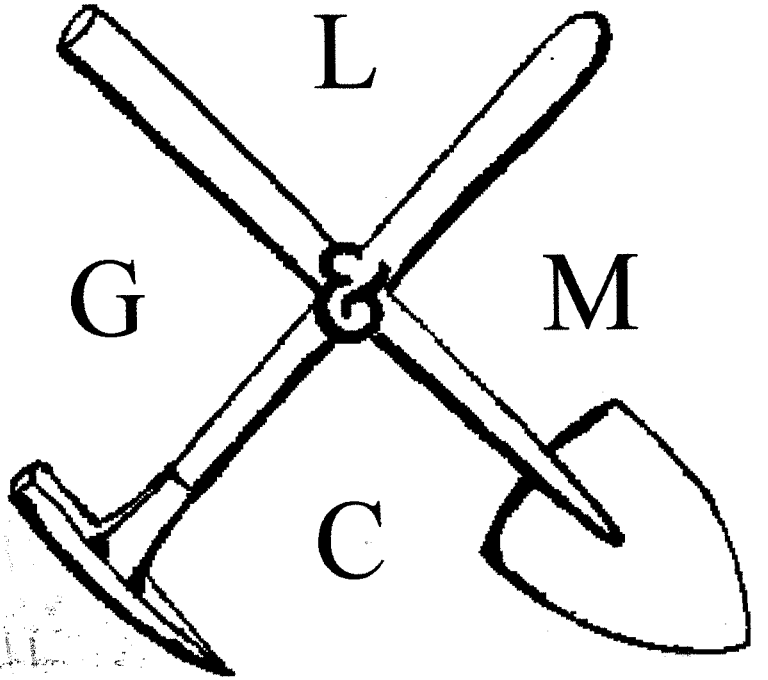


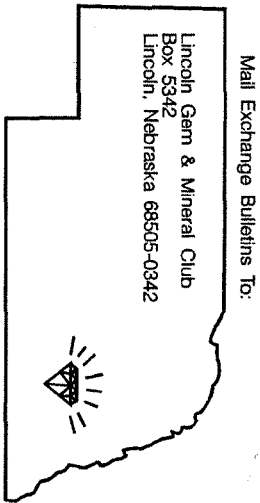
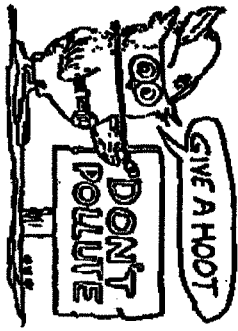
THE PICK & SHOVEL

May 2004



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA



Mail Exchange Bulletins To:

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club
Box 5342
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505-0342



H. E. L. P.

Help Eliminate Litter Please

Associated with



James & Sharon Marburger
332 Locust
Hickman, NE 68372
|||

CLUB EVENTS

CALENDAR

- May 27** General Mtg., Antelope Park, 7PM
 28 Field trip to Lincoln, MO., see p. 8.
- July 3-5.** President's CO. field trip, (see p. 8).
 18 Grinding Party, Pioneers Park 1-4PM
 18 Possible Board Mtg at Grinding Party
- Aug. 31** Board Mtg, Kinko's 48&Vine 7PM
- Sept.23** General Mtg. Antelope Park, 7PM,
 program on Lecheguilla Cave
- Oct. 28** General Mtg/ Halloween Party/ Club
Membership Reunion, (more on this in next
 issue). Antelope Park, 7PM

Recap of April Meeting

Phil & Patty Rose gave a very detailed presentation on the method of lost wax casting of silver, using the vacuum method. While we didn't have the use of our screen, we found that the east wall of the building worked very well. Since the Roses offered to help teach in more detail, maybe some of us can take them up on this.

David Heffelbower, Prog. Chair.

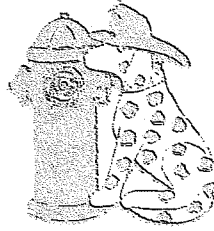
May Meeting

Program: Presentations by LGMC Scholarship recipients, Steven Fischbein from UNL and Naomi Kohlmeier from Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska.

Food: Annual May Dinner! Club will provide meat, cheese & cracker trays as well as beverages. Members are asked to bring fruits or other desserts. This is our last meeting until September, so come and enjoy good food, good programs, good company!

Display Material: Show finds (We know you have them, so show them off at the meeting.)

Memorial Day
 May 31, 2004



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sharon and I have returned from the Rocky Mountain Federation Show in Wichita. There was great participation from the various clubs and, as usual, the schools made the show one of their field trips. I understand the Midwest Federation Show in Cedar Rapids that same weekend was successful, too.

If you plan to join us on our field trip to Sedalia, Missouri to collect mozarkite on Memorial Day weekend, and need information, please contact us at 402-792-2348 or jm24122@alltel.net. We plan to have a great time!

Keep in mind the planned trip on the July 4th weekend to the Denver Gem and Mineral Guild's claim above Bailey, Colorado, at the Wigwam Creek Trailhead. We need to know by June 15th if you plan to attend. It will be a grand time hunting for specimens and fellowship with the other clubs.

Field trip invitations have been extended to the Omaha Club. Including friends and rockhounds outside of our organization can strengthen interest in the hobby, and makes for a whole lot of fun.

Thanks to Roger Pabian for conducting the April general meeting in my absence.

Bring your ideas for club activities and programs to the meeting, and bring some items for show and tell. Let's make our club fun and strong again. See you there!

Rock on!

James Marburger

Regional Federation Shows

Combined California

May 28-30, 2004- Mariposa, CA.

Eastern Federation/ AFMS

July 7-11, 2004- Syracuse, NY.

Northwest

July 23-25, 2004- Boise, ID.

South Central

September 24-26, 2004- Houston, TX.

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?by **Judy Reilly**

Sorry I missed the April meeting. I hear that **Patty and Phil Rose** gave an excellent presentation. Thanks to **Dave Heffelbower** for organizing the monthly programs.

I was in Cedar Rapids, IA. attending the **MWF Show** presented by the Cedar Valley Rock & Mineral Society. It was a great show. Many thanks to the CVRMS Show Committee headed by **Sharon Sonnleitner**(Pres.), **Marv Houg** (1st VP) and **Tom Whitlatch**. Seems like no detail was overlooked down to the little tin buckets of geodes and fossils used as favors at the banquet. Everything was great!

Speaking of the Awards Banquet, Nebraska came out looking pretty good. **Ben Vrana**, editor of "The Loup Scoop" (accept no imitations) from the Loup Valley Club won 2nd place in the Advanced Original Article Category for his article entitled, "Digging the Winter Quarters of the Major Stephen Long Expedition." Another 2nd place prize went to **Delores Rose**, of the GI Club for her article, "Mysterious Meteorites." In addition, Delores received a certificate for her bulletin, "The GI Nugget." Also "**The Pick & Shovel**" was awarded 3rd place in the Small Bulletin category. (Come to the May meeting and see the plaque!)

Welcome to our new members, **Annette Gifford** and the **Anderson** family. Annette Gifford lives in Lincoln. She enjoys tumbling rocks, geology, field trips, fossils, SWAPS, etc. She says she is still a novice who loves collecting rocks, especially geodes. Annette is sponsored by **Phyllis Parks**. **Terry & Andrea Anderson and their daughter, Leahh** are from Wilbur. Their interests include making cabochons, tumbling rocks, faceting, metal work, field trips, fossils and fluorescents. They like to fly their airplane but say they unfortunately can't haul many rocks in it. They express interest in junior activities. **Pat Akins** is their club sponsor. WELCOME to all four of these new members!

Start thinking ahead to the **Nebraska State Fair** this September. The LGMC is again offering a prize to the winner in the lapidary/ bead/ jewelry category so ENTER THE COMPETITION and show off your accomplishments. Talk to **Roger Pabian** for more details.

The Property Committee is putting together a list of "floating property." If you have any club property in your possession (for example, I have an electric stapler ...please don't take it away...) contact **Sharon Marburger**.

Thanks To **Phyllis Parks** for her hard work on the audit preparation. The Audit Committee Report is included in this issue as a club member attachment.

See you at the May meeting. Don't forget to bring desserts!

The Goldstone Story

For hundreds of years men everywhere tried to transform base metals into gold. In older times, monks of a northern Italian monastery were also engaged in this task. For years, the monks labored to recover the precious metal.

About 1590, after years of effort, the monks happened to make a very beautiful sparkling material with innumerable golden stars. The monks failed in making gold, but they did succeed in producing a marvelous specimen which they named "goldstone."

Goldstone was used for decorative purposes until 1890 when it was imported to the United States after it was found to be suitable for cutting and polishing for jewelry pieces.

The monks called goldstone the "adventuring stone" as it is impossible to foretell the success of a mixture for many weeks. To this day, due to a lack of modern production methods, a batch of material can turn out unsuitable for use because of the uncertainty in the heating and cooling process. Goldstone production has been a secret method all those years, concealed from everyone. Many tried to duplicate goldstone, but no one has successfully imitated this beautiful stone.

For the most part, the bulk goldstone, after it is removed from the manufacturing vessel, is shipped to the major stone cutting and polishing centers throughout the world. Germany, perhaps is the most important cutting center, although much cutting is done in Austria, Holland and Japan.

In recent years, a blue goldstone has been developed from the same process as the brown goldstone. Some people claim it glows in the dark after being exposed to sunlight for many hours. Goldstone will not discolor or fade or lose its beauty in any fashion, making it a precious keepsake.

from Kisigem Journal 10/97 via The Conglomerate 4/04
P&S Editor's note: Goldstone is currently my favorite gemstone. It now comes in a deep green as well as the brown and dark blue. Goldstone is made from brown glass with copper oxide added. It's heated to a high temperature and when it cools the oxide changes into beautiful crystals that sparkle through the polished brown glass. See <http://wire-sculpture.com/Goldstone.htm> for more info. Also, an interesting website brought to my attention by Susy McMahan shows you how to make faux goldstone out of clay:

http://www.polymerclaycentral.com/faux_goldstone.html.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. – BOARD OF DIRECTORS – April 6, 2004
Kinkos – 48th and Vine

President Jim Marburger called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Board members present were Jim Marburger, Sharon Marburger, Vera Lyman, John Harrison, and Pat Akins. Guests were Ed Ridge and Susy McMahan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. Pat Akins moved to accept the minutes as read, 2nd by John Harrison. Motion carried. John Harrison moved to accept the Treasurer's report, 2nd by Pat Akins. Motion carried.

A full show report was unavailable in Roger Pabian's absence. Paid attendance was 1,446.

The audit committee had no report as the members have been busy with show preparations.

President Marburger requested Pat Akins to run the April general meeting, and Vera Lyman to act as secretary because Jim and Sharon will be at the Wichita show.

The club received three applications from UNL for the annual scholarship. Upon review of the applicants, Pat Akins moved to select Steven A. Fischbein who is studying depositional environments of the sandstone unit, and using Indian Caves for his investigation. John Harrison seconded the motion; motion carried. The presentation will be made at the general meeting.

The general membership will decide at the April meeting if an additional scholarship from a different fund will be given to the student at Concordia - Seward. The Board members present were all in favor of the additional scholarship.

President Marburger checked into data imaging of the historical materials. A very rough estimate of 10 cents per page, with software and index provided. The imaging company requested samples so they could give a better estimate.

Reminder that field trips to Lincoln, Missouri on Memorial Day weekend and Colorado on July 4th weekend are planned. Details will be provided in the Pick & Shovel.

Mail: Sac & Fox Lapidary Club's swap is May 15 and 16; their Gem and Mineral Show is September 11 and 12.

Pat Akins commented that the cases need work, the specimens and maps need to be reworked. All the belongings need to have maintenance. He suggested that we make it a club meeting event. Together, he and John Harrison suggested changing the September or October meeting to Saturday afternoon, making it a food, work, and fellowship activity.

Pat would like to see more children become members of the club. He suggested that child members, such as boy scouts, be given free membership. John Harrison said that we need to have a program in place first, which would require a junior program director who can be available on a monthly basis. The possibility of having the juniors meet on a different night was discussed. The subject was tabled for future discussion.

The next Board meeting will be May 6 at Kinkos.

Motion by Pat Akins to adjourn; 2nd by John Harrison. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 to executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Marburger

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. - GENERAL MEETING - April 22, 2004
Antelope Park Shelter House - 7:30 P.M.

2nd Vice, Roger Pabian called the Meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.
in the absence of President and 1st Vice.

Thirteen members were in attendance including new members Terry
and Andrea Anderson and daughter, Leahh. Welcome!
We had one guest, with Phyllis Parks. She made application for
membership. She is Annette Gifford.

BUSINESS:

Minutes of the February Meeting were approved with motion by
Phyllis Parks, 2nd by Jim Atkins. Motion carried.
Treasurer's report for February approved with motion by Jim Atkins,
2nd by Mary Pittard. Carried.
March Treasurer's report also approved with motion by Dave Heffel-
bower, 2nd by Roger Pittard. Carried.

Scholarship Chair requested response as to whether the Club wished
to award an additional scholarship to Naomi Kohlmeier of Concordia
College at Seward. We had solicited applicants from the smaller
colleges around Lincoln.

Motion was made by Phil Rose to grant Naomi a \$ 250. scholarship.
Motion was 2nd by Jim Atkins. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Show - Chairman Roger Pabian reported that he was pleased with the
Show profit. (approx. \$ 1300.-1500.) He thanked everyone who served
on Committee and helped out before, during and after the Show. The
only complaint was the lack of exhibits at the Show. We can all be
thinking ahead to the next Show and plan on a much better showing.
Thanks Roger, for your excellent leadership as Show Chair.

MEETINGS:

Board Meeting will be May 6, 2004 @ 7:00 P.M. at Kinkos.
General Meeting will be May 27, 2004 at Antelope Shelter House.
This is a special Meeting, so please mark your calendars.
Supper at 6:30 P.M. with Club furnishing sandwich-type supper and
all members are requested to bring a dessert. Table service and
drinks will be furnished. Remember, this is Scholarship presen-
tation Meeting. Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Meeting was adjourned with motion by Jim Atkins, 2nd by Phil Rose.
Carried.

All those present enjoyed delicious pies, coffee and tea.

Then Phil & Patty Rose gave an excellent program on "Lost Wax Casting"
(Silver). THANK YOU for your fine presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

Vera Lyman
Vera Lyman for Sharon Marburger

"2004" SHOW - Combined 46th ANNUAL/STATE SHOW (Pershing Center)
 March 27-28, 2004 "THOSE GOLDEN YEARS" Roger Pabian, Chairman
 "Financial Report"

INCOME:

14 Dealers @ \$ 425.00		\$ 5,950.00	
7 Selling Demos @ \$ 40.00		280.00	
Demo Sales (10% over base)		85.00	
Silent Auction		477.50	
Plant Sales		78.00	
Gate Receipts (Sat)	\$ 2,630.00		
(Sun)	<u>2,183.00</u>	<u>4,813.00</u>	\$ 11,683.50

EXPENSES:

Pershing-Rent	2,500.00		
Drape	16.00		
Chairs-150 @ 1.50	225.00		
Tables-210 @ 5.00(Disc)	950.00		
Tables-Rnd-13 @ 5.00(Disc)	25.00		
Tables-Sktd-3 @ 19.50	58.50		
Microphone/paging	NC		
Elevator Operator	<u>172.00</u>	3,946.50	
Liability Ins.-Show portion		100.00	
Security-2 Deputies		800.00	
KFOR-Three Eagles Communications		817.00	
Journal Star-Advertising		756.40	
Commonwealth Electric-Power hookups		520.02	
Special Features:			
John Baumler (CZ)	226.30		
Steve Huber (Carving)	493.00		
Linda Plock (Gold)	<u>50.00</u>	769.30	
Sunday Breakfasts		208.33	
Ribbons/Recognition		161.75	
Plant Displays		90.80	
Silent Auction (NAOESCI Portion)		200.00	
Programs:			
Robert Diffendahl	50.00		
Robert Fixter	50.00		
Eric Fritzsich (2)	<u>75.00</u>	175.00	
Floor Chair:			
Table Covers	198.32		
Black lights (1 used)	69.22		
Storage totes (12-Trlr)	<u>50.29</u>	317.83	
Show Chair:			
Flyers	60.29		
Postage	55.10		
Comp/Brkfst Tickets	25.62		
Handout Programs	<u>77.04</u>	218.05	
Ticket Sales:			
Discount Cards	50.81		
Discount Cards/Postage	142.60		
Address Labels	<u>32.09</u>	225.50	
Sales Tax on Gate Receipts-Accts Payable		<u>328.49</u>	

\$ 9,634.97

SHOW PROFIT (LOSS)

\$ 2,048.53

NON-SHOW INCOME:

Membership Booth (Pins)	\$ 62.75
Youth	547.85

LGMC Treasurer's Report for April 2004

Pinnacle Checking Balance on March 31, 2004 \$ 7,396.46

April Receipts:

*Pat Akins (demo)10% over base	45.00	
*Charlene Zweerink(demo)10% over base	40.00	
Terry/Andrea/Leahh Anderson-Memb.(new)	27.00	
Annette Gifford-Memb.(new)	15.00	127.00
ET from Money Market Account		<u>1,000.00</u>

April Payments:

*Old Country Buffet (4 Dealer Breakfast)	27.78	
*Lincoln Journal Star-Advertising	756.40	
*Pershing Center-Rent, Equipment	3,046.50	
Pershing Center-Fri. set-up catering	376.56	
*KFOR-AM - 21 Radio Ads	817.00	
Kinkos - April Board Meeting	20.00	
*James Marburger(Spec Feat.-Steve Huber)	110.00	
*Pat Akins, Sr.-Table covers/Show	198.32	
*John Harrison - Used Black Light	20.00	
JJ&L - Shop Equip. -SLCEF	395.63	
Postmaster - P&S Postage/April-May	74.00	
Judy Reilly-March Printing P&S	52.75	
*Betty White-Post/Ins to return CZ	38.15	
*John Baumler (Daredevil CZ)	188.15	
*Steve Huber (Mileage/gratuity)	383.00	
*Commonwealth Electric	520.02	
*Roger Pabian(Sales tax/handout prog)	5.04	
*Kay Jurgens-12 Storage totes for trlr	50.29	
Judy Reilly-April Printing P&S	38.26	
Kinkos - May P&S Covers	20.06	
Midwest Federation(10copies Dir)Suspense	27.40	<u>7,165.31</u>

Pinnacle Checking Balance on April 30, 2004 \$ 1,358.15

* = Show Income or Expense

May 7, 2004

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club

Lincoln, NE 685

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club for the years 1992 through 2003. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Club's Treasurer. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit and found that the financial statements are in order, and all balance with bank records. In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above, reflect the financial position of the Club as of December 31, 2003. Therefore, we certify the general purpose financial statements to be true and correct.

These findings were presented to the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club Board of Directors and were accepted by consensus on May 6, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

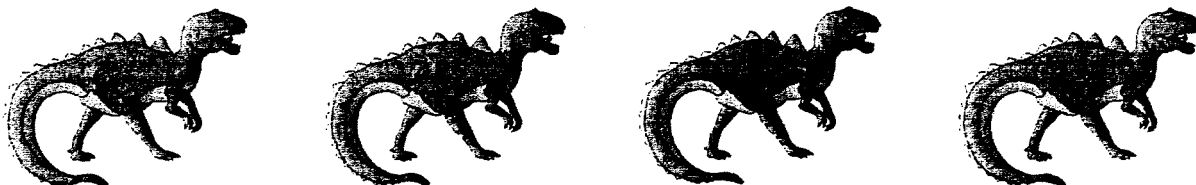
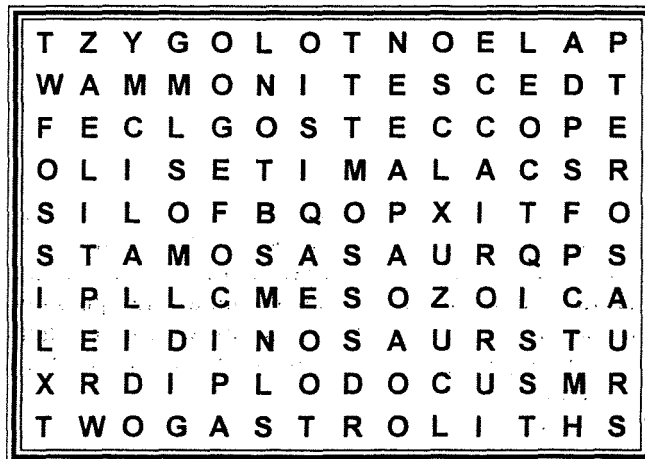
John Harrison
Chairman

For Juniors

Paleo Word Dig

Fossils are usually surrounded by rocks. Words relating to fossils are surrounded by a lot of other letters. Can you dig those words out?

Word	Definition
Gastroliths ..	Rounded pebbles found within the rib cage of some fossil reptiles - "Stomach Stones."
Dig ..	A scientific trip to look for fossils or to excavate already discovered sites.
Reptile ..	The class of animals to which the dinosaurs belonged.
Calamites ..	A carboniferous "horse tail" plant abundant in coal forests of Europe and North America.
Paleontology ..	The study of past life of geological ages as revealed by fossils.
Dinosaur ..	Meaning "terrible lizard" was coined by Sir Richard Own in 1841.
Cope ..	American naturalist who discovered and described vertebrate fossils in the late 1800's.
Ammonites ..	Cephalopod mollusks, which occurred in Mesozoic marine rocks.
Mosasaur ..	A fossil marine lizard found in Upper Cretaceous deposits.
Mesozoic ..	Scientific name for the Age of Dinosaurs.
Fossil ..	The remains of plants or animals preserved in rocks.
Diplodocus ..	The longest dinosaur.
Trilobite ..	The dominant animal of the lower Paleozoic seas.
Pterosaurs ..	An order of reptiles that became the first flying vertebrates.



MWF SHOW REPORTS

by Judy Reilly

This was my second federation show but my first as NE. State Director. I attended the Director's Meeting, the Executive Committee Meeting, the Delegate's Meeting, and the Newsletter Editor's Meeting. All of the meetings were at the Howard Johnson's Hotel, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I will bring various reports to the LGMC General Meeting this month but here are some highlights:

State Directors' Meeting, April 23 -Sandy Fuller, MWF 2nd VP, Committee Chair headed the meeting. We discussed ways to improve individual clubs within the federation, which would in turn, strengthen the federation. **Recruitment** was discussed at length with emphasis on getting young members. Ways of recruiting are involvement in community activities and personal contact. Clubs are encouraged to have business cards and give them out to home school associations, public schools, scouting organizations, etc. as well as having them available at shows and swaps. **Field Trips** were discussed as a draw for club retention of members. It is becoming more and more difficult to obtain access to quarries and other collecting sites. The MWF strongly supports safety classes in which participants receive certification of mine/quarry safety and CPR/ First Aid training.

Delegates' Meeting, April 24--Meeting was brought to order by MWF President, Alan Hukill. Most of the Executive Committee, State Directors and Committee Chairpersons were there. A quorum of 35% of delegates attended.

Convention & Shows Report -2005 St. Louis, MO. combined AFMS/MWF, 2008 Lincoln, NE June 20-22. No commitments for 2006 or 2007 but Oskosh and Indianapolis are possibilities.

State Director's Report -Planning state display of every state flag at the St. Louis convention. More on this in MWF newsletter and from State Directors

Endowment Fund Report- Discussion of how the endowment fund operates. The money for the fund comes from various sources including the silent auctions, sales of specially made bookmarks and pins, donations and memorials. The federation runs on the interest of the principal. Interest returns are lower these days. It is important to increase the principal through funds from memberships and activities.

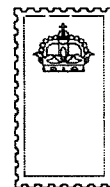
Ideas presented for individual clubs to raise money for endowment fund:

- 1.) Sell items on ebay with with profits to MWF
- 2.) Have a raffle
- 3.) Make a \$10 club donation. There are 138 clubs so that would be \$1380!
- 4.) Individual \$1 donation from adult members, 50 cents from each junior...There are 6987 adult members and 730 juniors!
- 5.) Club silent auction with will partial or total proceeds to MWF (Decided that October be recognized as silent auction month.)
- 6.) Honor someone with donation to MWF Endowment fund. (Club award)

Junior Activities Report-Michelle Yamanaka encouraged all clubs to submit suggestions and feedback to her from her monthly newsletter articles. She has been focussing on the steps a club needs to take to build a junior program. Michelle is very enthusiastic about this and her articles provide great ideas to start and maintain a junior program.

SAVE THOSE CANCELED STAMPS!

The MWF uses canceled postage stamps to make interesting and colorful bookmarks which are sold for \$1 each with proceeds to the MWF Endowment fund. The stamp committee prefers unusual stamps, rather than the more common varieties. So save those stamps!



MIDWESTERN MYSTERY

In Kansas, trilobites are generally found in a curled-up position. No one is certain as to why they didn't die in a flattened position like those found in the West and in other countries. It really is an easy problem to solve: The trilobite in the Midwest were more economical and able to make ends meet! Original Source Unknown via The G.I. Nugget, 4/04

OOPS! I accidentally misspelled Fred Holbert's name in the April issue. Sorry Fred! JSR

FEDERATION NEWS

MWF Newsletter, May. 2004

KIDS ARE OUR FUTURE

HOW DO WE MAKE OUR CLUB "KID-FRIENDLY?"

The average rock, mineral or fossil club is not directed toward children. To have a "kid's" program may require some adjustments.

FORMAT: A typical club meeting may have a business meeting, snacks and some program. Can you imagine an eight-year old sitting entranced throughout the exciting discussion of changing two words in the bylaws? Few adults would enjoy it. So meeting format and/ or time may need to change. Some ways to adjust are to take the juniors out of the adult meeting during the business meeting and have their own program, establish a junior program at a different time from the adult meeting, or have the junior program just before the adult club meeting.

TIME OF JUNIOR MEETING: Remembering that most juniors are going to be 5th grade and younger, the time for the junior program realistically should be early enough that the children can get home and to bed at a reasonable time. For this reason, some clubs with a junior program either conduct the junior meeting on a weekend, before the adult club meeting or arrange the club meeting so that the business meeting and concurrent junior program take place in the early evening.

LANGUAGE AND VOCABULARY: Within the junior program itself, talk about rocks, minerals or fossils on the level of the youngest child there (my option). Then add further information for the older kids. Introduce specific earth science terms with lots of explanations and examples and only add a few each meeting. For example, if you want to discuss the shape of crystals, rather than announcing that calcite forms rhombohedrons, you could say that calcite forms squashed rectangles and show a nicely shaped Iceland spar. Ever the youngest child in the junior meeting should understand the concept of a rectangle that is squashed. Then you explain that the this shape has a special name, **rhombohedral**. If your juniors are all older, you should still begin simply and then add more explanations, remembering that just because a child might be older, does not mean he or she understands earth science terminology.

IDEAS FROM MWF CLUBS: I will share ideas from MWF clubs with active junior programs next month. In the meantime, if you have some ideas please write me regarding how you make your club "kid friendly."

Michele Yamanaka, MWF Jr. Activities Chairman

YamanakaM@cs.com

(Article edited for space. JSR)

AFMS Newsletter, May. 2004

AFMS ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE

FROM JOY BOURNE, ENDOWMENT FUND CHAIR

Last month, we showed you pictures of eight of the spectacular prizes being offered in the 2004 AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle-and promised to keep you posted as new prizes arrive from our most generous rockhound friends around the Federation.

In late March, we received an exquisite and rare edition to the prize list from members in the Southcentral Federation of Mineralogical Societies. This prize is a gorgeous 40 x 50 mm. cabochon flawlessly cut from Louisiana Opal. The spectacular, fiery-blue and green stone is the result of a real "team effort" which was initiated and coordinated by Ike House, SCFMS Bulletin Aids Chairman. Involved in the project were the Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society, which "commissioned" the stone, club members Joe Lee Beasley, who procured the stone, and SCFMS Executive VP and AFMS Director, Newsletter Editor, Hall of Fame Member and good friend, Bill Alcorn, who crafted the finished cabochon.

Included in this prize are copies of two articles, each focussed on this spectacular and rare material, from "Rock & Gem" Magazine. The whole prize is valued at \$200-\$250. That figure is an estimated show price-Ike says confidently that it "probably would sell for much more at retail, as it has much fire."

The 2004 Endowment Fund Raffle tickets cost \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00, and a member of your regional federation has tickets available to sell right now. You will find a list of these regional federation Endowment Fund Committee Members on the AFMS website at <http://www.amfed.org/endow2004.htm>. (Marve Starbuck for MWF email: minedump@iserv.net.)

The committee members will be selling the tickets until June 15. Club presidents may want to pick up a block of 10 or more tickets for their own club members, and if that is the case, our committee people will be happy to oblige. After June 15, you may still purchase tickets by contacting me- until I leave for the convention on July 7.

Of course tickets will also be on sale at the convention.

Thanks you for your support.

(Article edited for space. JSR)

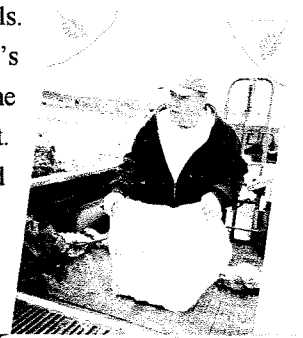
Field Trippin'

By Susy McMahan

The Midwest Federation Show, sponsored by the Cedar Valley Rocks & Minerals Society in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was an adventure in field trips. Aside from a great show, great food, great attendance at the conference and meeting lots of new friends, the field trips were the best part!

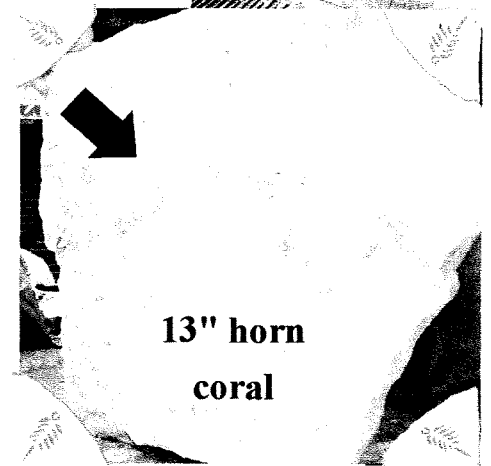
On April 20, Judy Reilly, MWF Nebraska State Director, and I (minus Mike and Jim, our non-rockhounding husbands), were off to Iowa for the convention. We drove to Bettendorf to be closer to the first field trip, which was at LaFarge Quarry in Buffalo, Iowa. The weather was cold, windy and the quarry was mud, mud, and more mud. But that did not stop the several dozen rockhounds on that lovely day. LaFarge Quarry is home to barite, calcite, dolomite, pyrite, sphalerite, marcasite, aragonite, chalcopyrite and fossils

galore. The mud slowed things down considerably, especially the claying, sucking, (could it be what did the dinosaurs in?) kind of mud. Slowed us down, but did not stop us! My favorite find was a chunk of some red sandstone-like host rock, with tunnels of needle crystals. Lonnie, one of our hosts from the Blackhawk Club and Judy's brother-in-law, Wayne Nicholson from Ohio found a large slab of limestone that had begun to slide down into an impossible tar (just kidding) pit. Imbedded in it was a 13" horn coral which was the largest the locals could remember finding. Lonnie offered the find to Wayne but he graciously left it for the local club museum. (Right: Lonnie pictured with coral .)



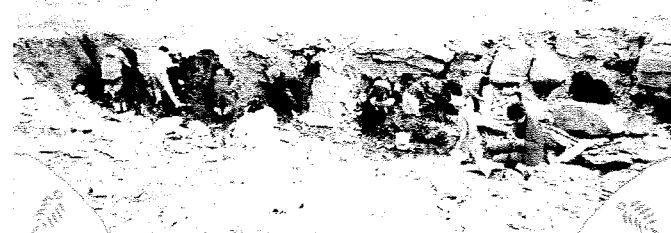
The next day was sunny and mild, a great day for collecting. The first stop was Brooks Quarry in Independence, IA. Brooks is in the Devonian System, Wapsipinicon and Cedar Valley formations. Fossils that are numerous include corals, brachiopods (my biggest finds) and bryozoans. Less common are cephalopods, gastropods, sponges, crinoids and trilobites.

(Continued p. 7)



13" horn coral

Left: View of Brooks Quarry
Below: Rockhounds chipping away along the bank in Brooks Quarry
Below right: Susy in more clement weather.



(Continued from p. 6)

After a couple of hours we were off to Jesup Geode Mine in Jesup, IA. This collecting area is on the farm of Ruth Smith. The area had been scraped over with a Bobcat to expose a new layer of shale. Collecting geodes through shale is pretty physical work, swinging a pick and chopping away. My shoulder surgeon's voice kept warning me in my very conscious mind...don't even try!! So



Wayne...a bodybuilding type

I ventured up to ground level and started scooping the loose soil under the black dirt topsoil from the bank (picture a field, a foot of black dirt, brown soil, red soil, brown soil again, then shale and you have the side of the collecting area site). The bodybuilding pick swingers are on the floor of this scenario. Back at the side of the arena, after scooping awhile, the geodes started to come out of that soil. They were also coming out of the shale for those bodybuilding types. What is it about geodes? For me it's the surprise of cracking them open. These contained lovely golden calcite crystals.



Susy finds two geodes

The last collecting day, April 25, Judy was at a newsletter editors' seminar, so I was off with two of my new friends, Michele and Linda, to the Klein Quarry at Coralville, IA. Exposed are parts of the upper portion of the Middle Devonian Wapsipinicon

Group, two formations within the Cedar Valley Group. Materials found in the past include:

millerite, calcite, pyrite, sphalerite, corals (colony and rugose), brachiopods, trilobites (the most coveted of the day), crinoids and more. It was another cold, wet day, which again didn't slow us down. But...it was a Sunday, and the quarry office was closed, which meant no bathroom. Believe me, the wind-chill factor was pretty low there behind those rocks! I later learned from Al Stewart that a poncho is a must for rockhound field trips, as ponchos are well known substitutes for porta potties!! I did find some nice coral and crystals that day and some other stuff (I have no idea what it is till I ask someone more knowledgeable than I.) This much I know- they are not trilobites!

Ah, field trippin'...the only way to trip!

ODE TO LAFARGE QUARRY

It had been stormy, twisters too
Which left the quarry full of goo
But our group of rockhounds held no grudge.
We donned our boots and began to trudge
Into the quarry full of sludge.

No matter that we were shivering cold...
We were strong and we were bold!
We grabbed our buckets, left the truck
And forged on through the sticky muck
Not caring that we might get stuck.

Though wind blew hard into our faces,
We stayed firmly in our places...
Hammering, chiseling, looking for loot,
Feeling we were taking root
Trying not to lose a boot.

We found coral, crystal and made new friends
And brought back stories that never end.
We found brachiopods, calcite and dolomite,
We even found a stalagmite!
But never the elusive trilobite.

After several hours, it was time to go...
By then the *bold* were rather slow.
Our backs were aching, our legs were sore
We loaded the truck and closed the door
KNOWING WE'D BE BACK FOR MORE!

By Judy Reilly



LGMC FIELD TRIPS

Memorial Day Mozarkite: We will meet at Sutherland's Lumber Company parking lot in Sedalia, Missouri at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 30, 2004. We will be meeting with Mr. **Linville Harms**, owner of the mozarkite mine. We will travel about 23 miles south on Highway 65 to the mine location near Lincoln, MO. There is no limit on the amount of material collected, but Mr. Harms will help hi-grade so that only good material is taken. The cost is 50 cents per pound for good stone. As the one who discovered mozarkite, Mr. Harms will present the history of the stone. Contact **James Marburger** for more information at (402) 792-2348.

Independence Day President's Field Trip: Denver Gem and Mineral Guild's claim on the Wigwam Creek trailhead in the Pike National Forest in Colorado. It is near the site of the Hayman Fire of 2003, but the claim area was spared from burning. Local elevation is between 8,000 and 9,000 feet above sea level. Travel day to Bailey, Colorado is July 3rd. Please plan to attend this major field trip. Several other clubs will be joining us at the claim. Don't forget to bring your sunscreen, shovels, picks, rock hammers, and buckets! Maps and additional information will be provided in mid-June to those interested in going. Please contact **James Marburger** by June 15 if you plan to join us.



DON'T FORGET THE GRINDING PARTY

July 18 is the date for LGMC's annual grinding party at Chet Ager Nature Center in Pioneers Park. Typically club members bring display material to show or equipment to work on hobby related projects. Sometimes the public gets in on the action, helping to polish stones, etc. This is a great opportunity to promote our club and seek out new members (lots of Scouts and other kids come through.). So bring out some displays and equipment. Let's make this year's attendance the greatest ever!

TIP: After lapping flat stones such as cut thunder-eggs with a 600 grit, wash them and leave them under a heat lamp or 100 watt bulb for about 15 minutes. When the stones are warm, polish them on a flat wheel with tin oxide. By pre-heating, the polishing is almost instantaneous. Otherwise, the "felt wheel" has to heat the stone before polishing begins.

Author unknown, Source: T-Town Rockhound 7/03 via Quarry Quips 4/04.

Places To Go, Things To Do

May 29-31, Nebraska Mineral & Gem Club (Omaha) field trip to Keokuk, Iowa. Meet at the Sheffler Rock Shop, 6 miles south of Alexandria, MO. at Junction of Highway 61 at 0830 Saturday.

June 3-6, Mile High Rock & Mineral Society, Annual Show, Westminster Mall, 8th & Sheridan, Westminster, CO., contact: Jennie Baldwin, (303) 659-7630 or email ctunncliff@msn.com.

25-27, Lawrence Co. Rock Club, 39th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil Show & Swap, Bloomington, IL., Contact Elmer & Ruth Richter, (812) 279-5830.

Aug. 14, Grand Island Earth Science Society, field trip to the Ashfall Site, meet at the South Locust Skagway parking lot at 8 a.m., in Grand Island, and leave from there to Ashfall to tour the site and have a picnic lunch. If any other clubs would like to join us for the field trip, our club would welcome anyone who would like to go with us.

Sept (Labor Day Weekend), Crawford SWAP...contact Wade Beins, agates@bbc.net.

11-12, Sac & Fox Lapidary Club, Fairfield, IA, Gem & Mineral Show, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, contact Bill Rathbun (641) 472-0266 or billrath@iowatelecom.net.

17-19, Lincoln, MO., Mozarkite Society of Lincoln, Inc. Annual Show, Lincoln City Park, contact Mike Bates (660) 826-6136 or mikebates@scbglobal.net.

17-19, Schuyler, NE., Loup Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Inc., Annual Show, St. Mary's Social Hall, 320 W. 10th St., Schuyler, NE., Contact Ben Vrana, (402) 352-5531 or bbv5531@alltel.net.

25-26, Palo, IA., Cedar Valley Rock & Mineral Society, Auction, Palo Community Center, 1006 1st St., Contact Sharon Sonnleitner, (319) 396-4016, or SonnB@aol.com.

TIP: Don't throw away those worn out sandpaper discs. Instead, cut a slit up the radius and lay them down like a collar around the stems of your plants. Slugs won't dare cross the scratchy surface. Author Unknown, Source T-Town Rockhound 7/03 via Quarry Quips, 4/04.

2004 ELECTED OFFICERS

President	James Marburger	332 Locust	Hickman, NE	68372	792-2348
1 st Vice Pres.	Pat Akins, Jr.	5017 No. 6 th St.	Lincoln, NE	68521	477-1322
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

Nominating Committee

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

Chairman-Immediate Past President Susan McMahan

Long Range Planning & BY-Laws Committee

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

Standing Committees

Education / Librarian	Roger Pabian	MWF Liaison:	Vera Lyman
Field Trips:	Pat Akins, Coordinator	Scholarship:	Vera Lyman
Historian:	Susy McMahan	Christmas Party	Edward Ridge
Membership Record:	Edward Ridge	2005 Show:	John E. Harrison
Programs:	David Heffelbower	2004 Show:	Roger Pabian
Property:	Pat Akins, Jr. & Jim Marburger	2005 Swap	Roger Pittard
Youth Activities:	Kay Jurgens	2004 Swap:	Pat Akins, Jr.
Refreshments/Door Prizes	Judy Reilly		
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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47th Annual Show
at

PERSHING CENTER

226 Centennial Mall South

NOTICE: Our 2005 Annual Show Date has been moved to April 9 and 10 (two weeks later than usual) so that we won't conflict with Easter.

Advertising by rock-hobby business or interest is permitted with the approval of the Board. The rate now 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) per issue, paid in advance. These ads will be placed through the bulletin as space permits.

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.