

CALENDAR

Regular Meeting: Saturday, November 22, 1997, Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd & Holdrege Streets, 7:30 PM Beatrice Room. **Annual Meeting!!**

NOTICE- Due to the lack of a quorum (20% of the paid adult membership) we shall have to conduct all of the voting for our Sept., Oct., and Nov. business at this meeting!! Please be there so that we can count you as an active club member, and hold our Election of Officers for 1998, and approve prior minutes and treasurer's reports. In September only 10 members and in October only 12. We need at least 14 to transact official business. (Special surPRIZE)

Program **ROCKMANIA - THE RETURN---**Sharpen up your rock, gem, and fossil trivia skills and win one of the many prizes. Presented by LGMC's super sharp Youth Group.

Youth: Meet at 7:00 PM prepared for a Trivia game. Go home with a rock specimen.

December 14, 1997- Annual Christmas Dinner --Details in our December Pick & Shovel which will be out before December 14th, the day of our Christmas extravaganza.

NEXT LGMC SHOW - MARCH 21-22, 1998, Pershing Auditorium
(Our 40th Annual Show)

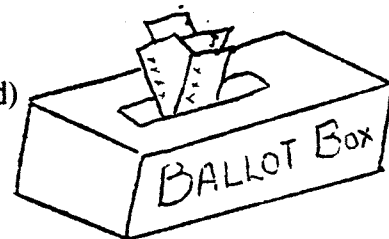
DUES ARE DUE for 1998!! any time after November 1st and may be paid at any of our meetings, preferably before January 1st, 1998. Dues will become delinquent on January 31, 1998 and an extra \$5.00 will then be collected for re-registering. Dues are only \$10.00 per adult member and \$2.00 per youth ages 12 to 16. Complete schedule of dues on ad page inside back cover. Please pay your dues and reaffirm your intentions to be an active member of Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

presented by David Heffelbower, Past President/Chair

We have secured this slate of officers to run for election for 1998 :

President	Jerry Moore	Board Member (4 to be elected)
1st Vice-Pres.	Edward Ridge	Kay Jurgens
2nd Vice-Pres.	Shirley Rockel	Jim Atkins
Secretary	Vera Lyman	Kenneth Doe
Treasurer	Phyllis Parks	Marcia Eddy-Hamilton



As per the By-Laws of the club, nominations will be taken before the election is completed. Any persons nominated must have given consent to their nomination and must have at least one full year of membership in the club prior to taking office.

Nominations will also be taken for persons to serve a term of three years on the Nominating Committee. (2 to be elected)

YOUTH NOTES

by Kay Jurgens

November brings thoughts of Thanksgiving to my mind, and I am thankful for many things. On the top of my list is the great junior members we have in our club. They have the enthusiasm, energy, and willingness to work that makes working with them great. We had some costumes at the October party which really made people think before they could guess correctly. Every March, the junior members put in many hours of hard work to make our junior booth a GREAT success. I have gone to other shows and they had nothing that would compare to our junior booth. So, "Thank you to all the juniors for their great efforts." They are appreciated. I have heard people comment that the juniors in our club are very bright and talented, and that could not be more true.

One of our junior members recently had surgery, and will be at home during the month of November. If you'd like to call Emily Rieur or drop her a line, her address is:

Emily Rieur
440 Lakewood Dr.
Lincoln, NE 68510 Call:486-4468

On Halloween night all the teens were out of the house, so I actually got to sit down at the computer myself! I found a few more Web sites for kids and adults. Lycos has a mini-Guide to Dinosaurs located at:

<http://www.lycos.com/science/miniguide/dinosaurs.html>

There are a dozen sites dealing with dinosaurs that you can link onto.

A great site for children is Kids Zone, located at:

<http://www.asiadragns.com/kids/>

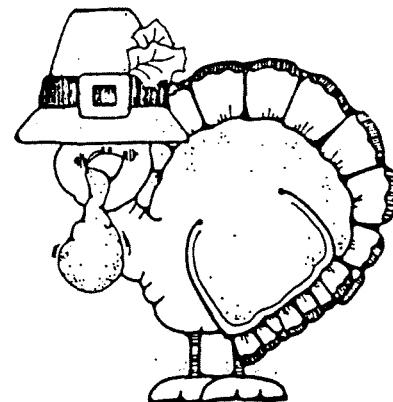
Dinosauria On-Line is one of the selections on the home page. This site also has a section called "Kids' Top 100 Sites". There are some commercial, but fun links. Billy Bear's Animated Storybooks is at:

<http://www.worldvillage.com/kidz/bilybear/welcome.htm>

This site has a playground and holiday games, and mazes.



Happy
Thanksgiving





THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow Rockhounds:

The October meeting was held at the Antelope Park Shelter. A dessert dinner was enjoyed by all attending and there were a number of creative costumes displayed, especially by the junior members. Unfortunately for the second month in a row there were not enough members present to conduct an official meeting. I reluctantly informed those present that I will be contacting the Lincoln Park and Recreation Department that the club can not, at this time, undertake supervising the utilization of the Lapidary Shop. This could have been a great opportunity for club members but we just do not have enough ACTIVE members to do it successfully.

The November meeting will be when the club elects its' officers and board members for 1998. It is imperative (I can't stress that enough!) that we have a quorum to be able to conduct official business. **YOU NEED TO BE THERE!!!**. If you need a ride call me and I will arrange for transportation.

November is the time for Thanksgiving. There are two special people that I would like to thank in particular. Vera Lyman and Phyllis Parks have been beside me for nearly every general meeting and board meeting throughout my four year tenure as your President. When I am not sure of something I have always known that I can turn to one of them and they will help me out or give me guidance. They have been dependable beyond measure. It will serve us all well to use them as a bench mark as we elect our leaders for the next year. I believe 1998 needs to be a rebuilding year for our club. I know JFK's "Think not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country..." has been overused, but its' message remains true. If you don't get involved this club is going to slowly, painfully, dissolve.

Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend the November meeting on Saturday the 22nd at The Nebraska Center, 33rd and Holdrege.

Wooly

NOTICE to all Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Members and their families:
As a member of 'Friends of the University of Nebraska State Museum' we are invited by the Research Staff to join them for their Annual Open House in 'Nebraska Hall Collections' on Friday, November 14, 1997, from 7 to 9 p.m. This will be held on West 4th and 5th floors of Nebraska Hall, 901 North 17th Street. Parking is available in lot 10 north of Nebraska Hall and enter Nebraska Hall through the main 16th Street doors across from the Reunion Building or the far west doors off the north parking lot. Signs will direct you to the Open House.

DELEGATE'S REPORT-1997 Midwest Federation Convention & Show

Grant D. Bennett

What a wonderful way to meet friends. And I did just that, in fact so many. Sure hope I can remember them when we meet again.

The delegates meeting was held 25 October 1997 in the Blackhawk Hotel, Davenport, Iowa. Meeting was called to order by President, Bob Miller at 9:30 A.M. Invocation was given by Harold Rice, 1st V.P. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was given by Neil Snepp, 2nd V.P. Since there was no director from Nebraska I did inform the delegates of the Lincoln club's 40th show coming in March 1998.

A club from Ohio presented an idea for a field trip club, a central meeting place would be set and all local clubs would be invited to attend. Get more details on this at our next general meeting.

American Lands Access Association (ALAA) was officially accepted by both American Federation and Midwest Federation.

New bulletin operating procedures have been approved. Revisions will soon be out to insert in the existing one. MWF Bulletin Editor requested the clubs send their show flyer to them to insert in the MWF bulletin.

All of the proposed changes to the MWF by-laws were accepted as proposed in the June 1997 MWF Newsletter. The one by-law contains the raising of club dues to the MWF was passed. There was not as much speaking, arguing or discussion as expected on this change. Only twenty minutes was needed to pass this change.

No new candidates were presented for the 1998 offices. Bob Miller handed the gavel over to Harold Rice the incoming president.

The Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club along with all of the other clubs will have to have their dues into the MWF by February 1, 1998. Otherwise they will not be in the new directory.

A word on the show. It really was not the best but I have attended worse. The hall was large enough to hold more than the twenty-two dealers present. Sixty cases were counted, only six for competition. A very large Bonsai display was on one half side of the hall, very nice. The busiest place I saw was the silent auction tables. Attendance was down due to the weather and a craft show being held next door.

Only the high points are presented here. Come to the next meeting for more information.

Thank you for sending me as your club delegate.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. - BOARD MEETING - Oct. 7, 1997
 7:30 P.M. Auld Center - Antelope park

Minutes were approved with motion by Kaye J., 2nd by Ed R. Carried.
 Treasurer's report approved with motion by Vera L., 2nd by Ed R. Carried.

BILLS: Presented by Treasurer. Approved with motion by Roger P.,
 2nd by Kaye J. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Secretary found info regarding scholarships to High School students
 which was set up after the 1980 National Show. Roger will forward
 information to NAS.

Information on State Show @ Kearney. Changes of State Assoc. By-Laws
 read by President.

SHOW: Budget - presented by Chairman Roger Pabian. Board recommends
 approval by rank & file. Roger plans to attend area Shows to get Spec-
 ial Feature ideas, etc.

Wooly & Roger met with Rosemary & Sandy from City Dept. to discuss ex-
 pansion & utilization of services at Auld Center and Lapidary Class
 Shop. Had a copy of contract/ins certificate from another organization
 at another City location. PROS and CONS discussed. Treasurer will check
 into insurance, etc.

Motion by Phyllis P. & 2nd by Roger P. that pros & cons be presented to
 General membership on City's proposal to the Club for a vote. Motion
 carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vera Lyman
 Vera Lyman, Secretary

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. - GENERAL MEETING - Oct. 25, 1997
 7:30 P.M. Antelope Park Shelter House - Halloween/Dessert Party

12 members present - No business conducted.

The following appeared in excellent Rock/Halloween costumes:

Danny Cromer - Emerald & Sphalerite	Talea Schwartzman - Dinosaur
Emerson Wooldridge - Thunder Egg	Kaye Jurgens - Ruby on card
Janelle Jurgens - Anglacite	Terje Bratseth - Cryolite
Janelle's Friend - Axonite	

Terje Bratseth is an exchange student from Norway and living with the
 Jurgens family. It was great having you Terje.

Note: Emily Rieur is having back surgery in Minneapolis on Nov. 29th.
 She will be there one week, and will have to be out of school for
 1 month. Please sent any well-wishes to her home. Address in WHO'S WHO.

President did announce that he is going to notify the City that LGMC
 is not pursuing the utilization of the Auld Center at this time.

Remainder of evening spent enjoying desserts and visiting. Then hastily
 leaving before the tragic snow storm!!!!

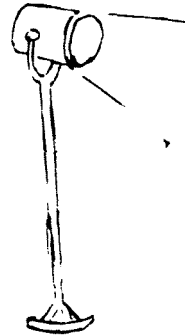
Respectfully submitted,

Vera Lyman
 Vera Lyman, Secretary

L.G.M.C. Treasurer's Report October, 1997

	NBC Checking Balance 09/30/97	459.38
No receipts in October		
Recorded by Bank-Interest 6 months -Scholarship Cert.Deposit	161.82	
Payments:		
Nebraska Center-September Meeting Rent	85.00	
Office Max-Printing October Pick/Shovel	18.96	
Prepaid '98 Show Flyers	<u>7.46</u>	<u>111.42</u>
	NBC Checking Balance 10/31/97	509.78

In Remembrance!



HEADLINES

for

Helena

Helena Baegl, 43 year Member of our Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc, born in 1900 and left us on October 22, 1997, and for those of us who knew her, the memories are outstanding. She left her mark on many Lincolmites besides LGMC members.

I remember Helena from my days as Editor of The Pick & Shovel when she used to contribute **Helena's Hilites!** - notes of interest on Club Members' activities, their challenges, sad times and mostly their good times. In those days I believe the club members were more aware of each other and spent more time sharing their lives with other club members. It was before the days of 70 plus channels on TV, before the days of Internet Travel to all of the big museums of the world, and before the days when many people don't even know their next door neighbor.

Helena joined the Club before it was a year old and was an active member. She was the Notary Public when the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws were originally filed with the State of Nebraska. She loved art, beautiful gems, people and being busy. She participated in many sessions of the city lapidary classes with several of the instructors, usually with Adeline as a classmate. Her finished gemstones were very beautiful, and she displayed them at many LGMC annual shows. She rarely missed a club meeting and always attended our special Christmas Dinners and Swaps. Her huge angel food cakes were always a hit at our annual Dessert Suppers in the Park. She also contributed several original poems to our club publication over her many years. I even remember her attending a Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D. C.

On December 11, 1982 Helena was presented with an "Active Life Membership" in Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club by then President Roger K. Pabian.

For the past several years Helena and her sister Emma (full time artist and short term club member) have lived in Senior Care Centers and have not been able to attend club functions - but they were still much in the memory of many .

contributed by Editor Phyllis N. Parks

Topaz, November's Gem

Topaz, the birthstone for November, may have derived its name from the Island of Topazios in the Red Sea but some authorities think the name may have come from the Sanskrit word "topas" that means "fire." I personally favor the former explanation as topaz is known for the very soft colors that most finished stones display.

Topaz is an orthorhombic fluosilicate of aluminum and it comes in a multitude of colors including pink, blue, lavender, yellow, orange, orange-yellow, brownish yellow, yellow brown, red, and colorless to mention a few. Topaz crystals may become quite large and finished gems weighing several thousands of carats are seen in many museum collections. Visitors to our 1974 National Gem and Mineral Show were able to see a 144,000 carat crystal of topaz from Brazil that, if I remember correctly, was furnished by the Dowell's of Edinburg, Texas. The crystal was exhibited in a bushel basket that it nearly filled. 144,000 carats translates to a little bit over 63 pounds.

Topaz has many lower priced imitators that include synthetic corundum and synthetic spinel as well as citrine quartz. More recently, colorless quartz crystals that are coated with a monomolecular layer of gold have been substituted for blue topaz. These stones have been sold under several trade names such as Aqua-Aura.

Topaz is fairly hard but its use is somewhat restricted by the perfect basal cleavage along the basal pinacoidal (crystal face that intersects a single crystal axis) crystal face. The faceter must be sure that no facets of a stone are parallel to this face or the faceting machine will simply tear away thin layers of topaz as if they were mica.

Topaz has a specific gravity of about 3.50 to 3.57. Light shades (pink, yellow, etc.) usually occupy the lower range and darker shades (blues) usually occupy the higher range, as do colorless stones. Many of the blue topazes are derived from colorless stones that have been heat treated so that is why colorless stones have a specific gravity in the higher range.

The refractive index of topaz ranges from about 1.610 to about 1.617 in colorless and blue to about 1.630 to about 1.637 in yellow and brown stones. The fairly low refractive index and the fairly high specific gravity are an unusual characteristic as refractive index usually varies upward with the specific gravity. Topaz's anomalous, low refractive index may be due to the presence of the very large fluoride ion in the crystal lattice.

Topaz has been found in granitic pegmatites (coarsely crystalline hydrothermal deposits) and in cavities in rhyolitic welded ash flow tuffs. Topaz is almost always found in the form of large, well-developed crystals. Massive topaz is practically unknown. Most gem topaz is mined directly from the host rock or from nearby sediment derived from the host rock. Because of its poor toughness, topaz is rarely found in gravel deposits that have been removed any distance from the source area.

Topaz is usually easily separated from its imitators by refractive index---few materials fall into this range, except tourmaline which is so strongly doubly refractive that one will observe doubled back facets when looking through the table of the stone with a small magnifier (about 6 to 10 power). Topaz rarely comes in the same shades as tourmaline either.

Topaz has been discredited somewhat by the usage of modifiers in front of the word. For example, Brazilian Topaz was formerly used for Citrine, a much less expensive substitute. A rule of thumb to follow is to avoid stones that have some modifier in front of the mineral name, as the modifier is usually to draw attention away from rather than add to the true character of the stone.

Inclusions in topaz may include actinolite crystals and labyrinth-like fluid-filled hollows that contain materials such as salt water and crude oil as well as various gasses such as Carbon Dioxide. The inclusions in topaz were among the first kinds of fluids and gasses found in minerals that were studied in considerable detail and topaz essentially set the standard for all such following studies.

Most gem topaz that reaches the United States has been found in Brazil where it is mined from deeply weathered pegmatites. It is recovered by washing away the silt and clay particles from the weathered host rock and screening for the larger particles. Sri Lanka in the Indian Ocean and the Ural Mountains in Russia were important Old World sources and Scotland and Ireland were lesser sources for these stones. In North America, Mexico has been an important topaz source and California, Colorado, Utah, Maine, and New Hampshire have also produced topaz.

Roger K. Pabian

November Display Materials

There probably aren't enough pieces of topaz available in the club to make this a single display item, so in addition to topaz, we will celebrate its perfect basal cleavage by bringing examples of minerals and gems that show cleavage.

Cleavages are simply planes of weakness in a crystal along which atomic bonds are very weak and the mineral will split along well defined planes. Common examples are calcite, gypsum, feldspars, topaz, etc.

Cases will be furnished.

RKP

MIDWEST FEDERATION CLUBS THAT HAVE PAID 1997 DUES AS OF APRIL 5, 1997

STATE	NUMBER OF CLUBS	ADULTS	JUNIORS	INDIVIDUAL	CLUBS INSURED	NO. INSURED
ARKANSAS	3	110	1		3	84
ILLINOIS	27	1359	259		19	705
INDIANA	10	491	64		6	265
IOWA	12	443	27		8	257
MICHIGAN	32	2364	185		21	1429
MINNESOTA	10	437	45		3	103
MISSOURI	13	510	75		7	249
NEBRASKA	7	232	19		0	0
NORTH DAKOTA	1	37	2		1	30
OHIO	25	1578	237	2	15	614
SOUTH DAKOTA	6	139	17		1	45
WISCONSIN	17	837	70		11	404
TOTAL	165	8521	1001	2	95	4185

1997 ELECTED OFFICERS

President:	Charles Wooldridge, 836 S. 31st St.	Lincoln NE 68510	475-9034
1st Vice President:	Jerry Moore, 2305 So. 35th St.	Lincoln NE 68506	489-4184
2nd Vice President:	Edward Ridge, 2507 A Street.	Lincoln, NE 68502	477-8469
Secretary:	Vera Lyman, 420 N. 56th St.	Lincoln, NE 68504	464-6089
Treasurer:	Phyllis Parks, 2435 So. 19th St.	Lincoln, NE 68502	476-6798
Board Member:	Roger Pabian, 5301 X St.	Lincoln, NE 68504	465-0144
Board Member:	Kay Jurgens, 14421 Danvers St.	Waverly, NE 68462	786-2756
Board Member:	Brett Jurgens, 14421 Danvers St.	Waverly, NE 68462	786-2756
Board Member:	Francis Belohlavy, 3015 Orchard	Lincoln, NE 68503	477-4337

Nominating Committee

3 year:	Shirley Rockel Kenneth Doe
2 year:	Vera Lyman Susan Taylor
1 Year:	James Parks Edward Ridge
Chairman:	<i>Immediate Past President</i>

Long Range Planning & By-Laws Committee

3 Year:	David Heffebower Jim Parks
2 Year:	Vera Lyman Roger Pabian
1 Year:	Kevin Schwartman Jim Marburger
Chairman:	<i>Immediate Past President</i>

Standing Committees

Membership:	Shirley Rockel	Programs:	Brett Jurgens
Education:	Roger Pabian	MWF Liaison:	Vera Lyman
Field Trips:	Charles Wooldridge	Scholarship:	Susan Taylor
Historian:	John & Lillie Lewis	Christmas Party:	Shirley Rockel
Hospitality:	Eddie "Lightning" Ridge	1997 Show:	John Harrison
Study Coordinator:?		1998 Show:	Roger K. Pabian
Housing/Property:	Jim Parks	1999 Show:	Jim Marburger
Youth Activities:	Kay Jurgens	1997 Swap:	Roger Pabian
Librarian:	Roger Pabian	1998 Swap:	Francis Belohlavy
Auditing Committee:?	Jerry Moore, Francis Belohlavy, Mike Jurgens		

Gem Palette Correspondent: Vera M. Lyman
Geology Day Coordinator: *2nd Vice President*

I. G. M. C. Web Page Address:
<http://nesen.unl.edu/lgmc/lgmc.html>

Your PICK & SHOVEL Staff

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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.

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Advertising by rock-hobby business or interest is permitted with the approval of the Board. The rate is set at \$15.00 per full page; \$7.50 per 1/2 page; \$5.00 per 1/3 page; and \$3.75 per 1/4 page (min) issue, paid in advance. These ads will be placed through the bulletin as space permits.

Subscription to the *PICK & SHOVEL* are \$10.00 per year mailed.

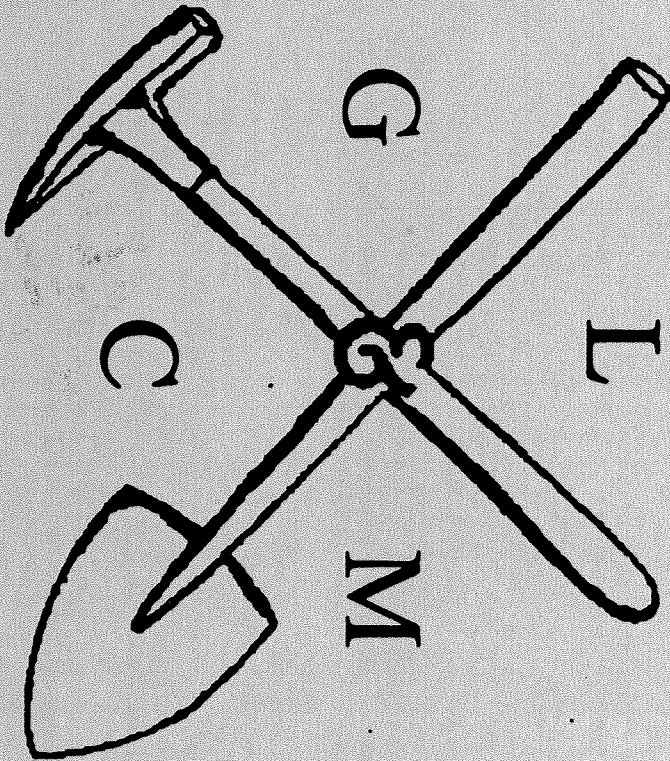
Dues to Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club are as follows:

Adult	(ages 16 and over)	\$10.00/y
Junior	(ages 12 to 16)	\$2.00/y
Family Membership	(Husband, wife, resident children under age 16)	\$22.00/y

New memberships must be approved by the Board, after the applicant attends at least one meeting of the club and pays the above dues plus a \$5.00 registration fee.

THE PICK & SHOVEL

NOVEMBER 1997

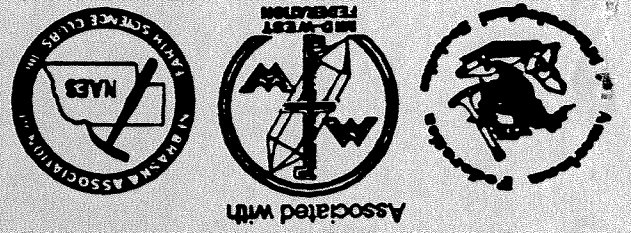
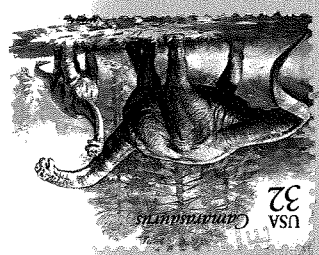
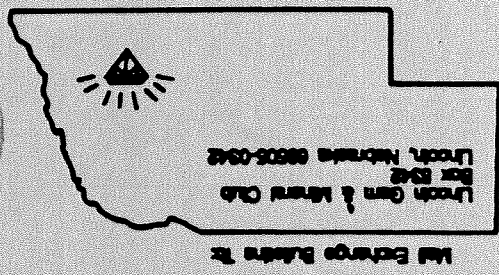
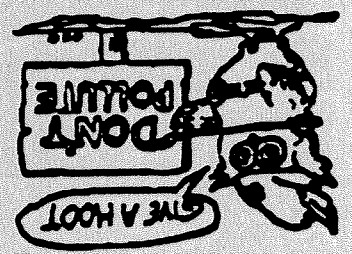


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LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

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