	20.00
Sunshine Corner	20.00
Historian	10.00
Outside Displays	10.00
Housing & Property	10.00
Dues to Affiliate Organizations -	
MWF	55.00
NAOESCI	45.00
CAC	15.00
Officers Bond	60.00
Bulk Mailing Permit	40.00
P.O. Box Rental	26.00
Awards	125.00
Delegate Fee (MWF Conv. - Wisc.)	100.00
Misc. Postage	100.00
	<hr/>

Total Estimated Expenses      \$ 2456.00

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB - General Meeting - Jan. 28, 1984

Meeting was called to order by President, Jim Taylor Jan. 28, 1984, 7:30 P.M. at the NE Center. (Scottsbluff Room)

Minutes of the November, 1983 meeting were read. Motion for approval by Susan Taylor, 2nd Ed Johnson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was read by Phyllis Parks. Motion for approval by Tom Simmons, 2nd John Abel. Motion carried.

Hospitality Committee reported the number of members present & introduced the guests.

President Taylor announced special recognition to the following members for their length of membership with LGMC.

Helena Baegl	28 years
John Lewis	27 years
Tom Simmons	26 years
Lillie Lewis	25 years

Jim announced that all subscribers had received their magazines from "Gem & Mineral Magazines" and the Club had also received a check for \$ 6.00 from the magazine company on the subscriptions to be put in our local Scholarship Fund.

NO OLD BUSINESS REPORTED.

NEW BUSINESS:

President read "1984 Operating Budget" for approval by general membership. Motion for approval by Roger Pabian, 2nd James Null. Motion carried. A copy of Budget will be printed in Feb. P&S.

President then read his Special Committee Appointments for 1984. They are all listed on inside front cover of P&S.

At the Jan. Board Meeting, the Board approved the purchase of subscription to Gem Palette for each family.

Committee Reports.

JR. Committee Chairpersons - Janet Wright & Ron McColery  
Janet reported she will have  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour class before General Meetings and introduce Jrs. to common minerals and then rocks.

Ron McColery will have discussion of their points of interest and concerns.

They will participate in field trips, show displays, tours, & play detective. There will be fun and hopefully, adult involvement.

General Meeting - Jan. 28, 1984 - continued

'84 SHOW REPORT: Roger Pabian

Plans going well. Retail dealer spots filled. Commitments from some working demos. Preliminary lineup of very good programs. Different Floor layout. Flourescent display. Rock Racing. Track Diagram , entry blank and rules to be printed in P&S.

Mike Smith requested equipment for working shop and workers in shop.

Linda Parks announced Social Hour on Saturday night of Show.

Show Committee meeting either in late Feb. or early March.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

"Frank Rule and His Hobby" aired 3 times during Dec. For those who did not get to see it, it will be aired 4 times in Feb. Feb. 16, 17, 18, 19 Cable Channel 10  
For those who do not have Cable, it will be taped by Tom Rule to be presented at a future Club Meeting.

Mr. A.O. Henry (guest) Omaha Club - announced that Omaha Club will host its Show the 3rd weekend in September instead of Labor Day weekend.

President Taylor announced honor bestowed on Roger Pabian. He was selected Honorary Scholarship recipient of the MWF. It will be his task to select 2 graduate students for nomination for the scholarships. (Being \$1500. per student per year for 2 years)  
Previous winners of this honor in NE were: Mr. C.B. Schultz  
Mr. Mylan Stout

Announcements of nominations will be in April or early May. Jim Taylor had the privilege of compiling all this information on Roger for the MWF. He was asked to fulfill this task early last spring.

There was a 15 min. recess for Program setup and closing of Silent Auction.

An excellent (but lengthy) program entitled "Moctezuma Agates" was presented by Roger.

A live auction for a Timex Electric Wrist Watch followed the program. Roger Pabian was the lucky taker.

Motion for adjournment by Helena Baegl, 2nd by Ron McColery.

Refreshments of Birthday cake and coffee was enjoyed by the membership. (Club's 29th Birthday; cake baked by Vera Lyman).

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary, Vera Lyman

MID-WINTER SWAP, January 28, 1984

Our Annual Mid-Winter Swap preceded our January General Meeting from 12:00 Noon to 6:00 P.M. on Jan. 28, 1984.

The weather was excellent and provided an opportunity for good attendance during the afternoon hours of the swap as well as for the evening meeting.

Three Silent Auctions were also held in conjunction with the Swap.

The proceeds from the Swap and Silent Auctions will go into the Club Education and Scholarship Fund.

It was indeed another success for LGMC; and we wish to thank the many visitors and members who helped make it succeed.

Mr. Claude Scott did an excellent job of chairing this Swap. Thanks again, Claude.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

January Receipts:

Membership Dues	\$ 180.00	
'84 Show Dealer Monies	850.00	
'84 Pick & Shovel Subs.	5.00	
From Gem & Mineral Magazine	6.00	
Silent Auctions	82.45	} (Suspense account for Club Ed. & Scholarship Fund)
Surcharge - Swap	8.45	

January Payments:

Nebr. Center, Christmas Dinners	322.50	(Suspense account)
Receipt book & stamp	13.87	
Mail swap flyers	10.88	
Anniversary Cake	25.00	
Copies	5.56	
Mail Jan. Pick & Shovel	23.43	

The following is a small article about February's birthstone-Amethyst

CRYSTALLINE QUARTZ is the most common kind, though well-developed clear crystals are rare. Rock crystal (colorless crystal quartz) makes a fine gem. The colors in crystal quartz may in part be due to impurities (manganese, iron nickel) or to radium activity, as in smoky quartz; some disappear when the quartz is heated. The crystals often include air bubbles and traces of other minerals. Hairlike crystals of rutile form rutilated quartz or sagenite. Cat's eye and tiger's eye may contain fibers of asbestos. Ferruginous quartz is colored by hematite.

AMETHYST color may be due to traces of manganese. Deeper colored specimens are cut as gems. Once highly prized, amethyst lost much of its value after the great Brazilian deposits were found.

Submitted by ROCKS AND MINERALS  
A guide to familiar minerals,  
gems, ores and rocks

\* \* \* \* \*

HINT:

When lapping or polishing geodes, keep the crystals sparkling clean by packing them with damp Ivory Flakes. The grit or polishing agent washes right out and the remaining soap will soak away in warm water.

via THE TULLY, PARK FOREST, ILL.,  
ROCKWOOD ROCKHOUND NEWS  
October 1983

\* \* \* \* \*

Selenite specimens can be cleaned by brushing gently with household ammonia and rinsed quickly with cold water. Hot water could destroy them.

via THE GEODE & CRYSTAL CLUSTER  
SMOKE SIGNALS  
November 1983

\* \* \* \* \*

DEFINITION OF A LAPIDARIST

A lapidarist is someone who grinds their fingernails, sands their knuckles, and polishes their vocabulary while trying to do the same thing to a piece of agate.

from THE ROCK BOX via THE TEMPLATE  
AND LITTLE GEM THE TRILOBITE  
Nov. 1983

OUR NEEDS

A little more of patience  
With the faults of other folks,  
A little more of charity  
When a worldly act provokes,  
A little more devotion  
To the ones whom we should love,  
A little more reliance  
On the God who rules above,  
A little more forbearance  
With the cross we have to bear,  
A little better learning  
By all that is right and fair,  
A little more of giving  
Of the things we have to give-  
Would make this world a better place  
For you and me to live.

A little less of prejudice,  
A little less of hate,  
A little less of ridicule  
About our good and great,  
A little less of vanity,  
A little less of show,  
A little less of telling,  
All the scandal that we know,  
A little less complaining  
O'er the ills we have to bear,  
A little less of grieving  
O'er the burdens we must share,  
A little less of wickedness,  
A little less of sin-  
Would make this world a pleasant spot  
To be abiding in.

Charles E. Warner  
submitted by Editor

\* \* \* \* \*

A STEARN WARNING FOR MANYBODY

This is a story about four persons named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that 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 could do it and Nobody blamed Somebody when actually Anybody should have known that Everybody was to blame.

Chipps  
TULE SMOKE SIGNALS  
Oct. 1983

1984 - A leap year

February receives an extra day every four years, to help keep the calendar in step with the seasons. There are some facts, not generally known; for example, George Washington's birthday was originally February 11th instead of the 22nd. He was born in 1732. Two later presidents, Abraham Lincoln and William Harrison maintained their original February birth dates, and so did the famous "Lone Eagle", Charles A. Lindbergh.

Faithful "Pick and Shovel" readers may recognize that some of this article appeared on pages 11 and 12 of the February, 1976 issue. This may be a reminder that a 29 day Leap Year February is not merely a device to denote presidential election years, and one permitting amorous maidens to reverse custom and "pop the question". (equal opportunity)

Persons with February 29th birthdays certainly are also entitled to a quadrennial celebration of their natal day, to balance the annual whoop-de-do enjoyed by common run-of-the-mill mortals who are not February 29ers.

The "Father of our Country" got a later billing, from Feb. 11th to the 22nd, though "the polls" showed he did not favor it. The explanation requires some calendar history: the earth revolves around the sun in about 365½ days; a real problem. An attempt to solve it in 46 B.C. solved it for awhile, by adding a whole day every fourth year, slightly in error. That new calendar was called "Julian" to honor Julius Caesar who was its promoter, and currently Rome's No. 1 man.

All seemed "hunky-dory" for several centuries. Those "peace-loving" Romans could again enjoy their annual, cherished festivals and "friendly" (?) combats at the proper seasonal dates, instead of having them migrate as they did in their old ten month calendar, with its colossal errors. January and February were added to the original ten months, making twelve, which made more sense and time for more Roman Holidays. (Remember, there was a slight error.)

But time "marched on" long after Caesar's legions had ceased to march. By the year 1582 the slight error of a fraction of a day each year grew to equal eleven days. The seasons and the calendar were again "loused up" by one third of a month; or Latin words to that effect.

Something had to be done! Pope Gregory XIII did it. He simply "chopped out" 11 days from the calendar and then joined the ends together to form the New Style Gregorian calendar. It soon replaced the Old Style Julian in most of the civilized countries. Some have been slower to adopt calendar reform. People vary between two extremes about changing habits or customs.

- continued

1984 - A leap year - continued

England and the American Colonies failed to adopt the New Style calendar until 1752, twenty years after George Washington was born and had already received the No. 1 rating as a cherry tree chopper. In the re-shuttle of calendar dates Feb. 11 became Feb. 22. (11 + 11 = 22, by either an abacus or modern calculator) So George lost Feb. 11 by 11 Days.

When England adopted the Gregorian calendar street rioters shouted, "Give us back our 11 days!" Similar demonstrations occurred in the United States when railways adopted Standard Time, Nov. 18, 1883. Congress passed a Standard Time Act in 1917, and a Uniform Time Act in 1966, urging all states to adopt Day-light Saving Time from Spring to Fall; and nearly all complied. Standardization of time and other measurements is important as civilization becomes more complex, at accelerated pace; but some folks still resent any "meddling with God's time".

To help avoid future calendar troubles all years exactly divisible by 4, except century years not divisible by 400 are "leap years", with a 29th day added to February, making a 366 day year instead of the usual 365 days. This is to keep the calendar and seasons correct for many centuries.

Whole numbers ending in 2 zeros are divisible by 4, but not all by 400, so 1900 was not a Leap Year, but the year 2000 will be one, in which young maidens will have the "right" to "propose", assuming marriage is still a solvent institution.

February always seems to be the "guinea pig" in calendar reform. It once had 30 days like some of the other months; not always the "runt" of the dozen, but calendars have evolved over the ages. The 5th month in the early Roman calendar was Quintillis, with 30 days. Julius Caesar removed a day from February and added it to Quintillis with 31 days, and it is now called "July", in his honor.

Later Augustus Caesar, not to be outdone, cut another day from the already shortened February, and added it to his favorite month Sextillis, the Roman 6th month, and its name became "August". By that time the ego of each of those two Caesar boys probably has been satisfied.

September, October, November and December, the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th months of the old 10 month Roman Calendar with alternating 30 and 31 day lengths seem to have escaped the tabular mayhem. "Thirty days hath September, April, June and November; all the rest have 31 except February". It is still short, even on Leap Years.

Happy St. Valentine's Day to all. The Caesars did not disturb it and Ground Hogs' Day!

- Submitted by J. D. Young

ATTENTION JUNIORS!!

There will be a meeting of the Junior members of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club in the same room that the regular meeting is held in at 7:00 o'clock p.m., February 25th.

Answers to January Seek & Find are as follows:

Agate	Halite	Rhyolite
Aluminum	Hornblende	Ruby
Amber	Iron	Rutile
Apatite	Jade	Sandstone
Augite	Jasper	Sapphire
Basalt	Jet	Silver
Beryl	Labradorite	Slate
Borax	Lead	Spinel
Calcite	Limestone	Sulfur
Coal	Marble	Talc
Coral	Metal	Tin
Diamond	Mica	Topaz
Emerald	Onyx	Turquoise
Flint	Opal	Wolframite
Gold	Pearl	Zinc
Granite	Pegmatite	Zircon
(2)		
Graphite	Pumice	
Gypsum	Quartz	

For those interested in exact location, contact Ron McColery at February's Junior meeting.

JUNIORS: Be thinking of what you would possibly care to display in the Junior cases at the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Show in March. Also, I would like a lot of juniors involvement in the "Rock Races", so make sure you're gathering and testing your entries. Hope to see a lot of you Juniors at our meeting.

Ron

\* \* \* \* \*

From the scrapbook of Dr. Raplus: "Courtesy is not a commodity that may be purchased on the market. It becomes sterile unless delivered in person.

via Rock Talk  
Nov. 1983

\* \* \* \* \*

"Men learn while they teach."  
-SENECA

FEBRUARY'S SEEK & FIND

MINERAL IDENTIFICATION

ANSWERS:

Acicular	Specific Gravity
Angle	Splintery
Bladed	Stalactitic
Botryoidal	Streak
Cleavage	Striated
Color	Symmetry
Conchoidal	Tabular
Coxcomb	Tenacity
Dendritic	Tests
Druse	Tetragonal
Elastic	Triclinic

Equant	S	T	S	E	T	P	C	I	N	I	L	C	I	R	T	C
Feel	E	E	R	I	S	M	A	T	I	C	E	L	G	N	A	L
Fibrous	I	E	E	P	D	E	N	D	R	I	T	I	C	C	R	E
Fluorescence	T	N	L	C	I	T	I	T	C	A	L	A	T	S	A	V
Form	I	E	B	I	I	F	R	A	C	T	U	R	E	S	D	A
Fracture	L	T	A	B	N	F	O	R	M	L	S	G	E	U	I	G
Guide	A	R	E	M	G	L	I	D	C	I	T	I	L	O	O	E
Hardness	C	A	L	O	C	U	T	C	Q	S	E	R	Q	R	A	P
Habit	O	T	L	H	S	O	E	S	G	T	R	A	M	B	C	A
Hexagonal	L	I	A	R	U	R	N	E	E	R	X	N	A	I	T	R
Isometric	O	O	M	O	O	E	A	C	C	E	A	M	S	F	I	T
Localities	M	N	P	H	E	S	C	T	T	A	R	V	S	Q	V	I
Luster	A	G	E	T	C	C	I	I	S	K	O	L	I	R	I	N
Magnetism	M	B	S	R	A	E	T	L	T	N	L	O	V	T	T	G
Malleable	M	R	M	O	C	N	Y	O	R	P	O	C	E	D	Y	D
Mammillary	I	A	A	K	I	C	I	N	I	L	C	O	N	O	M	R
Massive	L	D	G	L	M	E	G	F	A	P	M	B	P	D	O	A
Micaceous	A	I	N	N	U	V	G	E	T	I	D	L	R	Q	H	L
Mohs	R	A	E	E	S	C	U	E	E	S	E	A	H	M	S	U
Monoclinic	Y	T	T	D	Y	O	I	L	D	O	P	D	A	I	D	B
Odor	Y	I	I	E	M	R	D	C	V	L	H	E	R	C	L	A
Oolitic	R	N	S	T	M	O	E	Q	A	I	E	D	D	A	A	T
Orthorhombic	E	G	M	A	E	D	Y	D	R	T	X	S	N	C	D	I
Parting	T	E	T	E	T	O	I	E	B	I	A	O	E	E	O	C
Penetration	N	E	E	P	R	O	N	M	E	C	G	D	S	O	I	I
Pisolitic	I	N	T	E	Y	I	O	Q	T	A	O	R	S	U	H	T
Prismatic	L	O	E	R	F	C	U	I	R	Q	N	U	V	S	C	S
Radiating	P	P	T	O	X	A	B	T	E	A	A	S	B	X	N	A
Radioactivity	S	O	R	O	N	A	E	D	O	M	L	E	N	D	O	L
Reniform	B	M	C	T	H	T	I	S	O	M	E	T	R	I	C	E
Repeated																
Sectil																

EDITORS NOTE: Conchoidal is spelled wrong

## FLUORESCENT AND PHOSPHORESCENT MINERALS

Fluorescence is a phenomenon not restricted to minerals but probably best known through minerals. Fluorescence results when a mineral is exposed to light of invisible wavelengths such as ultra violet, infrared, or even X-rays. Electrons revolving around the nuclei of atoms are elevated to higher energy levels and as the excited electrons fall down to a lower energy level, the energy released is manifested by visible wavelengths of light. Ultraviolet light is probably the best known medium to produce fluorescence, but other wavelengths that are invisible to the human eye can also produce fluorescence. The fluorescent mineral "glows in the dark," so to speak. If the mineral continues to fluoresce or glow after the light source is removed, the mineral is said to be phosphorescent.

Although a beautiful display can be created with fluorescent minerals and the use of ultraviolet lamps, some cautions should be observed. Excessive exposure of the eyes to short wave ultraviolet can be harmful---the result is the same as staring at the sun for a few moments. Short wave ultraviolet lights should be used in well-ventilated areas; these wavelengths convert normal oxygen to ozone, a sweet-smelling, deadly poisonous gas. Exposure to the ozone can cause sickness and nausea.

Ultraviolet light sources can be purchased from many sources. Many dealers have various kinds of mineral lights for sale, both in the long and short wavelengths. Longwave ultraviolet lights can be found at head shops or record shops; these are usually inexpensive and relatively safe as they are long wave ultraviolet. My own UV light source was purchased at one of the head shops, and it has been very useful. Another UV source can be obtained at hardware stores or plumbing supply companies. These lamps are germicidal UV, loaded with short wavelengths of UV light. Their use can be hazardous to the eyes and lungs. They are normally used in furnaces or in bath rooms to kill airborne bacteria.

Nebraska has quite a few fluorescent minerals. Much of the blue agate, our state gem is fluorescent. Much of the other chalcedony from the Crawford area fluoresces very nicely.

The Florence Limestone exposed near Holmesville in Gage County, has some geodes with orange barite crystals within. This barite is highly fluorescent. Some exceptionally fine fluorescent and phosphorescent calcite can be found in the same area. Some of the very phosphorescent calcite from there will phosphoresce from the activity of ordinary home fluorescent lighting.

Fluorescence derives its name from the mineral, fluorite, the first mineral recorded to have shown this phenomenon. Strangely, most fluorite does not fluoresce, so the name might be a misnomer. Fluorescence is also associated with radioactive minerals, but many of these do not fluoresce.

We can tell if a mineral will fluoresce by testing it with an invisible light source such as ultraviolet. We will have several UV lights at the February meeting. If you have something to test, or something to show, bring it along. If you have a small UV light, please bring it along so that different models can be compared.

Roger Pabian  
Education

## SHOW PLANS ON SCHEDULE

As you read this issue of the Pick & Shovel, you should be aware that the rock racing course is now completed and will be on tap for the February meeting. Bring some rocks to race. We will try to have the club members runoff and heat races run before the show so that the members who will be working at the show will be free for that occasion. There is a 25¢ entry fee for each rock entered by an individual. Most of the trophies have been obtained.

Members should be contemplating their displays. One case from each member would be a highly desirable situation. It is hoped that our many new members will take time to prepare a display. This gives the public a chance to see what one can accomplish in just one or two short years. Further, it creates an impression that the individual need not take 20 years to build a worthwhile collection.

All of the dealer spaces are now filled. There will be several new dealers this year, as well as several who have not been here for several years. They will have a fine merchandise display and should provide new acquisitions for all of us.

John Abel, commissioner of the Gran Premio Petrografica will need starters, timers, stewards, and all of the necessary track personnel to keep the races running smoothly.

Mike Smith and the working shop will need equipment and help to keep this important function of the show alive. Several kinds of grinders, saws, tumblers, and other forms of machinery would be very desirable. Home built equipment would be very much in demand, as it is useful to show the public that many items can be built in the workshop.

Jim Null will need help in the setting up of the floor. That is an all-day Friday job and a Sunday after-the-show job. More than 200 tables must be set up, as well as the shop, the demonstrators, dealers, ticket takers area, and other things. Don't forget the program area and black-light display too.

Linda Parks has graciously consented to be in charge of the coffee pot on set-up day and the social hour following Saturday's show day. Cakes, servers, and the likes are needed.

Claude Scott has a full array of programs for the show. They are very professional in nature and should be well reviewed and received.

Gail Scott has plans for the awards breakfast on Sunday of the show. The menu and price will be available in the near future.

Vera Lyman and Susan Taylor are in charge of ticket sales and their booth will need some staffers too. We need everybody's help, so plan on signing up to do one or more of the above jobs as well as some of the others that haven't been mentioned here.

Roger Pabian  
Show Chairman

# Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July and August as a service to member clubs. All news and articles should be sent to the Editor, Mrs. BETZ Smith, 10807 Mary Ann, Zeeland, MI 49464. All subscription orders should be sent to Parrot Printing Service, 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines, IA 50311.

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7636 V Avenue East  
Vicksburg, MI 49097



FEBRUARY 1984 - Issue No. 241

FROM  
THE

PRESIDENT'S

We welcome two new people to our roster:

Minnesota State Director: Ida Webb, 2600 West 87½ Street, Bloomington, MN 55431

Lapidary Arts Chairman: Bruce Lundin, 8233 Major Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053

Being part of the American Federation gives us, as clubs, access to one of the most comprehensive mineral charts ever to be published. These 'Minerals of the World Charts' are printed on glossy paper

and are in full color. They contain over 200 mineral photo plates with the name, crystal form, class, hardness, cleavage, streak color listed in the Index. All crystal forms are featured across the bottom of the chart, the Index along the side.

They may be ordered for \$10.00 apiece from the AFMS Chairman, Mr. Glenn Lee, 704 SW 31st Street, Pendleton, OR 97801.

This is another service of your Federations to your club.

\*\*\*\*\*

EXCERPTS FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE IN MGAGS BULLETIN -  
WINTER, 1984 by Florence Hill



Items of interest from the November 5 meeting of the Midwest Executive Committee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The recommendations of the special committee appointed in July by Diane Dare to come up with a solution to the problem of the honorarium to be given judges at a Federation Show were adopted. The changes this makes are, briefly: (1) the judges' honorariums at a Federation Show will be paid by the Federation, the amount to be subject to approval by the MWF President; (2) the chairman of the MWF Uniform Rules Committee

shall submit a budget covering all other expenses for judging the competitive exhibits to a club whose bid for hosting a Federation Show is accepted; this must be done in advance of a club bid if the bidding club requests it.

The Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Club of Dearborn is submitting a bid for the 1987 or 1988 MWF Show. Host clubs for the coming years are as follows:

- 1984 July 5-8 Wisconsin Geological Society, WI State Fairgrounds.
- 1985 Sioux Empire Gem & Mineral Society, Sioux Falls, S.D.
- 1986 AFMS combined, Michiana Gem & Mineral Club, South Bend, IN
- 1987 Not confirmed. Springfield, MO or Dearborn, MI

After the treasurer's report and the 1984 budget had been approved. President Rex Webb pointed out the fact the Midwest Federation had been spending five or six thousand more dollars than it was taking in for the past few years. From a balance of about \$35,000 on hand several years ago, the current balance has dropped to about \$15,000. He said that many expenditures must be cut, and charged the Long Range Planning Committee with finding a way to balance the budget.

Kitty Starbuck presented the Federation with a check for \$3,009.21, half of the profits from the 1983 MWF Show. This is the standard financial arrangement for MWF shows.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP - John R. Hartmus, 50 Sheppard Rd., Frankfort, Ohio 45628. John is interested in Geology & Lapidary.

ILLIAN GEM GUILD - Glenwood, IL. There are ten adult members of this newest addition to our Federation. They meet monthly at members homes. The current President is Carol Downing, P.O. Box 472, Glenwood, IL 60425. The Earth Examiner is the Club Bulletin but no Editor is named at this time.

WELCOME

Mary Edwards, Membership Chairperson



\*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*

HE WILL BE MISSED Armin Steinhauser passed away December 28, 1983. He was a former State Director of Minnesota and Geology Chairman of the MWF. A very active participant in the local clubs around Minneapolis, MN.

\*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*

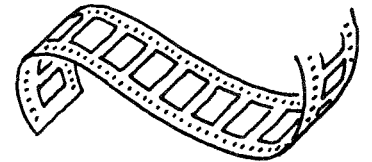
ALL-AMERICAN FEDERATION CLUB AWARD Time is getting short to apply for this award. The deadline is March 1. Let me pass some observations that may help you.

1. Follow the outline in the stops shown on the application. Make sure the items you mention belong in the category where they are called for. Make sure the report is not all mixed up.
2. Be brief, concise and factual. Tell what exactly happened and when and how. If you helped a museum in some way, tell exactly how. Remember that just visiting a museum doesn't help as much as if you worked in the museum or the club donated 'X' dollars or provided 'X' number of specimens from someone's collection.
3. Include only significant supporting evidence. Letters of commendation and letters indicating activity are far more important than souvenir napkins, or cancelled tickets. Don't make a notebook or scrapbook, make a document. This may seem like too much work but remember you are really writing a chapter in the history of your club.

Benjamin Moulton, Merit Awards Chairperson

\*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*

MORE NEW SLIDE PROGRAMS ADDED TO MWF RANCHO LA BREA TAR PITS - Los Angeles by Carol Anderson (83 slides, subject: paleontology) Here is a look at the history, both geological and social, of the very unique La Brea Tar Pits in Southern California. This program includes a review of the exciting fossilized finds made to date and an insight on the tedious work of examining the deposits for ancient animal remains.



ART IN THE ROCK HOBBY by Hazel Kuntz (100 slides, subject: lapidary, jewelry, silversmithing) Humankind has always felt the need to express themselves artistically. Hazel has done a beautiful job of taking us, via her slide program, on a walk thru early artistic expression. She then brings us up to date by showing us what our fellow artisans are doing today. I particularly liked her challenge to us all in her final slide when she says simply..NOW YOU TRY IT!

Margaret M. Pearson, Education/Education thru sharing Chairperson

\*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*      \*\*\*\*\*

ACTIVITIES IN ARCHAEOLOGY (Taken from the Newsletter of the Wabash Valley Archaeological Society, Terre Haute, IN) In February a leading scientist will be in Indiana speaking on early humankind fossils and development. Richard Leakey, who continues the fossil study traditions of his parents, Louis and Mary Leakey, in East Africa, will be on the I.S.U. campus, Terre Haute on February 15-17, 1984. Information on lectures open to the public will be available from Phil McClure, 6841 E. 750 s., Elizabethtown, IN 47232.

The Northwest Indiana Archaeological Assn. has announced tentative plans for a workshop, 3rd week of June 1984. They plan to work at a multi-component site in Jasper County which has strong similarities to expressions in Northern IL. Please contact the above for further details.

Glen R. Hanning, Archaeology Chairperson

# The LINCOLN



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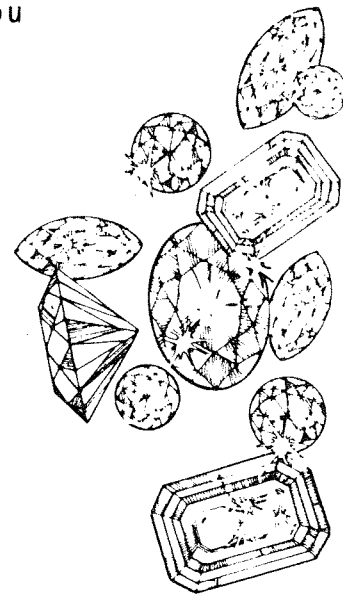
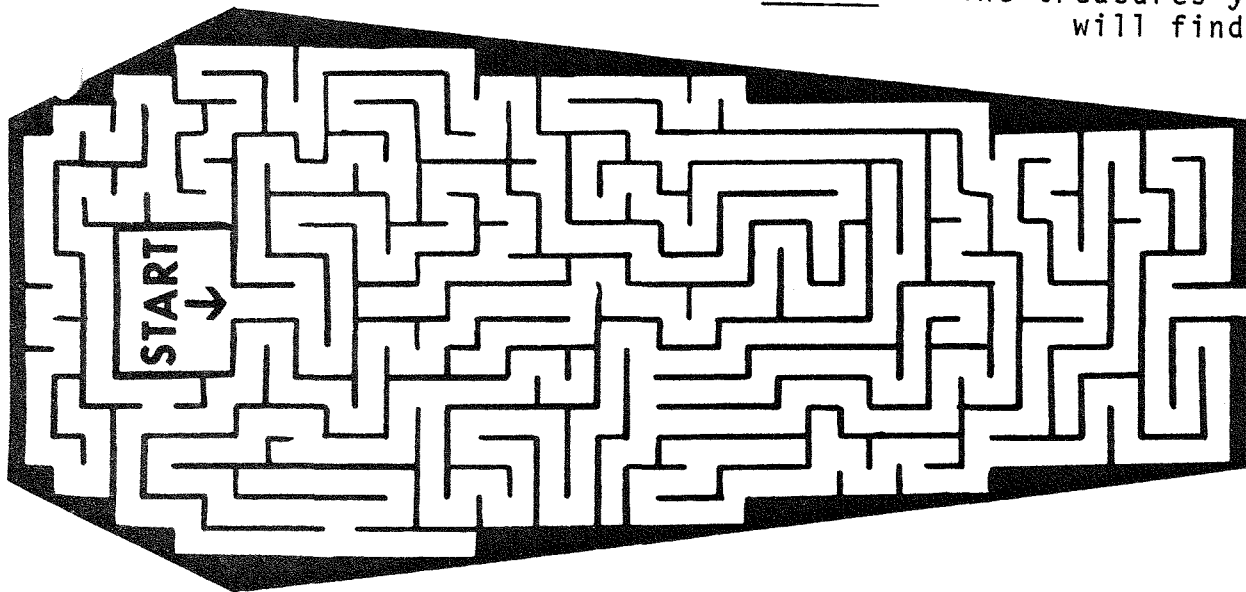
26<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

# 1984 Gem & Mineral Show

March 31, April 1, 1984

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Sunday, 9:00am to 5:00pm

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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 \$15.00 per full page per insertion, paid in advance.

1/2 page \$7.50, 1/3 page \$5.00 1/4 page \$3.75 (min). These ads will be placed throughout the bulletin as space permits.

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.

DON'T FORGET: The February general meeting is planned for Saturday, February 25, 1984 at 7:30 P.M.

DON'T FORGET: The Junior meeting will meet for its first meeting Saturday, February 25, 1984 at 7:00 P.M.

DON'T FORGET: The next board meeting is planned for Thursday, March 1, 1984 at the Taylor home.

DON'T FORGET: March 31-April 1 Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club's 26th Annual Show



# h.e.l.p.

HELP ELIMINATE LITTER PLEASE!

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