



PICK & SHOVEL

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Lincoln, Nebraska
www.lincolngemmineralclub.org

General Meetings

All general meetings will be held at the Bethany Park Shelter at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of the month. December and January are the only exceptions.

January 26, 2008 Annual Swap
 February 21, 2008
 March 20, 2008
 April 17, 2008
 May 15, 2008
 June 20 thru 22, 2008 Annual & Regional LGMC Show at Pershing Center Downtown Lincoln.
 June, July, and August No meetings
 September 18, 2008
 October 16, 2008
 November 20, 2008
 December 14, 2008 Christmas Party

Board Meetings

Gere , and Walt Libraries - 7:00 PM Room 1

January 30, 2008 Gere Library
 March 5, 2008 - Walt Library
 April 2 Walt and Gere 30, 2008

GEOLOGY DAY

Pioneer Park February 10, 2008
 Nature Center 1PM to 4PM

Club Dues

Please pay your dues by January 31, 2008. 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.

Rock Swap

Information for the Swap is on page 10. Members are asked to bring two dozen cookies for afternoon treats at the swap.

LPS Rocks

Please bring your rock contributions for the Lincoln Public Schools to the swap for pick up.

WEB PAGE

We are on the internet with our own domain name and space. . We have been on the internet for several years on a space provided by Jim Atkins.

There is a main page set up to let you know we are there. In the future there will be more pages with field trip information, club history, flyers for coming events and access to on-line newsletters. The address is---

www.lincolngemmineralclub.org

Jade Earrings Reveal Ancient S.E. Asian Trade Route

Carolyn Barry in Sydney, Australia
for [National Geographic News](#)
November 20, 2007



Jade jewelry found near ancient burial sites across Southeast Asia has revealed one of the largest marine trading networks of prehistoric times, a

new study says. Mineral analysis shows that most of nearly 150 sampled artifacts dated as far back as 3000 B.C. can be traced back to a single site in Taiwan ([see map](#)),



about 190 miles (120 kilometers) off the coast of mainland [China](#). This indicates that the small island supplied much of Southeast Asia with a unique variety of the semiprecious stone via a 1,800-mile (3,000-kilometer) trade route around the South China Sea. The existence of

such a vast trading network shows that these populations had developed sophisticated seafaring vessels and had extensive communication much earlier than previously believed.

"I think [ancient Southeast Asian cultures] were more advanced than we thought," said study co-author Peter Bellwood, an archaeologist at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra. "These are very widespread connections. We really had no idea that this jade from Taiwan was traveling so far."

Traveling Craftsmen

The researchers studied 144 jade artifacts from 49 locations in modern-day Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Most of the objects had been found next to prehistoric skeletons buried in jars or on the sides of skulls, suggesting that they were earrings belonging to the wealthier members of society.

"They were clearly being worn," Bellwood said.

Specifically, the team focused their study on two types of distinctive jade ornaments: three-pointed "lingling-o" earrings and two-headed animal pendants that were popular from 500 B.C. to A.D. 500.

Using high-powered scanning electron microscopes, the scientists measured the relative amounts of iron and magnesium and the presence of small specks of zinc chromite in the jade. These chemical signatures showed that 116 artifacts found at 38 different locations originated from the Fengtian jade deposit in eastern Taiwan.

The results appear in this week's issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Researchers are currently working to map the origins of the remaining 28 artifacts." (Continued on page 3)

Jade Earrings Reveal Ancient S.E. Asian Trade Route

(continued from page 2)

Archaeologists have noticed the jade artifacts had similar styles and shapes" across different Asian regions since the 1940s, said lead study author Hsiao-Chun Hung, also at ANU.

"But we never thought it was from the same source until we tested it."

So far only a single jade earring similar to those used for the study has been found in Taiwan. But samples from Vietnam and Thailand include cast-off pieces and incomplete earrings found at what scientists believe are workshop sites. In addition, jade is a very hard mineral, so crafters would need sophisticated carving skills and tools to shape such ornate items. Only a few highly skilled craftsmen would have the expertise, Bellwood said. Most likely, these craftsmen exported the jade as a raw material and then manufactured it into jewelry locally, Bellwood said. "The jade comes from Taiwan, but a lot of artifacts are not made in Taiwan."

Nuanced Understanding

The study is "an important contribution to a matter that deserves more attention: the navigational skills of early Southeast Asian societies," said anthropologist Charles Higham of the University of Otago in New Zealand.

Experts often focus too much on the influence that Chinese and Indian populations had on the cultural advances of Southeast Asian societies, he said."

Ancestors of the Southeast Asian people were able to cross into Australia over 40,000 years ago over open sea with no land visible, so why were they not also capable of sailing to India and back to trade?" he said.

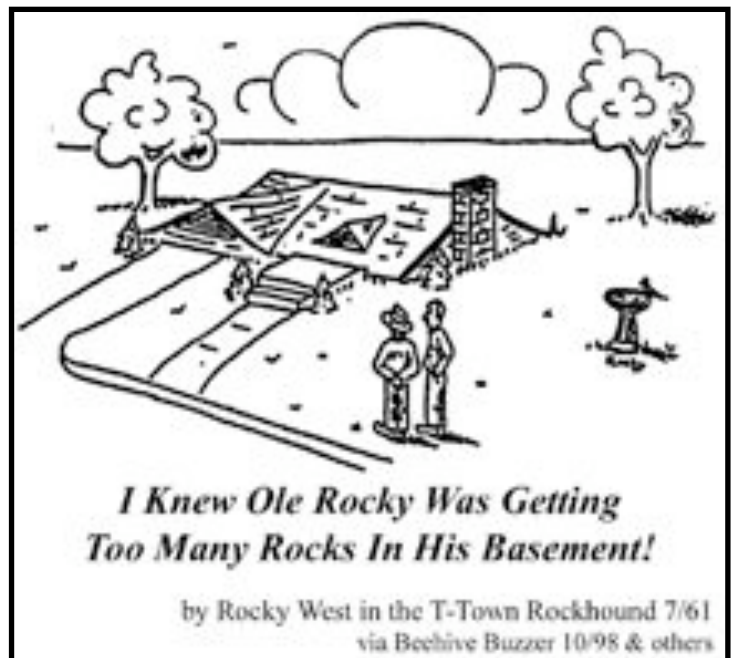
"This paper illustrates that such movement was possible."

Archaeologist Miriam Stark of the University of Hawaii at Manoa said she is cautiously optimistic about the research.

"This study provides an important springboard for studying chemical compositional sources within Southeast Asia," she said. "Chemical patterning provides some of the first empirical evidence for a South China Sea interactional network."

Mapping the sources of jade artifacts, she said, is therefore "essential to develop a more nuanced understanding of political economies and social networks in the ancient Southeast Asian world."

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2007/11/071120-jade-trade.html>



Nebraska Archaeological Society

<http://web.nas.googlepages.com/home>

By: Ben Vrana



The Nebraska Archaeological Society is a chapter member of the Central States Archaeological Societies, Inc. which is a non-profit organization and has no paid officers or employees. We endeavor to develop a better understanding among students and collectors of archaeological material, professionals, as well as museums and institutions of

learning, and to further this understanding by providing a means of publishing articles of interest by both professional and amateur archaeologists.

Here is some information for any of the club members who are interested in archeology. I'm a member of the Nebraska Archaeological Society, which meets about four times a year. They publish a newsletter, also four times a year, that deals with Native American history and artifacts. There have also been opportunities for members to work on digs sponsored by professional archeologists. They also sponsor the Seward Archaeological. Show in late summer.

Dues are \$10. a year for state dues. Members may also join the Central States Archaeological. Society at a higher cost.

Membership applications may be sent to NAS treasurer Steve Christiansen

Steve Christiansen
4629 Buffalo Creek Road
Lincoln NE 68516

The NAS president is

Kevin Hammond
6720 South 43rd Street
Lincoln NE 68516
402-423-5700
hammond100@alltel.net

President's Message

by Jim Atkins

No message from Terry this month. Terry and Andrea have had some misfortune. They were leaving to come to the board meeting on Wednesday the 2nd of January and had an accident. A deer jumped out in front of them on their way to Crete and did extensive damage to their truck. Terry and Andrea are fine no injuries. The deer didn't survive.

THOUGHTS ON WHAT MAKES CLUBS THRIVE

Kreigh Tomazewski

posted on rockhounds@drizzle.com, February 7, 2007

Many clubs see difficult times approaching, and are trying to reinvent themselves to restore some of the vigor from when they were younger.

Keeping our hobby alive is something we should all be concerned about. I've been thinking about this for a while, and would like to make some observations in hope of starting a discussion that can help our Hobby continue. I think it would help to reach an understanding of what works.

In my opinion.....

☒ Thriving Clubs have significant number of kids attending meetings with their parents.

☒ Thriving Clubs have a wide variety of speakers from the area presenting programs. These speakers should become recruiters for the Club.

☒ Thriving Clubs have regular Field Trips. Many to ,ost trips are kid, and family, friendly, even if they are to local sites many in the Club don't want to visit again.

☒ Thriving Clubs have an annual show.

☒ Thriving Clubs have an outreach program that puts them into local classrooms on a regular basis.

☒ Thriving Clubs have programs that very between targeting kids and new members, and the most experienced members.

☒ Thriving Clubs share email addresses in their Directory so members can talk between meetings.

I would also like to suggest that the current general decline of Rock Club's vitality correlates with the rise of 'entertainment', via the medium of television, from the 1950's thru the 1970's. TV took from us that generation of leaders that should be running most Clubs today based on the traditional model of rockhounding where kids around 10 get interested, and reconnect/recommit around 40 (when they start their families).

**LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. –
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

December 5, 2007, Gere Library

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by First Vice President Terry Anderson. Board members present were Terry Anderson, Roger Pittard, Vera Lyman, Charles Wooldridge, and Jim Atkins. Ed Ridge and Alden Stewart attended.

The minutes of the November Board meeting were distributed. Roger Pittard moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Vera Lyman. Motion carried. The Treasurer's report for November was distributed. Charles Wooldridge moved to accept the report as printed, second by Jim Atkins. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Vera Lyman requested that anyone having collection samples for LPS, please bring them to the Christmas Party.

Jim Atkins is in the process of updating the Club's website. He has narrowed down the web option contracts to: 1) one year at \$6.95 per month; or 2) two years at \$5.95 per month. The domain name, "Lincoln Gem Mineral Club.org", would be free. Charles Wooldridge moved to purchase two years of service provision and acquisition of the domain name, "Lincoln Gem Mineral Club.org", to provide access for our website – said purchase and maintenance of website to be handled by Jim Atkins. Second by Vera Lyman. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: The Board approved the new membership application of Robert and Judy Cropp.

No further business was discussed. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m. on a motion by Charles Wooldridge, second by Jim Atkins. Motion carried.

Thanks to Vera Lyman for taking notes at the meeting, as I was out of town.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Marburger

GENERAL MEETING
December 9, 2007, Bethany Park Shelter

The meeting was called to order by Second Vice-President Roger Pittard. Sixteen adult members and no juniors were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Vera Lyman announced that the Gere Library meeting room was not available on all Board meeting dates. The January meeting will be held at Anderson Library. Vera will keep the Board updated with dates and locations.

Treasurer Lyman is now accepting dues for 2008.

Please submit any receipts for 2007 costs to Treasurer Lyman by December 25, otherwise they will be show on the 2008 Financial Records.

OLD BUSINESS: The minutes of the November meeting were published in the electronic Pick & Shovel. Charles Wooldridge moved to accept the minutes as published, second by Al Stewart. Motion carried. The treasurer's report for November was read at the meeting. Mary Pittard moved to accept the report as read, second by Ed Dvorak. Motion carried.

The Board approved purchase of the new Web Page/Domain. Jim Atkins is in the process of getting it all set up.

Please bring specimens for LPS to any club meeting. Vera Lyman will deliver the specimens to LPS.

Charles Wooldridge confirmed that the Ramada Limited South will be the host motel for the 2008 Show. The Villager no longer does conventions.

Charles Wooldridge has 2008 Rock Swap flyers. Let him know if you need/want any.

NEW BUSINESS – No new business.

The meeting adjourned to the Christmas Party on a motion by Roger Pabian, second by Pat Dvorak. Motion carried.

In spite of cold, snowy, and slippery conditions, everyone attending enjoyed delicious food and good fellowship. Some wild games of Rock Bingo earned almost everyone a prize. Richard Peterson won the round of Blackout Bingo, thus earning the coveted prize of the evening – a piece of Black Jade donated by Ed Ridge.

As I was out of town, a big thanks goes to Vera Lyman for taking notes at the meeting. It sounds like there was a lot of fun and excitement! Sorry I missed it.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Marburger

Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club

Proudly Presents its 50th Annual
Gem and Mineral



SHOW



“Our Golden Anniversary”

June 20-22, 2008

In conjunction with the Annual Conventions of the
**Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the
Nebraska Association of Earth Science Clubs**

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Admission: Adults, \$5.00; children under 12, free with adult;

3 day pass, \$12.00

Bring this coupon for \$1.00 off. Good for all adults in party.

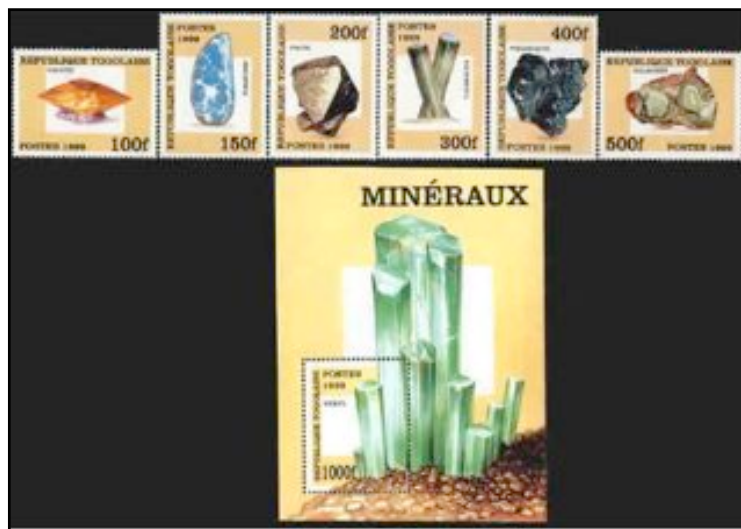
Gems on Stamps 2007

By: Richard "Pete" Peterson

Last year in this newsletter I provided a list of postage stamps issued in 2006 that depicted gems, minerals & jewelry. To keep you current, here is list No. 2 of countries and Scott Stamp Catalog numbers for 2007. This list was compiled from the magazine, Scott Stamp Monthly, January to December 2007.

Belgium, 2159;
 Bosnia & Herzegovina(Croat), 166;
 Bosnia & Herzegovina(Serb), 287-288;
 Botswana, 824, 825a;
 China(PRC), 3506;
 China(Taiwan), 3721-3724;
 Czech Republic, 3312-3313;
 Djibouti, 753;
 French Polynesia, 929d;
 French Southern & Antarctic Terr., 375;
 Germany, 2428, 2428a, 2428Ab;
 Great Britain(Guernsey), 918e;
 Great Britain(Jersey), 1242-1246;
 Guinea, 2213-2214;
 Guyana, 3938;
 Hungary, 3978;
 Indonesia, 2084a, 2084e;
 Iraq, 1707;
 Ireland, 1700, 1700a;
 Israel, 1628, 1649-1651;
 Kazakhstan, 509;
 Korea(South), 2228c;
 Latvia, 650;
 Liberia, 2405, 2411;
 Malta, 1272;
 New Zealand, 2082-2087, 2138c, 2144a;
 Norway, 1474, 1475a;
 Paraguay, 2786;
 Peru, 1514;
 Poland, 3846, 3856;
 Portugal, 2836-2837;
 Romania, 4852-4857, 4857a, 4884, 4891-4894;
 Russia, 6985;
 St. Helena, 908, 912a;
 St. Vincent Grenadines(Bequia), 379i;
 Serbia, 357;

Slovenia, 711;
 Switzerland, 1259;
 Tanzania, 2375b;
 Tunisia, 1396-1399;
 Turkey, 3004-3006;
 United Arab Emirates, 853-858, 858a;
 United Nations(Kosovo), 34, 42;
 United States, 3753;
 Uzbekistan, 481, 488, 492;
 Venezuela, 1656h;



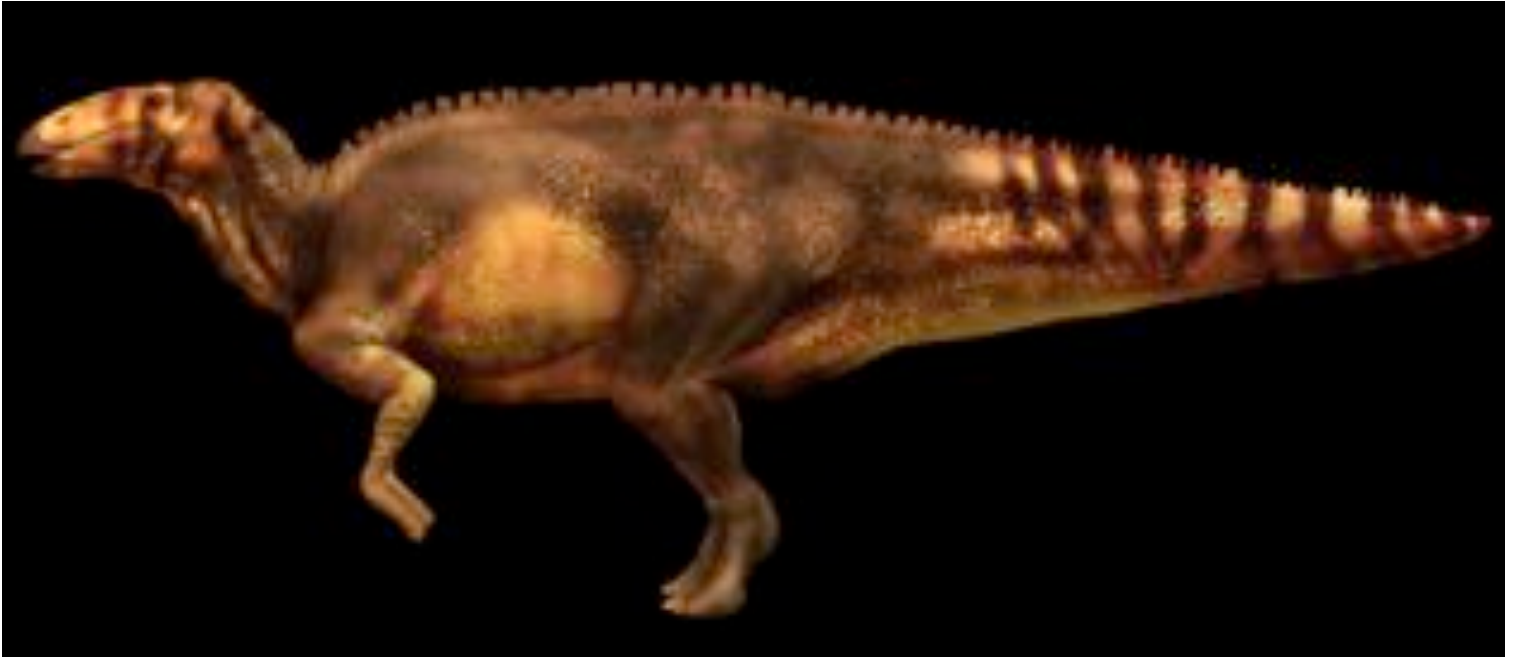
If collecting all the stamps seems a bit much, you can focus on those from a single country (U.S., Mexico, Zaire, etc.), those that depict specific gems (agate, jade, sapphire, etc.), or your own favorite category (royal jewelry, minerals in the rough, etc.).

The American Topical Association (ATA), dedicated to stamp collectors that collect specific subjects depicted on stamps, sells lists of all the stamps ever issued on this subject. Search out their web site for more information. Don't forget eBay for buying stamps online. Locally, the Lincoln Stamp Show, LINPEX is held in February.

Rare Mummified Dinosaur Unearthed: Contains Skin, and Maybe Organs, Muscle

http://www.wired.com/science/discoveries/news/2007/12/dino_mummy#

By Evan Ratliff



Scientists have uncovered the mummy of a 67-million-year-old plant-eating hadrosaur, a duck-billed herbivore common to North America. Photo credit: National Geographic Channel.

Scientists on December 3, 2007 announced the discovery of what appears to be the world's most intact dinosaur mummy: a 67-million-year-old plant-eater that contains fossilized bones and skin tissue, and possibly muscle and organs.

Preserved by a natural fluke of time and chemistry, the four-ton mummified hadrosaur, a duck-billed herbivore common to North America, could reshape the understanding of dinosaurs and their habitat, its finders say.

"There is no doubt about it that this dinosaur is a very, very significant find," said Tyler Lyson, a graduate student in geology at Yale University who discovered the dinosaur in North Dakota.

"To say we are excited would be an understatement," said Phil Manning, a paleontologist at England's University of Manchester who is leading the examination. "When I first saw it in the field, (I thought) 'Shiiiiit, that's a really well preserved dinosaur.' It has the potential to be a top-10 dinosaur, globally."



After excavating the dinosaur, scientists encased it and the surrounding soil in plaster. It was hauled to Boeing's giant CT scanner near Los Angeles.

Photo: National Geographic Channel

Nicknamed Dakota, the hadrosaur is one of only five naturally preserved dinosaur mummies ever discovered. Unlike previous dinosaur mummies, which typically involve skin impressions pressed into bones, Dakota's entire skin envelope appears to remain largely intact.

"The skin has been mineralized," said Manning. "It is an actual three-dimensional structure, backfilled with sediment." The fidelity of the envelope, he said, raises the possibility that Dakota could contain other soft-tissue remnants, including muscles and organs.

Then-16-year-old Lyson was fossil-hunting in 1999 in the Hell Creek Formation badlands of North Dakota when he first spotted the dinosaur's bone-like protrusion from a hill. In 2004, after Lyson returned to begin excavating the fossil and discovered skin remnants, a friend studying at (Continued on page 8) the University of Manchester alerted Manning, who had the experience and resources to organize a more cautious excavation.

Rare Mummified Dinosaur Unearthed: Contains Skin, and Maybe Organs, Muscle

http://www.wired.com/science/discoveries/news/2007/12/dino_mummy#

(Continued from page 7)

Only after the body and a chunk of the hillside was moved to a lab did the scientists realize the extent of the discovery. "On vast areas of the tail and body," Manning said, "there was what looked to be a three-dimensional skin envelope, in the same way as a sock around your foot -- which did not make any sense at all."

Manning brought on dozens of scientists and engineers -- in disciplines ranging from computer science to organic chemistry and physics -- to investigate every aspect of the find using state-of-the-art tools.

"Up until Phil showed me this dinosaur," said Roy Wogelius, a geochemist from the University of Manchester studying the soil surrounding Dakota, "I had no interest in dinosaurs. As soon as I saw this specimen, I was fascinated."

In North Dakota, the researchers used Light Detection and Ranging equipment (LiDAR) to develop a three-dimensional topographical map of the area where Dakota died. Manning speculated that the dinosaur collapsed in a riverbed during the late Cretaceous Period and was rapidly buried in mineral-rich wet sand, preventing bacteria from devouring all of its tissue. "There was active-enough chemistry in the sediments that the decay process didn't occur as quickly as the mineralization process," he said. "It was a perfect chemical soup."

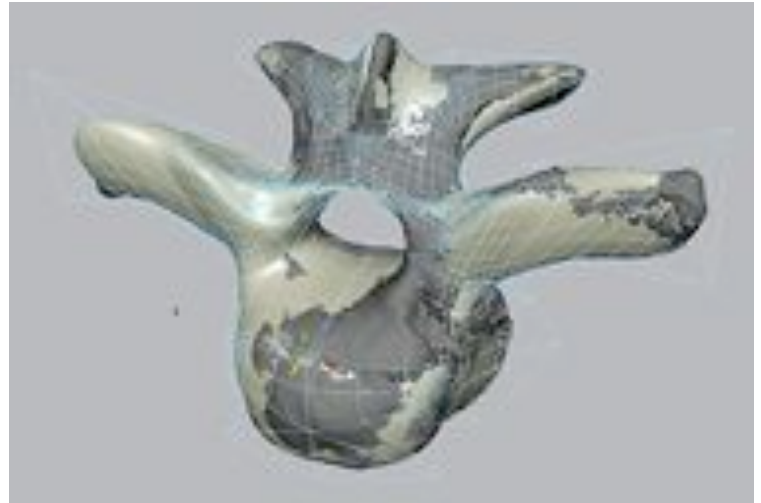
After examining the dinosaur at a local lab, the scientists encased it and the remaining surrounding soil in plaster and hauled it by truck to a Boeing research center in Canoga Park, California, north of Los Angeles. There, Boeing volunteered the world's largest computerized tomography, or CT, scanner, originally built by NASA to scan space shuttle parts for flaws. At 8,000 pounds, the fossil became the largest object ever scanned at high resolution. The researchers are using the data to survey the body's interior before chipping away further on the fossil. "The CT scan is like a roadmap," said Manning. "It will help us recover the rest of the animal more easily and efficiently."

The first significant findings from the dinosaur, currently under review at a major scientific journal, will describe the unique chemical balance that preserved the fossil. The body, meanwhile, remains on the Boeing scanner, as Manning and his colleagues sift through terabytes of data. So far, they have determined that the hadrosaur's hindquarters are 25 percent larger than previously thought for the species, meaning that it could run up to 28 mph -- faster than previously estimated. They have also discovered that the specimen's vertebrae, which museums commonly stack together, are actually spaced 10 millimeters apart. The result, Manning said, implies that scientists may have been underestimating the size of hadrosaurs and other dinosaurs.

The National Geographic Channel, which helped fund the research, will recount the saga of Dakota's discovery in a documentary, *Dino Autopsy*, that was shown on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 9 p.m. EST. Manning is also publishing a book, *Grave Secrets of Dinosaurs*, describing the fossil

and its history. Although there are a lot of scientists involved in the project, Lyson and Manning have not yet allowed experts outside the project to assess the mummified dinosaur.

But the scientific findings from the specimen may take decades to exhaust. "I'm 40 years old now," Manning said. "If I live till 80 I think I'll still be at the tip of the iceberg."



The CT scan showed that the hadrosaur's vertebrae, which museums commonly stack together, are actually spaced a centimeter apart. That means we may have been underestimating the size of many dinosaurs. Image: National Geographic Channel



From *The Boondocker* 5&6/92
via T-Town Rockhound 6/98



Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club

proudly presents its
29th Annual Mid-Winter

ROCK SWAP

held at

Bethany Park Shelter House

Saturday, January 26, 2008

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Buy, sell or trade rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, equipment, and other items related to the rock / mineral / fossil hobby, lapidary, or jewelry making.

Swappers set up at 12:00 noon. Swap opens at 1:00 p.m. and closes at 5:00 p.m. The General Meeting follows at 7:00 p.m. and is open to visitors.

Swappers with tables are requested to provide material for the silent auction. Proceeds go to Southeast Community College Lapidary Grants.

Cash sales must be completed using Swapper Dollars. Swapper Dollars are available from the Club Treasurer at a 10% surcharge, payable by the buyer. Proceeds benefit Southeast Community College Lapidary Grants.

For Further Information:

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Box 5342, Lincoln, Nebraska 68505-0342 or
Charles Wooldridge, (402) 610-7236

2008 Elected Officers

President	Terry Anderson	402-826-1169	cajunbrat@neb.rr.com
1st Vice President	Roger Pittard	402-759-4623	rogerp@dtmspeed.net
2nd Vice president	Charles Wooldridge	402-325-8849	charles.wooldridge@bhss.ne.gov
Treasurer	Vera Lyman	402-464-6089	
Secretary	Sharon Marburger	402-792-2348	mamamar@windstream.net
Board Member	James Atkins	402-483-1610	jna@inetnebr.com
Board Member	John Harrison	402-792-2337	jh21923@alltel.net
Board Member	James Marburger	402-792-2348	jm24122@windstream.net
Board Member	Al Stewart	402-483-1044	mmstewart@inebraska.com

Nominating Committee Long Range Planning & By-Laws Committee

3 Years	Vera Lyman	3 Years	Charles Wooldridge
	Edward Ridge		Phyllis Parks
2 Years	John Harrison	2 Years	Susan Taylor
	Aulden Stewart		Edward Ridge
1 Year	Mary Pittard	1 Year	Vera Lyman
	Phyllis Parks		Roger Pabian

STANDING COMMITTEES

Education/Librarian	Roger Pabian
Field Trips	James Marburger
Historian	Sharon Marburger
Membership Record	Edward Ridge
Programs	James Marburger
Property	James Marburger
Refreshments/Door Prizes	Judy Reilly
Youth Activities	Kay Jurgens, Vera Lyman Susan McMahon, Judy Reilly
Housing Committee	Charles Wooldridge, Vera Lyman, Susan McMahon
Auditing Committee	John Harrison, Roger Pabian, James Marburger
Geology Day Coordinator	Roger Pittard
MWF Liaison	Vera Lyman
Scholarship	Vera Lyman
Christmas Party	Edward Ridge
2008 Show	Roger Pabian
2008 Swap	Charles Wooldridge

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Hosts our

50th Annual Show and NAOESCI State Show along with the
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention.

At
PERSHING CENTER
226 Centennial Mall south
June 20-22, 2008
Show Chairman - Roger Pabian

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) per issue, paid in advance. These ads will be placed through the bulletin a 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 applicant attends at least one meeting of the Club and pays the above dues plus a \$5 registration fee.

Meetings: Third thursday, September through May except December & January. Those dates will be announced. The meetings are held at Bethany Park Indoor Shelter, at Cotner and Vine Street.

Mail Exchange Newsletters to:
 Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club
 P.O. box 5342
 Lincoln, Nebraska 68505-0342
 or E-Mail Newsletters to:
jna@inetnebr.com

L.G.M.C. Web address-Courtesy of Jim Atkins
<http://incolor.inetnebr.com/jna/gemclub/lgmc.htm>

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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 by 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.