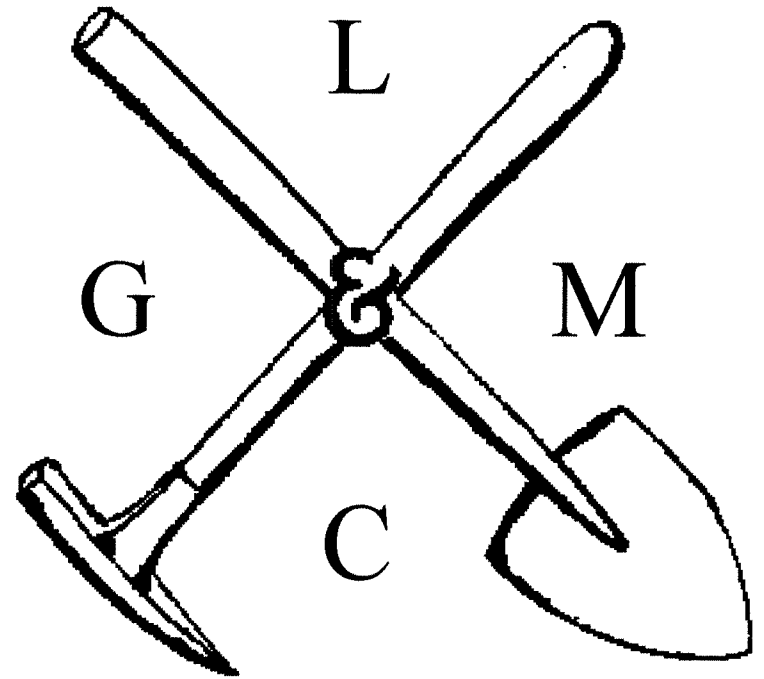


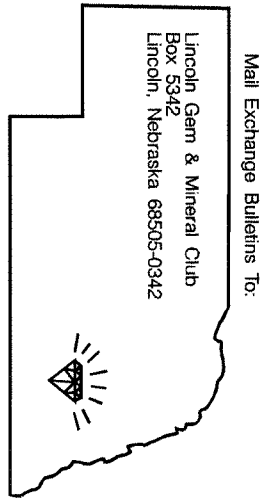
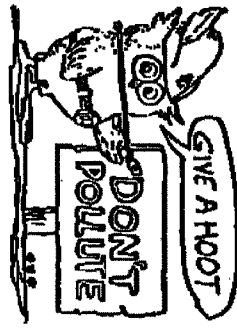
THE PICK & SHOVEL

February 2004



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA



H. E. L. P.

Help Eliminate Litter Please

Associated with



Historian

CLUB EVENTS

- Feb.** 15 Geology Day, Pioneers Park 1-4PM
26 General Meeting, Antelope Park 7PM
- Mar.** 4 Board Meeting, 7PM, Walt Library, 6701 South 14TH Street
27 & 28, 46th Annual Show/Show, "Those Golden Years", Pershing Auditorium (No General Meeting in March)
- Apr.** 6 Board Meeting, 7PM, place to be announced
22 General Meeting, Antelope Park, 7PM
- May** 6 Board Meeting, 7PM, place to be announced
27 General Meeting, Antelope Park, 7PM
- July** 4 weekend...CO. field trip (see President's message)
18 Grinding Party, Pioneers Park 1-4PM

Recap January 24, SWAP & Meeting

We had a good turnout of club members and guests, including several members of the Omaha Club and other NE clubs. (See photos p. 3) Following the SWAP, club members enjoyed pizza & pasta catered by Valentino's.

The general meeting included awards to past President, Susy McMahan for her two years of great service and to Pat Akins for his hard work which resulted in the purchase and preparation of a club storage trailer. Also, Roger Pabian was honored with a Life Membership and "roasted" by club members. (See photos p.4)

Thanks to Vera Lyman for making the delicious cake with "rock candy" on top to celebrate the club's 49th anniversary...the beginning of our 50th year.

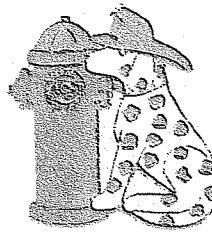
February 26 General Meeting

Program: David Heffelbower will give a presentation entitled, "How to Buy Rough Opal."

Display Material: Bring your favorite pieces of opal.



President's Day
February 16



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February 14th is a day to celebrate LOVE and is the day before GEOLOGY DAY at Pioneers Park. Join us between 1 and 4 p.m. on the 15th to share our love of the geology disciplines.

We had a very good turnout for our January Swap in the park. Many thanks to Pat Akins for heading this club event. Thanks to all who attended, helping to make it a success.

It is time to prepare your display case for the show. Every club member has material that can be worked into a great display. Remember, with a little heat and pressure, you can make coal into a diamond. The same can be said about the displays needed for the show. The heat and pressure will be on you to come up with a dazzling display. This hobby has so many facets to it, it is a gem of its own.

This is your club! Your suggestions are needed to forge the direction the club takes in the next fifty years. Small steps can make a big difference. Suggestions for field trips, programs, club activities, and member retention will help. All creative ideas are welcome!

Remember to mark your calendars for the July 4th weekend. I am planning my PRESIDENTIAL FIELD TRIP to the Denver Gem and Mineral Guild's claims at Wigwam Creek, Colorado. It will be a great honor for our club to be their guest at the claims where smoky quartz, amazonite, goethite, fluorite, and occasional topaz can be found.

See you at the February meeting! Rock on!!!

James Marburger

GEOLOGY DAY, February 15

As noted above, Geology day is next Sunday. Last year there was snow so a lot of sled riders from Pioneers Park came over to see our exhibits. This is a fun way to promote our club and educate the public, especially the children, about what we do. The kids love the displays and "samples" and hands on demonstrations, so come on out and have a fun day at Pioneers Park Wildlife Center, from 1-4PM.

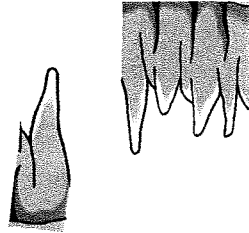
If you have a red **X** on the address label of this bulletin, this will be your last edition of the Pick & Shovel until dues are paid! Don't miss out! Contact Vera Lyman to pay 2004 dues now!

For Juniors

MAKE YOUR OWN STALACTITES & STALAGMITES

Supplies needed:

- Large box of Epsom Salt
- 2 Glass Jars
- Piece of cord
- Small colored plate or ashtray



Procedure:

Dissolve the Epsom Salt in a pint or more of hot water. When cool, pour solution into glass jars, filling almost to the top. Place jars 4 inches apart. Place one end of the cord in each jar, letting cord sag slightly in the middle. Place the plate between the jars, under the sagging string.

The cord will begin to drip at the lowest point. In a few days you will see a build-up of one or more stalactites. As the solution continues to drip, stalagmites will begin to build up on the plate. This experiment almost always duplicates the process going on in live caves.

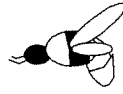
-From The Glacial Drifter, November 2003 via The Mountain Gem 1/89 .

HOW TO MAKE ROCK CANDY

You will need 5 cups granulated sugar, 2 cups water, food coloring, flavoring, a very clean glass quart jar, string or coffee stirrer and a pencil.

Do this: Bring water to a boil, dissolve as much sugar as you can. Pour this into a very clean jar. Add food coloring and flavoring after the solution has been poured. Tie a string to a pencil and hang the string into the jar with the pencil resting on the rim. The string must not touch the bottom or sides of the jar. (If using a coffee stirrer, be sure it sticks out the top of the jar. It can touch the bottom.) Put a piece of waxed paper over the top of the jar to slow down evaporation. As the sugar solution cools, it becomes super-saturated and the excess sugar crystallizes onto the string or stirrer. Do not move or touch the entire apparatus while the crystals are growing. No! No! Do not remove the cover either! Not even for just one little peek!

From Quarry Quips, September 2003, via The Pegmatite, December 2002 (Author Unknown.)



WHAT'S THE BUZZ??

by Judy Reilly

OOPS! In the January newsletter, I tried my hand at physically cutting and pasting an article on pages 3 & 4 . My pasting must not have been too effective because the credit for the article fell off in the printing. The article entitled "Down the Drain, and Other Strange Places" was taken from The Rockhound Gazette, Dec., 2003 via Northwest Newsletter 12/94 from Oregon Agate & Mineral Society. I will henceforth, stick to using the computer to cut and paste. Technology is a wonderful thing!

Congratulations to **Bonnie Sittig** who won a free membership to the LGMC as a prize for her silversmithing display at the 2003 State Fair. Welcome, Bonnie. Enjoy the newsletters and we look forward to meeting you soon!

Susy McMahan had a good suggestion a while back-business cards to promote the club. I was working on some computer projects last week and thought I would try my hand at making a card which announced the beginning of LGMC's 50th year. We gave some out at the SWAP and had very positive feedback, so I will make up some more to hand out at Geology Day and the Show.



As always, I welcome any club news...

Judy email: queenbeejr2@aol.com

Rockhounds in the Community

by Susy McMahan

The **LPS/Pfizer Science Fair** will be held Tuesday, March 2 at Pershing Auditorium. LGMC has been asked to demonstrate again this year. While the kids are waiting for the judges to look at their displays, they need entertainment. That's where we (and other volunteers) come in. If you are interested in having fun, let me know. It is similar to Geology day, any display, demo (there will be electricity) would be great or just come and answer the children's questions . Set up is at 4:00pm, and the Fair runs from 5-7pm. Last year they even fed us!! If interested, call Susy at 464-0065 and we can chat!

Another opportunity to let folks know about our show and our club is to come and demo or display at **Younkners**, at Westfield Shopping Town Gateway on Wednesday March 3. Just don't unpack from the Science Fair-see how easy it is!! Younkners is having **Senior Day** that day, and they welcome demos. The hours are 9-11 to 12am. Show up at the dock door (west side of the store) between 8 and 8:30 to set up. There will be electricity, free coffee and donuts! And a 15% discount, free gift wrap and other goodies if you are over 55! Call Susy at 464-0065 and let me know!

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Jan. 5, 2004

Kinkos Conference Room, 48th & Vine Street

President Jim Marburger called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Roll call was taken. All Board members were present, with the exception of Pat Akins. Guests were Phyllis Parks, Ed Ridge, and Susy McMahan.

John Harrison made the motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting, 2nd by Jim Atkins. Motion carried. Jim Atkins moved to accept the Treasurer's report, 2nd by John Harrison. Motion carried.

The club received Christmas cards from Pershing Center and Bill & Betty White. Other mail received was a flyer for the Colorado Mineral Show to be held April 23-25, 2004; World Famous Lipizzaner Stallion show; and the UNL Natural Resource Link publication. The flyers will be available at the general mtg.

No swap report as Pat Akins was not present.

Vera Lyman reported that Pat Akins emptied the items from the storage facility into the trailer. The club owes no money to the facility. Vera related that the storage facility staff kept a good watch on our unit. The mother passed away and was buried on December 31. Vera suggested that the club send a memorial to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Motion to do make a \$25 memorial was made by Roger Pabian, 2nd by Jim Atkins. Motion carried.

The black light seems to be missing. Phyllis Parks suggested taking money from the juniors to purchase a new one if the old one can't be found.

Geology day is February 15th, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. President Marburger suggested getting names and addresses of those present in order to recruit youth members.

Roger Pabian reported that he has 13 of the 14 dealers lined up for the show. He sent out the contracts for selling demonstrators, waiting for responses. He has set up outside promotions – Geology Day, Legacy, science fair and Younkens. Roger also reported that the Fire Marshal wants everyone to use GFI or circuit breaker power strips at the show.

All the Standing Committee positions have been filled, with the exception of Programs. David Heffelbower will have the sign-up sheet for volunteers with ideas for monthly programs.

Phyllis Parks asked that we postpone the annual budget until the February meeting. The Board concurred.

Vera Lyman volunteered to make the anniversary cake for the January meeting. The delegate for the 2004 Midwest Federation show is Susy McMahan, Phyllis Parks alternate. John Harrison asked if the delegates will put stuff out regarding the 2008 show; answered yes.

Discussion about sending letters to Seward College, Midland College, and Chadron to see if they would be interested in a scholarship from the club and what their requirements are. Roger Pabian said he thought that Chadron and UNL were the only schools with a geology department.

Board meeting nights have been selected for the first half of the year, locations to be determined. Dates are as follows: Feb. 3 (Tues); Mar. 4 (Thurs); Apr. 6 (Tues); May 6 (Thurs) and, if needed, Jun 1 (Tues). President Marburger will contact the library system to attempt to reserve meeting rooms.

Planned field trip to Kadoka, SD over the Memorial Day Weekend. More to follow. Motion by Jim Atkins to adjourn; John Harrison 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Marburger, Secretary

LGMC PROPOSED 2004 Annual Budget**INCOME:**

Member dues:	800
Show Profit:	2,000
Interest:	<u>1,000</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,800

EXPENSES:

Meetings – Park- 8 meetings	700
Board and Misc. (Show, Long Range, etc.)	100
Pick and Shovel – Printing	500
Postage	350
Who's Who	40
Scholarship	500
Organization Dues – MWF	175
NAOESCI	75
Friends/Museum	70
Awards	200
Memorials	200
Insurance (\$100 for Show)	350
Officers Bond	150
PO Box	70
Safety Deposit Box	25
Storage Trailer License	50
Social (Christmas Party, etc.)	700
Misc. – President, Sec., Treas.	<u>250</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	4,505

NET LOSS (\$705.00)

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

GENERAL MEETING

January 24, 2004 at Antelope Park Shelter

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President James Marburger, following the Rock Swap. Ed Ridge reported that 26 members and 3 visitors were present.

Phyllis Parks moved that the minutes of the December meeting be approved as printed, 2nd by Pat Akins. Motion carried.

Motion was offered by John Harrison to approve Treasurer's report as printed with 2nd by David Heffelbower, motion carried.

First Vice President Pat Akins presented Susy McMahan with her past president plaque.

OLD BUSINESS: The Club received a thank you letter from the Food Bank. Members donated 22 pounds of food and \$15 in cash which was delivered in December.

Pat Akins reported that the Storage Trailer is nearly done. The black light is installed and all the Club's material possessions are loaded. Donations of rocks that will fluoresce will be accepted at any time, even at the show. Pat was presented with an award certificate for all his time, energy and resources used for making the trailer show-ready.

Roger Pabian gave a progress report on the 2004 Show. All 14 dealers have been contracted, most demonstrators and special features have responded, and 4 or 5 programs have been lined up. Several media have been contacted for advertising.

NEW BUSINESS: President Marburger announced his proposed President's Field Trip, scheduled to take place on the July 4th weekend. The Denver Gem & Mineral Guild will allow our Club access to their claims on Wigwam Creek in Jefferson County, Colorado. Amazonite, smoky quartz, goethite, fluorite, and topaz are found in this area.

Phyllis Parks announced that the books are nearly ready for audit. She also provided information collected on membership history.

Roger Pabian was awarded a life membership in the club. He was "roasted" by Jim Swinehart, Bill White, Judy Reilly, and David Heffelbower. Congratulations, Roger.

Vera Lyman received the contract from Pershing for the 2008 MWF Show. The dates are June 20, 21, and 22, 2008. David Heffelbower moved to accept the contract, 2nd by Roger Pittard. Motion passed. Phyllis Parks made a motion that the Club certify Roger Pabian as Show Chairman for the 2008 Show, 2nd by Susan Taylor. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn made by Susy McMahan, Kay Jurgens 2nd. Motion carried.

Thanks to all who contributed goodies for the Rock Swap. Special thanks to Vera Lyman for providing our "golden" anniversary cake.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Marburger, Secretary

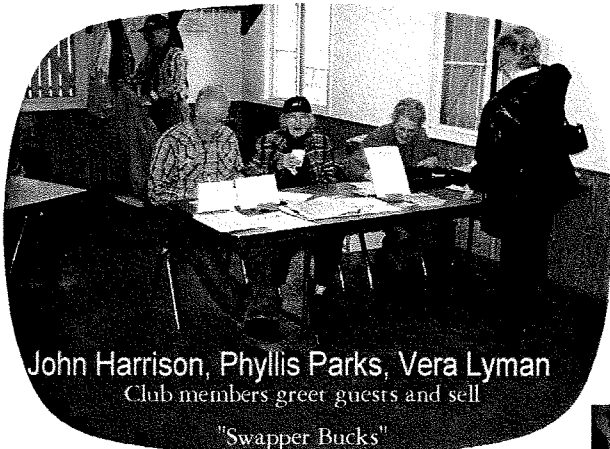
LGMC Treasurer's Report for January, 2004

Pinnacle Checking Balance 12/31/03		\$4522.69
January Receipts		
Membership Dues	152.00	
Suspense-Member Subs Gem Palette	20.00	
2 Subscriptions- Pick & Shovel	20.00	
Security Storage Refund	41.00	
Suspense-Member Pizza Supper	93.20	
Misc. Income	6.80	
*Show Receipts-Demo fees	160.00	
Silent Auction (SLCEF)	81.50	
Suspense-SWAP Change	500.00	
Suspense-SWAP Bucks	393.00	
10% on SWAP Bucks (SLCEF)	<u>124.15</u>	1591.65
Cert. of Deposit Maturity Interest		<u>791.89</u>
January Payments		
City Parks & Rec-Meetings Feb-Dec	525.00	
Office Depot-Li Blue Paper- P&S Dec.	5.84	
Kinkos-Jan. Board Meeting	15.00	
Judy Reilly- Jan. P&S Postage	37.00	
Memorial- (Mother, Security Storage)	25.00	
MWF- Newsletter Sub. -Suspense	6.00	
MWF Membership Dues	160.50	
NAOESCI Membership Dues	77.00	
Friends of Museum	70.00	
NE Dept of Rev.-2003 Show Sales Tax	335.87	
Safety Deposit Box Rent	23.00	
Vera Lyman-Annversary Cake/ Supplies	15.33	
Suspense-SWAP Change	500.00	
Youth -Mat for Show (Upstream Minerals)	47.00	
Valentinos-SWAP Supper-Suspense	93.20	
Roger Pabian-SWAP Bucks-Suspense	393.00	
City Parks & Rec.-2% on Auction/Bucks	4.11	
The Hartford-Officer Perform. Bond	151.00	
Postmaster-Feb./March- P&S Postage	74.00	
*Pershing Center-Dep. 2004 Show	700.00	
*Pershing Center-Dep. 2008 Show	200.00	
Judy Reilly (Office Max) Jan. P&S copy	<u>43.66</u>	3501.51
Pinnacle Checking Balance on Jan. 31,2004		\$3404.72



2004 SWAP

Photos by Roger Pabian, Bill White and James Marburger



John Harrison, Phyllis Parks, Vera Lyman
Club members greet guests and sell
"Swapper Bucks"



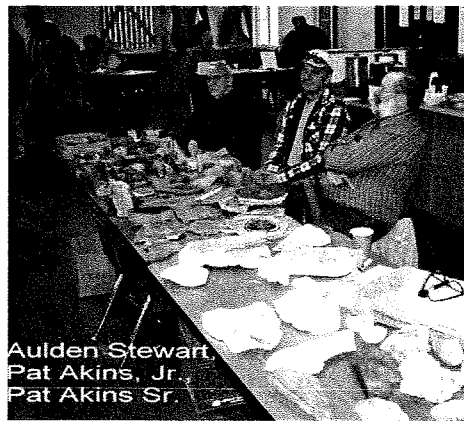
Ray Kunc, Ralston, NE



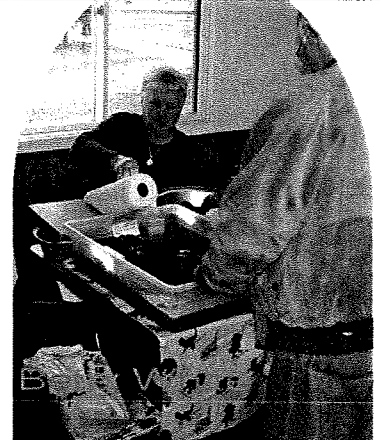
Jim Marburger



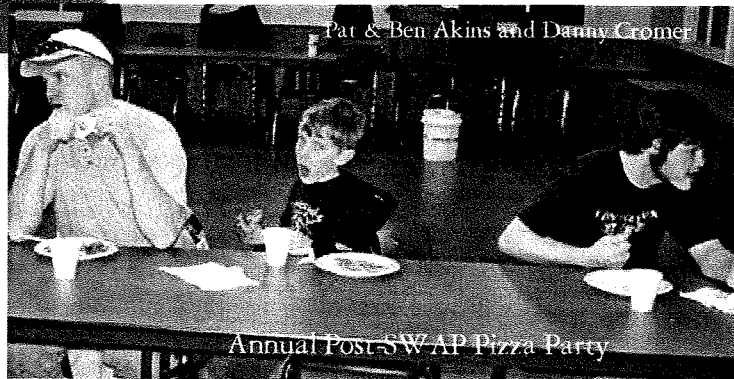
Ben Vrana



Aulden Stewart,
Pat Akins, Jr.,
Pat Akins Sr.

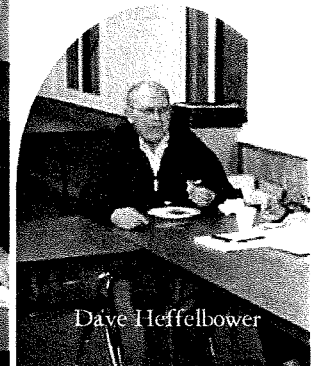


Phyllis Parks, Pete & Connie Crawford

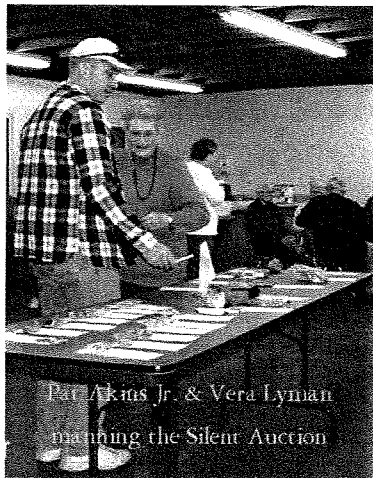


Pat & Ben Akins and Danny Cromer

Annual Post-SWAP Pizza Party



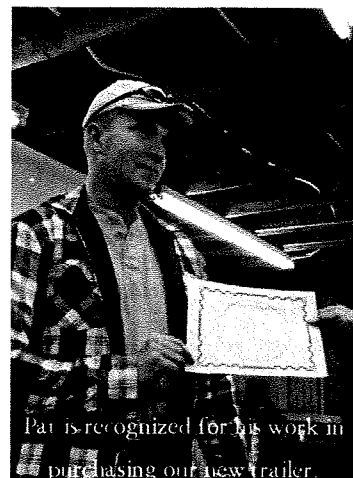
Dave Heffelbower



Pat Akins Jr. & Vera Lyman
manning the Silent Auction



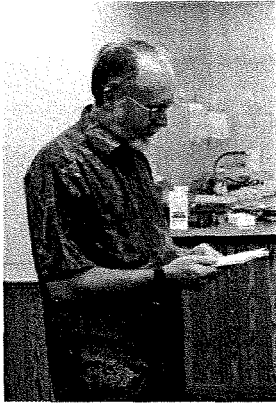
Vera & The Rock Candy
Cake - Beginning Our 50th Year



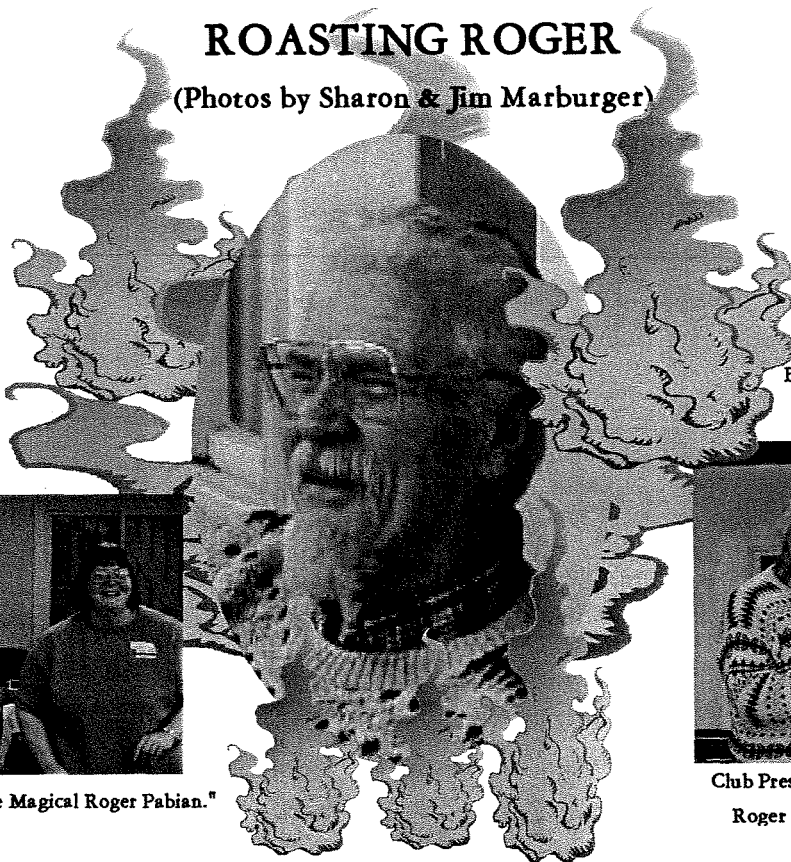
Pat is recognized for his work in
purchasing our new trailer.



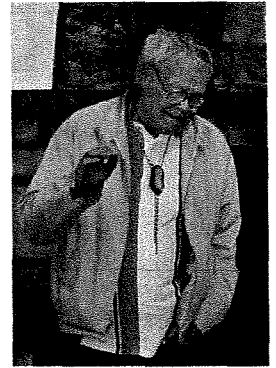
Susy McMahan receives a plaque
with thanks for her two-yr. term
as LGMC President



Jim Swinehart speaks of Roger's crinoid fascination...



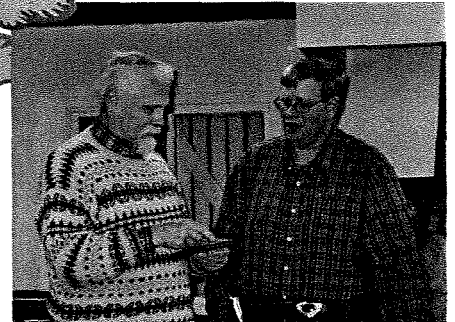
ROASTING ROGER
(Photos by Sharon & Jim Marburger)



Bill White tells of the misadventures of Roger and the search for sapphires.



Judy Reilly presents a collage of "The Magical Roger Pabian."



Club President, James Marburger, presents Roger with Life Membership to LGMC

Thank You

I wish to thank the members of Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club for the honor of Life Membership that was granted to me at the January meeting. I have thoroughly enjoyed my many years with Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, and the many friends and acquaintances I have made along the way.

I have to accept the honor in behalf of the many fellow members and fellow rockhounds and fellow professionals who have been of great help in both selecting and developing a career.

I really have to go back to the late 1950's when I met Irl Everett at one of Bill Morton's hobby shows. At about that same time I cut and polished my first agate at Dick Hedges basement at their old house on South Street. Many of the faculty at the University of Nebraska provided the background I would need to follow through a career, and my undergraduate adviser, William Gilliland, and graduate thesis adviser J. A. Fagerstrom helped shape my future. S. B. Treves taught me the mineral and rock identification and interpretation that would prove so useful in learning about gemstones.

Phyllis Parks and Vera Lyman have provided the backbone of my terms on the board of directors and as show chairman, and I don't think I could have accomplished anything without their continuing support. The support that I have received from the rest of the club in completing many educational endeavors has been deeply appreciated.

Several members of Lincoln and neighboring clubs have been very influential in the particular path I have followed and these people include: Irl Everett, Ralph and Rosalee Ulrich, Jim and Phyllis Parks, Dick Hedges, Vera Lyman, Grant Bennett, Bill and Betty White from Lincoln; W. D. White, Milton Wolsky, Ray and Ila Kunc, Bill Rushlau, from Omaha; Howard and Harvey Kenfield of Ogallala; and many more. All of these people have had some special impact on how I viewed paleontology, mineralogy, lapidary, and jewelry arts. I feel that all of you have some part in this award. Thank you for your support and friendship over the years.

Roger K. Pabian

FEDERATION NEWS

AFMS Newsletter, Feb. 2004

Uniform Rules Chatter

from B. Jay Bowman, Uniform Rules Chairman

I received a letter a while back from a competitor in lapidary. He wrote that he had competed in a show and lost a lot of points in showmanship because the judges said that he should have his cabs standing up. The next competition, the judges downgraded his showmanship because this group of judges said that they all should be laying down. The man's questioned how cabs should be displayed and where that could be found in writing.

Well, he won't find it in writing, at least not in an official AFMS publication. I know of a group in one of the regional federations that is attempting to make it mandatory that cabs be standing. If they want that rule in their group, that is fine, but if they are judging a case that is not from their group, it should be judged according to the rules of AFMS unless it is spelled out ahead of time that different rules are being used. In that case, eligibility for AFMS trophies cannot be gained.

A judge cannot let personal prejudice affect his/ her judging. A judge can't take points away if the cab is standing and the judge thinks they should be laying down. The judge can make a note that in his/her opinion, the cabs would look better laying down, but no points should be deducted. If the position of some of the cabs is such that labels are hidden or other cabs cannot be seen, the judge may take away points.

Judging showmanship can be very subjective. The rule book would be about ten times as thick as it is now if there was an attempt to set specific point deductions for each and every possible error that might be made. Even then there would be many more that still would not be in the book. It behooves the judge to be fair. When points are deducted there should be an explanation. Don't let personal prejudices set your judging criteria.

That will do it for this month. Remember that I will try to answer any of your questions regarding the rules in judging that I can. If I don't know the answer, I know someone who does.

B. Jay Bowman

AFMS Uniform Rules Chair

5788 Bowman Road

Ponca City, OK. 74604

(508) 765-5854

(Edited for space)

MWF Newsletter, Jan. 2004

Collecting At Harrodsburg Formation in Indiana

By George Judd G.G., Mineralogy Chairman

Several years ago, around 1989, I used to go to SWAP meets at Bedford, IN. with my son Matthew. After talking with many other people there, I learned that there were geodes just north of Bedford at the Harrodsburg Roadcut on State Highway 37 around 10 miles to the north. A few years later, the SWAP meet was moved to Bloomington at the fairgrounds which is about 10 miles north of the Harrodsburg Roadcut. The SWAP takes place in June, a good time for collecting.

After my first expedition to the roadcut, I was hooked on collecting there every time I attended a SWAP meet. The geodes there are filled with many different minerals, mainly quartz, calcite, and barite. The barite is a beautiful transparent yellow and one of my favorites from that site. Also, not as abundant are found the highly sought after millerite, sphalerite, and pyrite. These geodes range from a few inches to around a yard in diameter. Most of the geodes are found in the walls next to the highway although you can also find them on the ground, mainly in the spring after they have broken out and fallen after the winter thaw. Also, at the same exit is the Monroe Reservoir where some geodes can be found near the boat launch. You have to go up in the hills, and it is more difficult to find geodes there.

Tools that can be of great help in collecting in the roadcut are large rock chisels and crowbars that can free the geodes from the limestone. Also, care should be taken because the site is next to a busy highway. Many areas are badly undercut so care should be taken to protect yourself from falling rock. The geodes with different minerals are found in layers along the cut on both sides of the highway. Caution in breaking open the geodes is advised since some contain millerite which can fall out or get blown out of the geode. The best thing to do is to wait until you get home to break them open.

There are other places in the area where geodes can be found. A couple websites that would be worthwhile for directions to the sites and even weather conditions at the sites are:

www.mineralcollecting.org/localities/USA,Indiana,Harrodsburg_Cut/index.shtml

www.mineralcollecting.org/localities/USA,Indiana,Highway_446_Cut/index.shtml

(Pick & Shovel ed. note: Above article was edited for space. I have accessed these sites on the internet and they are very cool.)

Gem Care

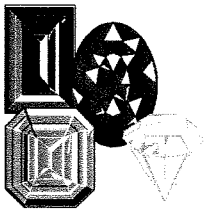
By John Harvey

Although gemstones are among the most durable of substances, they do need some care. Following a few general rules will make sure they last for generations still looking like the day you bought them.

First of all, keep them clean! Rings in particular tend to collect dust and soap behind the stone, particularly if you wear them all the time. To clean transparent crystalline gemstones, simply soak them in water with a touch of gentle hand soap. If necessary, use a soft toothbrush to scrub behind the stone, Even the hardest gemstone variety can be vulnerable to breakage if it has inclusions that weaken the crystal structure. Exercise common sense. If you have a ring set with a softer gem variety or an included stone, take it off before strenuous exercise.



Diamonds are very hard, but can shatter in two with a single well-placed blow. Rubies and sapphires are the toughest gems, but even they can chip if hit sharply. Think twice before putting gems in an ultrasonic cleaner. Diamonds, rubies and sapphires will be fine, but many other gems-especially emeralds- might not be. When in doubt, leave it out. Diamonds, rubies, sapphires and other single crystal gems can be cleaned in water to remove all films and add extra sparkle.



Opaque gemstones such as lapis lazuli, turquoise and malachite require special care. Never use an ultrasonic cleaner and never use ammonia or any chemical solution. These gem materials should just be wiped gently with a moist cloth. These gemstones can be porous and may absorb chemicals, even soap, which might build up inside the stone and cause discoloration. The reason these materials need more care than transparent gemstones is that these materials are essentially rocks- not crystals of a single material. Think about it. When you put a rock in water it absorbs the water and is moist all the way through. A single crystal gem like sapphire will not absorb water. All the molecules are lined up so tightly in the crystal that there is no room for water to enter.



Opals also require special care. Never use an ultrasonic cleaner, never use ammonia and avoid heat and strong light which can dry out the water in opals.

Organic gems, such as pearls, coral and amber, should only be wiped clean with a moist cloth. Due to their organic nature, these gems are both soft and porous. Be careful about chemicals in hair spray, cosmetics, or perfume-they can, over time, damage the gems, pearls in particular.



Store each piece of jewelry separately so that harder stones do not scratch softer ones. Almost every gemstone is much harder than the metal it is set in. Gems can scratch the finish on your gold, silver or platinum if you throw your jewelry in a heap in the drawer or jewelry box.

(The Rockfinder, March, 2002, via Rockin' Around, Jan., 2001)

The Rules of Chocolate!

(Just in time for Valentine's Day)

1. If you've got melted chocolate all over your hands, you're eating it too slowly.
2. Chocolate covered raisins, cherries, orange slices and strawberries all count as fruit, so eat as many as you want.
3. The problem: How to get 2 pounds of chocolate home from the store in a hot car. The solution: Eat it in the parking lot.
4. Diet tip: Eat a chocolate bar before each meal. It'll take the edge off your appetite and you'll eat less.
5. A nice box of chocolates can provide your total daily intake of calories in one place. Isn't that handy?
6. If calories are an issue, store your chocolate on top of the fridge. Calories are afraid of heights and they will jump out of the chocolate to protect themselves.
7. Chocolate has many preservatives. Preservatives make you look younger.
8. If not for chocolate, there would be no need for control-top pantyhose. An entire garment industry would be devastated.
9. Put "eat chocolate" at the top of your list of things to do today. That way, at least you'll get one thing done.
10. Money talks. Chocolate sings! (Author Unknown)

2004 Show Committee Report

The 2004 show committee met on Thursday, January 22. The plans for the show are really taking shape and the following information should give you a record of our progress.

Contracts for 13 of the 14 dealers have been received and the 14th dealer has been contacted and has agreed to be part of the show, so all of the dealer's spaces are now filled. Thank you Bill and Betty for your help.

Special features have been well taken care of by Jim and Sharon Marburger, and plans now call for a special lapidary feature by Steve Huber of Minnesota. Steve has done some most unique lapidary work, and much of his success in that area is due to his skillful selection of materials. The Daredevil, a 6,000 carat, salmon colored cubic zirconia will also be at the show. Donovan Harriss of Fairbury will show fossils from the Cretaceous strata of Jefferson and Thayer counties, and Bill and Betty White will have exhibits of minerals and lapidary arts. Several other feature exhibitors have been contacted, and we expect to hear from them soon.

Vera Lyman, Jim Atkins, and Phyllis Parks will be active at the front table, and Adeline Nolde will most likely be there too. We can use some additional ticket sellers such that the regulars can get a chance to see the show. Vera has also arranged for security, and Angelo Cassares and Don Young II, Lancaster County Sheriff Deputies will be on guard throughout the show.

Phil and Patty Rose have had flyers printed and they have contacted various media, radio, newspapers, and TV with information for the show. The flyers can be picked up at the club meeting. Flyers will go to local shows and promotional events. Phil has also had show announcements in Rock and Gem and Lapidary Journal, as well as several web sites. All of you might want to think about places where you might want to take some show flyers and discount coupons.

John Harrison has lined up several programs including Bob Diffendal who will talk about Geology and Lewis and Clark. This goes well with the release of his and wife's new publication, Lewis and Clark and the Geology of the Great Plains.

Since the show is a state show, we will have several silent auctions to raise funds for NAOESCI. Lapidary materials, minerals, fossils, and other rock related items are all needed by Betty White and her auction crew.

We will also need material for the kids booth that is staffed by Kay Jurgens, Brett, and Janelle, Karla, Anthony, and Daniel Bannister. We need the Akins' kids, Christopher, Kathryn, and Benjamin too, and we hope that Andrew Lundgren-Parks makes it down from Minnesota.

Aulden and Marilyn Stewart have taken care of the ribbons and certificates. They need to have the names of all of the exhibitors and show workers who will earn a certificate or receive ribbons and name tags. If you are going to exhibit, please get your names in to the Stewarts at the February meeting.

Ed Ridge will be gathering the names of all of you who are planning an exhibit and will be asking for your table footage, electrical requirements, and other needs for your exhibits. Please give Ed your utmost cooperation, as his is a very important job.

Pat Akins will be in charge of the floor layout, and we request that as many people as possible be available to help cover tables and assemble cases. All of the club properties will be brought to the show in the club's new trailer. We won't have to be out at the stash early on set up day or late on teardown day. Over the years, Pete Crawford has been most helpful and generous in his support of the show and being at the stash at those hours. Thank you for all of your help over the years, Pete. We really don't know how the shows would have gone on without your generous support.

We will have both selling and non-selling demonstrators, and Mark and Kammie Renter have done outstanding work with lining up a good slate of non-selling demos, including: Jewelry Connection (Judy Bay and Jayne Beer), Nebraska Bead Society, Southeast Community College Lapidary Students, Connie McCartney (Carving), Mary McCartney (rock painting), and Ben Vrana (Niobrara Chalk Fossils).

Contracted selling demonstrators include Amber Sorensen (Gem Trees), Pat Cunningham (hand-made jewelry), and David Nixon (Thunderhorse Enterprises: primitive stone, bone, and clay tool fabrication [flint napping]), and David Heffelbower (Opal cabochons). We have a couple more in line, and hope to have a glass bead artist and bead artist.

We need your individual displays as well, as we like to show all aspects and all levels of the rock hobby to our show attendees. Please don't think your display is too small or insignificant for the show. We need you all. Thank you.

Roger K. Pabian, Show Chairman

Places to Go, Things to Do

Feb. 15-Geology Day. Pioneers Park Nature Center,
3201 Coddington Av., Lincoln, NE., 1-4PM

Mar. 6-7- Geodeland Earth Science Club, INC.,
24th Annual Gem & Mineral Show, Western IL.
University, Student Union Ballroom.

12-14-KC Gem & Mineral Show, KC Expo
Center, 11730 Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO.
Take 112th St. Exit off I-29

**27-28- Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club State
Show** (see page 10)

**Apr. 23-25- Wichita Gem & Mineral Society/
RMF Show & Convention,** Cessna Activity Center,
2744 George Washington Blvd, Wichita, Kansas

**23-25 - Cedar Valley Rocks & Mineral
Society/ MWF Show and convention,** Hawkeye
Downs, Cedar rapids, IA.
www.angelfire.com/ia3/cvrms

May 28-31 Agate Fieldtrip, Kadoka, SD (more info
to follow)

Regional Federation Shows

South Central

September 24-26, 2004- Houston, TX.

Rocky Mountain

April 23-25, 2004- \Wichita, KS.

Midwest

April 23-25, 2004- Cedar Rapids, IA.

Combined California

May 28-30, 2004- Mariposa, CA.

Eastern Federation/ AFMS

July 7-11, 2004- Syracuse, NY.

Northwest

July 23-25, 2004- Boise, ID.

Hints and Tips

(from Quarry Quips, May 2003)

Clean gold chains this way: in a stainless steel pan or an enameled pan, mix half a cup of Tide with one cup of water. Drop your gold chains into this solution and after they reach a boil, lower the heat and simmer for five minutes. Set aside to cool. Scrub with a soft toothbrush, rinse under running water, and dry and buff. **DO NOT** do this with gold jewelry that includes stones.

Author unknown, source Breccia, Santa Clara Valley G&M Society, March 2003



How to Find The Fire in Fire Agate

Fire agate is a quartz-based rock with layers of iron oxide in chalcedony, which results in iridescence. It occurs in nodules of milky or grayish translucent chalcedony. Sometimes it is found in botryoidal growths in geodes and in chalcedony roses.

Fire agate appears as a dull, reddish brown layer, but when the surface layers are removed the rainbow colors or iridescence are exposed. The fire is brought out by tumbling, trimming, and grinding off the outer layers to expose the iridescence. Polishing magnifies the fire.

To find the fire, remove the matrix, then tumble polish the stones. Tumbling removes the excess chalcedony. When polished, remove excess stone around the edges, then polish and set. Allow the stone to retain its irregular shape and polish slowly, so you don't go through the fire layers. The graceful natural shapes are superior to those cut to calibrated sizes, as the best fire doesn't always fit a mold. To set it off, mount the fire agate in a custom-made gold or silver setting. Fire agates are most often found in Arizona, California, Idaho, and Mexico, among other locales.

Author unknown, Source The Tumbler Jan 2003

The Senility Prayer

God, grant me the *senility*
to forget the people I never liked anyway
the good fortune to run into the ones that I do
and the eyesight to tell the difference

(unknown internet source)

CRINOIDS

Roger Van Cleef *MAGS Member*

One of the most abundant fossils found in the mid-south are the crinoids. The crinoids belong to the group Echinoderms (spiny-skinned animals), which also includes starfish, sand dollars and sea cumpers. Crinoids first appeared in the fossil record during the early Ordovician. By the end of the Paleozoic, many of the crinoids died out, a few have continued on until the present.

The crinoids can be divided into four (4) groups or "orders".

- 1) INADUNATA: This group is the oldest and most primitive. They survived to the early Triassic.
- 2) FLEXIBILIA: A semi-flexible crinoid, they were present during the Ordovician to the Permian.
- 3) CAMERATA: The most diverse of the crinoids, they were present from the Ordovician to the late Permian.
- 4) ARTICULATA: This group contains both stalked and stalkless crinoids. The structural parts of this group were highly flexible, which enabled them to move and attach in various areas of the sea. Most all of the Mesozoic and Cenozoic crinoids belong to this group.

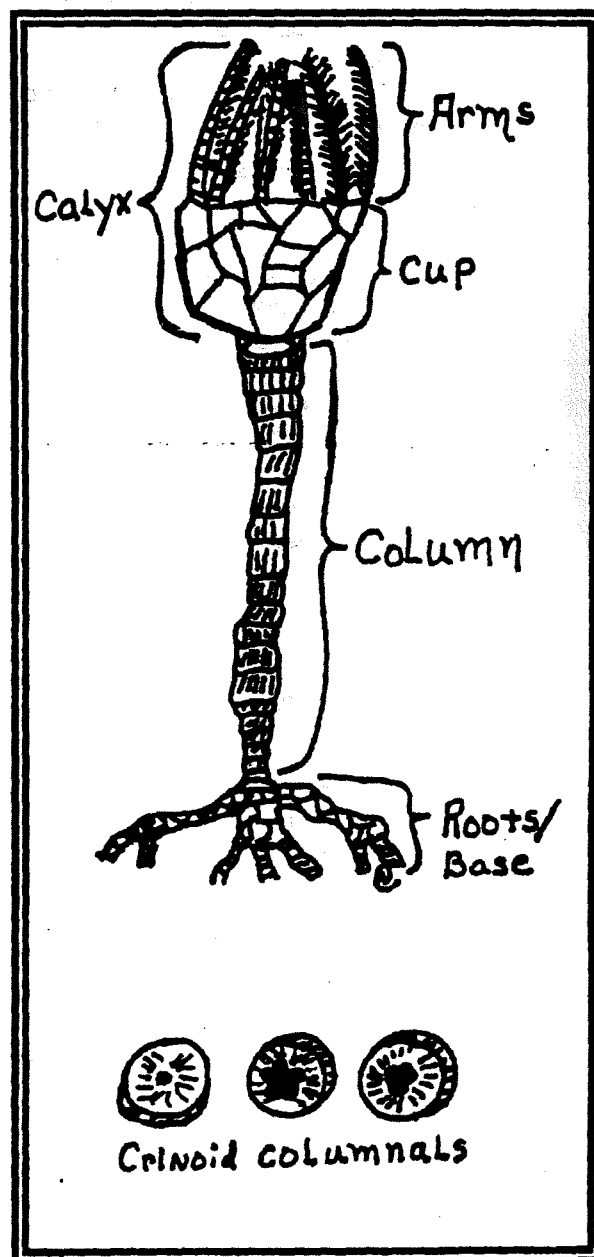
Crinoids were composed of several structural parts:

- 1) **HOLDFASTS - ROOTS OR BASE:** This structure was located at base of the crinoid and enabled the crinoid to attach to the bottom or on floating objects.
- 2) **STALK OR COLUMN:** This segmented structure was composed of "columnals" and served as support for the calyx.
- 3) **CALYX:** This structure contained the cup which enclosed the mouth, food grooved and anal sac. The calyx also supported the "arms".
- 4) **ARMS OR BROCHIA:** Attached to the calyx, the arm contained food grooves and acted as filters which moved organisms from the water and directed this food to the mouth.

Because the crinoids are segmented, when they die, the crinoid usually breaks up into many parts. (See diagram).

Good locations for collecting crinoids near Memphis include Pope Quarry, Pickwick Dam and Vulcan Quarry.

For more information see *THE FOSSIL BOOK* by Fenton and Fenton, Doubleday, 1989.



UIA MAGS 3-95

Drawings by Roger

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46th Annual Show



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2 nd Vice Pres.	Roger K. Pabian	5301 X Street	Lincoln, NE	68504	465-0144
Treasurer	Vera Lyman,	420 N. 56th St.	Lincoln, NE	68504	464-6089
Secretary:	Sharon Marburger	332 Locust	Hickman, NE	68372	792-2348
Board Member	David Heffelbower,	1819 Washington St.	Lincoln, NE	68502 cell	890-2794
Board Member	James Atkins	3028 So. 35th St.	Lincoln, NE	68506	483-1610
Board Member	John Harrison	330 Locust	Hickman, NE	68372	792-2337
Board Member	Judy Reilly	4050 Worthington Ave	Lincoln, NE	68502	421-3064

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3 years	Mary Pittard Phyllis N Parks
2 years	Amy Dexter-Guy Edward Ridge
1 year	John Harrison Aulden Stewart

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3 years	Daniel Dexter-Guy Phyllis Parks
2 years	Susan Taylor Edward Ridge
1 year	Vera M. Lyman Roger K. Pabian

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Programs:	David Heffelbower	2004 Show:	Roger Pabian
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Youth Activities:	Kay Jurgens	2004 Swap:	Pat Akins, Jr.
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Housing Committee:	Susy McMahan, Pat Akins, Charles Wooldridge & Vera Lyman		
Auditing Committee:	John Harrison, Roger Pabian, James Marburger		
Geology Day Coordinator :	2nd Vice President		

L. G. M. C. web address—courtesy of Jim Atkins:

<http://incolor.inetnebr.com/jna/gemclub/lgmc.htm>

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, especially to youth and student groups.

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Show Chairman - Roger Pabian

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Subscription to the Pick & Shovel is \$10.00 per year mailed.

Dues to Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club are as follows:

Adults (age 16 and over) \$10 per year Juniors (age 12 to 16) \$2 per year

Family Membership (Couple, resident children under age 16) \$22 per year

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 registration fee.

Meetings: Fourth Thursday, Sept. through May except December & January dates will be announced. Meetings held at Antelope Park Indoor Shelter, near 30th and Sumner, next to the Veterans Memorial and the children's playground.