

# PICK & SHOVEL



Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Lincoln, Nebraska

[www.lincolngemmineralclub.org](http://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org)

## General Meetings / Activities

All general meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Bethany Park Shelter, unless otherwise noted.

**July 12, 2009**  
**Grinding Party**  
**Pioneer Park Nature Center**

**July 16, 2009**  
**Social Gathering at Wooly's**

August \_\_, 2009  
Field Trip to Bailey, Colorado area  
(See announcement/details to come later)

September 17, 2009

October 15, 2009

November 19, 2009

Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers

December 13, 2009

Christmas Party

## President's Message

July is here with a bang, and hopefully the weather will be a little cooler than some of those hot days in June.

I understand those who attended the June field trip to Morrill Hall had a great time. Perhaps the attendees could be persuaded to bring their photographs to share with us at the Social Gathering?

Be sure to attend the Social Gathering and put in your two-cents worth regarding the date and details of the August field trip to the Denver area.

I hope to see you at Wooly's!

Terry



## Board Meetings

All board meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at Gere Library, meeting room 1, unless otherwise noted.

September 2, 2009

September 30, 2009 (October meeting)

November 4, 2009


December 2, 2009

## July Social Gathering

Bring your crock pot side dishes, salads, and/or desserts for a fun evening at Wooly's! Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided by Wooly and the Marburgers. This will be a fun time of food and fellowship with others who enjoy the hobby. The August field trip to Colorado will be discussed, and a final determination of the date and other details will be made. If you want to score points with 1st Vice-President Wooly, bring pie!




## Special Announcements



### AFMS/NFMS SHOW & CONVENTION

JULY 30, 31 AUGUST 1, 2 2009





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 ALSO CHECK OUT WEB [WWW.AMFED.ORG/NFMS/FEDERATION\\_SHOW](http://WWW.AMFED.ORG/NFMS/FEDERATION_SHOW)

### Specimens for LPS

As always, while you are out gathering specimens, remember to pick up a few extras to donate to Lincoln Public Schools' fifth grade science program. This is an ongoing project, as there is a new batch of 5<sup>th</sup> graders each year.

### MINERALS

|               |               |               |                 |                       |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| *Azurite      | *copper       | *fluorite     | *pectolite      | *smaltite             |
| *Anadalousite | *cassiterite  | *feldspar(s)  | *prehnite       | *stannite             |
| *Adamite      | *columbite    | *hematite     | *pyrolusite     | *triphylite           |
| *Aragonite    | *cryolite     | *heulandite   | *pyrite         | *turquoise            |
| *Aurichalcite | *covellite    | *hedenbergite | *pyrophyllite   | *talc                 |
| *apophyllite  | *corundum     | *hexagonite   | *pyromorphite   | *tremolite-actinolite |
| *analcite     | *cordierite   | *hornblende   | *pyroxene(s)    | *topaz                |
| *apatite(s)   | *chalcopyrite | *ilvaite      | *rhodochrosite  | *tourmaline(s)        |
| *allanite     | *dolomite     | *lazulite     | *sphalerite     | *vesuvianite          |
| *anglesite    | *datolite     | *leucite      | *spodumene      | *vanadinite           |
| *amblygonite  | *desclozite   | *kyanite      | *siderite       | *willemite            |
| *barite       | *epidote      | *mica(s)      | *sodalite       | *zincite              |
| *beryl        | *gypsum       | *magnetite    | *sillimanite    | *zoisite(s)           |
| *bornite      | *graphite     | *malachite    | *sulphur        | *zircon               |
| *brookite     | *gold         | *marcasite    | *staurolite     |                       |
| *celestite    | *garnet(s)    | *molybdenite  | *sylvite-halite |                       |
| *chromite     | *galena       | *norbergite   | *stibnite       |                       |
| *cuprite      | *ferberite    | *olivine      | *stilbite       |                       |

### Rocks & Minerals Sale Hosted by Geology Department

If you are looking for something to do on Labor Day weekend, consider this. The Geology Department at Wheaton College in Illinois (about 20 miles west of Chicago) is hosting a two-day sale on Saturday, September 5 and Monday, September 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.

This event will feature a fantastic amount of good-to-excellent quality items accumulated over 150 years. Materials must be sold in order to make the transition to a new natural history museum in Fall 2010. Items will be sold at far below normal retail prices expected from stores or online dealers. Prices begin at 25 cents and range upwards, with most materials from 25 cents to \$10. Credit cards and cash will be accepted.

Minerals, rocks, fossils, maps, microscopes, and other geological items will be displayed in the basement of the college's Armerding Science Building (map available from the Wheaton College web site). In addition to many exotic global sources, good representation of materials come from: Illinois, Wisconsin, and other Midwest locations, California, South Dakota, Texas, North Carolina to northern Georgia, New Jersey, New York, Kentucky, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, southern Canada, Arkansas, and Oregon.

A small representation of items available are:

### Rocks

Igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic types; polished and clear enameled, including rare structural samples.

### Fossils

Including all major groups; invertebrate, vertebrate animals and plants.

### Lapidary Rough

Lots of material from the quartz family

### Geo-Oddities

Cave depositis, dendrites, fulgarite, wind polished ventifacts, concretions in many forms.

## Field Trip Report

### Sunday at the Museum

By Richard "Pete" Peterson

Field Trip Chairman Jim Marburger arranged for a LGMC trip to Morrill Hall on June 21. Morrill Hall is Nebraska's natural history museum, right here in Lincoln. By the time the doors opened at 1:30 p.m., members present were Jim and Sharon Marburger, Cynthia Casselman, Ed and Pat Dvorak, and me. Since our club is a Friend of the Museum, we were admitted free of charge. We stepped inside and back in time we went.

It had been awhile since I last visited the museum. I jumped at the chance to revisit the familiar, as well as seeing the new exhibits. Each of us came for different reasons. My purpose was to become more familiar with some of the fossil bone I have encountered during my walks along the Nemaha drainage.

We all started in Elephant Hall, the world's premier collection of fossil elephants. Wow! Then there was the exhibit of fossil rhinos and horses. The Mesozoic Gallery was as I remembered. And this was only the Main Floor!

The first floor includes a hall of Nebraska Wildlife and the third floor features a display of Southwestern U.S. ceramic art, as well as a journey entitled, "Nomads of the Plains". The hallway features an introduction to the world of rocks and minerals, and includes a nice display of fluorescents.

The Mueller Planetarium (admission for an additional fee) is an astronomer's dream with virtual adventures projected on a 360 degree dome. The whole museum is child learning friendly; they can touch and crawl ... and experience. The Gift Shop is for kids of all ages ... a must stop.

It was a nice way to spend Fathers Day, as was evidenced by the many children with dads in tow.

Morrill Hall Museum hours are 9:30 - 4:30 Monday - Saturday and 1:30 - 4:30 on Sunday. They are closed certain holidays. For more information call (402)472-2642 or visit [www.museum.unl.edu](http://www.museum.unl.edu).



## A Unique Find

By Richard "Pete" Peterson

While hunting for agates along the Nemaha River drainage, I stumbled upon the nearly complete cranium of a helmeted muskox. Also called the woodland muskox, *Symbos cavifrons* (Leidy), it lived during the Late Pleistocene and became extinct ca 12,000 B.C.

A find like this should be shared, so I donated the skull to the University of Nebraska State Museum. Collections Curator, Dr. George Corner, gladly accepted the well-preserved and unique specimen. The skull proved to be that of a large male. The specimen measures 18 inches across the forehead, horn core to horn core; and 18 inches from the back of the cranium to the tip of the nose. Dr. Corner said that for every 500 bison skulls found, only one muskox is reported.

After cataloging is complete, the specimen will most likely be included in the new finds display in Morrill Hall.

### Editor's Note:

How exciting! You never know what you might find when you go on an outing. In addition, we can go to the museum and proudly say, "I know the person who found and donated that."



## A Matter of History

The following letter was published in the March 1961 Pick & Shovel. It is amazing how much things change over time, yet not change at all. Today, I believe Mr. Stone would own a modest computer. He would probably have benefited from spell checker and auto correct! However, his story is amusing, and many of us can relate to his tale.

Deer EdIter and fRenz,

I shur was hapie thAt you donE ask me TO rite you aBOUt how and wHY I got to bee a rockdog. iT is hard for me to think BaCK WhEn I dint pick up rocks. IN Fact before I Ever started to scul they used to git caught between my tows but i started bringin them home rite after i Started to scul cause maw put shoos on me and that durned gravil they had on the rode kept gittin in them. It shur DiD hurt at first. the shoos i meen. BUt i finaLLy got used to tHem. That was HoW i furst got sTartdead pickin up rocks.

I got reel serious WITh mi rock colektin back in Cansus durin the thurtys. In them daze, THE durt wood blo from OKlihomie one dae and thenback frum NEBrascie the next. This bloin of durt uncivered some arrie heads an i Use to pic them up when i was huntin rabbits. Then WhEn we culd git paw out frum his rockin chair long enough to drive uS to the canyuns wE wuld hunt fossuls and rocks. ThIS was when i STartED to pick up rock to big to fit in my shoos. We wood FInD petryfried wud, gaspur, and calcidony most of the time. In FAct, you can still find them there.

After I was sint to collig i spent time lookin for fossuls and artyfaks in MISury caves, an I soon met the gal I got hitched too. no not in the CaVes but at Collig. I din't find she was inturusted in them things to til I took her home to sho her my rocks. I din't have any etchins to show her, jist rocks and fossuls. She soon became a rockdog two.

We moved a lot when we was Furst married and we USED to look where evur we was for rocks, fossuls, and then we got some sea shells. We then about 3 yars ago bout a polishin machene. We aint got no favorite rocks, jist as long as they is purty.

The kids is a chip off the old block, as they shur lik to Colekt two, but most of there colectin is durt, but sometimes when they IS cut they git something worth polishin, and they is real hapie then.

I hope tHis tells u how i caMe to be a rock hunter. Thank u agin fur askin me to rite this here leter to u.

See u at the next meetin

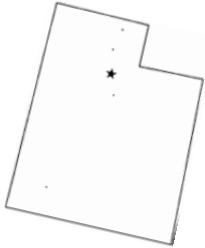
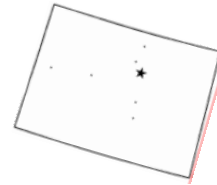
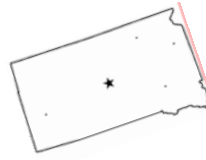
(signed) Jasper Stone

P.S. This was rit by my new tiperiter. this is shur a good inventun, but it can't polish rocks.

# Pebble Pups



Hey Pups! Last month we searched for state gemstones, this month let's look for state minerals. Have a great time searching!

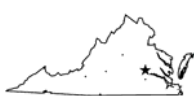


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|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ALMANDINE GARNET (Connecticut) | HEMATITE (Alabama)         |
| BABINGTONITE (Massachusetts)   | NATIVE GOLD (California)   |
| BERYL (New Hampshire)          | QUARTZ CRYSTAL (Arkansas)  |
| BOWENITE (Rhode Island)        | RHODOCHROSITE (Colorado)   |
| COAL (Kentucky)                | ROSE QUARTZ (South Dakota) |
| COPPER (Utah)                  | SILLIMANITE (Delaware)     |
| FLUORITE (Illinois)            | SILVER (Nevada, Texas)     |
| GALENA (Missouri, Wisconsin)   | STAUROLITE (Georgia)       |
| GOLD (Alaska)                  | TALC (Vermont)             |
| GOOSECREEKITE (Virginia)       |                            |

States outlines courtesy of [www.50states.com](http://www.50states.com).



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|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Audit                      | John Harrison, James Marburger, Roger Pabian |
| Christmas Party            | Edward Ridge                                 |
| Education / Librarian      | Roger Pabian                                 |
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| Scholarship                | Vera Lyman                                   |
| Show—2010                  | Charles Wooldridge                           |
| Swap—2010                  |  |
| Youth Activities           | Dan Cromer, Kay Jurgens, Vera Lyman          |

Answer to puzzle on page 5.

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

Membership dues for the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club are as follows:

Adults (age 16 and over) - \$10 per year

Juniors (age 12-16) - \$2 per year (with a responsible adult)

Couples - \$20

Family membership (with children under age 12 years) - \$22 per year

Applications for new membership must be approved by the Board of Directors after applicant attends at least one meeting of the Club. Dues will be payable to the Treasurer following Board approval, with an additional, one-time \$5 registration fee.

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Or e-mail newsletters to:  
lgmcsecretary@yahoo.com

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LGMC web address courtesy of James Atkins.  
<http://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org>

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