

PICK & SHOVEL



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

BOARD MEETINGS

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

August 25, 2010

October 6, 2010

November 3, 2010

December 1, 2010

GENERAL MEETINGS / ACTIVITIES

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

May 20, 2010

May 29-31

Field Trip to Hutchinson, KS and Jet, OK
(See article on pages 5-6)

July 11, 2010

Grinding Party (Pioneer Park Nature Center)

September 16, 2010

October 21, 2010

November 18, 2010

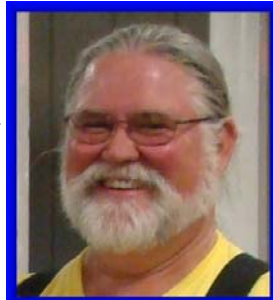
December 12, 2010

Christmas Party

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow Rockhounds.

I'll keep my message short this month as I have been out of the country and am short on time. I spent a couple of weeks in the southern Yucatán. Jackie and I explored four ruin sights, snorkeled the coral reef, eight Cenotes, and underground caverns. The food and people were wonderful! In the fresh water of Laguna Bacalar, we explored the only living fresh water stromatalites. I'll try to get a program together to present sometime.



I hosted the monthly rock / grinding party and potluck on April 25th. It was a great time to socialize with fellow rockhounds and explore new facets of the hobby.

This weekend is the Midwest Federation meeting in Columbia, Missouri. Hopefully, we will have a delegate or two there.

*See page 9 for updates to
your Who's Who.*

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAY ROCK/GRINDING PARTY

The May rock / grinding party will be held at Roger Pabian's residence on Sunday, May 23. It will begin, as usual, with a potluck supper at 5:30 p.m., then progress into an evening filled with fun, companionship, and hobby related activities. Join in and share in a fabulous experience!

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CAMERA AND SNAP SOME PICTURES FOR THE P&S AND THE ALL AMERICAN CLUB AWARD APPLICATION.

REGIONAL SHOWS

MAY

8-9: Columbia, MO. Central Missouri Rock and Lapidary Club's Annual Show, Boone County Fairgrounds; MWF Spring Meeting.

14-16: Southgate, MI. Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society's Annual Show; Southgate Arena, 14700 Reaume Pkwy.; Fri. 4-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; CONTACT: Michael Bomba, 1419 Gregory, Lincoln Park, MI 48146, (313) 381-8455, bombasrocks@yahoo.com.

15-16: Wauwatosa, WI. Wisconsin Geological Society; 53rd Annual Wisconsin Geological Society Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show; Muellner Building at Hart Park (the park entrance is at 72nd and W. State St.); Sat. & Sun. 10-5; CONTACT: Paul Schmidt, 8213 Red Arrow Ct., Wauwatosa, WI 53213, (414) 771-8668, pvs@wi.rr.com.

15-16: Berea, OH. 42nd Annual Cleveland Area Gem & Mineral Show; Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds; Bagley Rd.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; CONTACT: Robert Boyd, 926 Lake Breeze Rd., Sheffield Lake, OH 44054.

29-30: Wheaton, IL. Chicagoland Gems and Mineral Association's 34th Annual Gem, Jewelry, Fossil & Mineral Show & Sale; DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 West Manchester Road; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; CONTACT: chigagolandgemshow.org, CGMA@sbcglobal.net, (630) 377-0197.

REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE

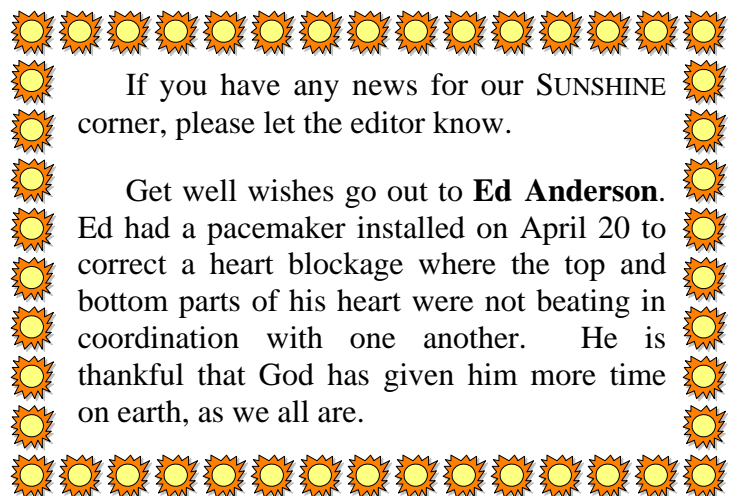
May 20:	2-3 doz. cookies ea.	Richard Peterson Roger Pabian
Sep. 16:	bar cookies	Jayne Beer Stella Thiessen
Oct. 21:	2 pies each	Charles Wooldridge G & A Ford
Nov. 18:	2-3 doz. Cookies ea.	Karen Messenger Shirley Rockel
Dec. 12:	Christmas Party—Potluck Supper	

MAY PROGRAM

By Richard Peterson

The program for May is *Mystery of the Andes*. This program explores the complicated creation geology of the Andes mountain chain in South America. Follow a team of geologists, paleontologists and naturalists from the Field Museum in Chicago and universities in Chile as they find evidence that challenges long held beliefs as to how this part of the Andes was created. Was it simple plate tectonics, two plates forcing up the mountain range ... or something more complex. This 45-minute program is part of the A&E series, "The New Explorers".

SUNSHINE



PETE'S NOTES

By Richard Peterson

Before feeling confident in going to the field alone, I had to get it into my head that I could safely park my vehicle and leave it unattended for the day. Some degree of trust is required. I usually park near bridges for easy access to the river. Ranches and farmsteads are usually around, but frequently not easily reached on foot. Already tired from a day of collecting, the last thing I wanted was to walk to a distant location only to find no one home. Cell phone coverage can be spotty, and besides, I don't even have a cell phone. Looking back, I perhaps made more of it than there really was, but I was hesitant to trust complete strangers.

Being a relatively healthy 65 plus years, I didn't dwell upon life threatening medical emergencies while in the field. However, with the uneven and sometimes slippery terrain ... were my legs and ankles up to the task? With all the stooping and bending ... would my past lower back problems come back to haunt me? Then there was the matter of river crossings, getting from gravel bar to gravel bar. This would involve walking across uneven stream bottoms against sometimes fast moving water.

First, and most important, make an educated decision as to where to cross. What surface will greet your first step and what might the surface be like where you exit on the other side? Then ask yourself, "What will my footing be while crossing the river?" Your walking stick can help you select an entry point, but your eyes will be your greatest asset.

The shortest route may not be the best choice. A longer wade with potentially firmer footing may be safer, and avoid falling in up to your neck. Gravel, sand, or rocks are the safest walking surfaces; mud and silt the worst. The latter two can be sticky. They can suck off your footwear if you need to quickly take a step to keep your balance. You may encounter mud along your route, in which case you may want to alter your course, or retreat and rethink your crossing options. Starting out in mud is a bad idea.

To be continued ...

HELPFUL TIP:

Gear for your backpack - The following is what I carry in a small back pack when walking the gravel bars. First to be packed is at least a quart of water in a sturdy plastic bottle. You need to keep hydrated when out and about. And the water you carry with you ... don't drink it all in the first couple hours if planning on a six hour outing. If in doubt, carry more water.

Second, don't forget toilet paper. I also carry a Swiss-style pocket knife, sunscreen, bug spray with a high percentage of DEET (more on the little annoyances you may meet in a future Pete's Notes), pocket-sized notebook with a pencil, and a snack (a small bag of peanuts works for me, or your choice). Plus, carry a small, rigid container (like a sandwich Tupperware) with newspaper inside to pack delicate specimens. Hung on the outside of my pack are a couple surveyor flags (plastic flag on a wire) the kind they use to mark buried utility lines. If the weather is uncertain, I may include a small collapsible umbrella. Xerox copies of the pertinent parts of topographic maps are useful if venturing into completely unknown territory. If you are unsure of your route, i.e., maybe having to deal river bank saplings and undergrowth, carry a short machete.

AND THE WORD IS ...?

The name of this month's mineral comes from the Greek word for plaster. The colorless transparent variety is called moonstone. The dense granular variety is called alabaster.

Last month's answer is, "What is APATITE?"



Picture from geology.com



Picture from worldofrockhounds.com

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

April 15, 2010, Bethany Park Shelter

The meeting was called to Order at 7:03 p.m. by First Vice-President Roger Pittard who then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Twenty-one adult members and one junior were present.

OLD BUSINESS:

The minutes of the March meeting were published in the Pick & Shovel. Jim Atkins moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Ed Dvorak. Motion carried. The Treasurer's report for March was read by Treasurer Lyman. John Harrison moved to accept the report as read, second by Al Stewart. Motion carried.

Jim Marburger announced he is planning field trips to the Hutchinson, Kansas underground salt mine and aerospace museum for the Memorial Day weekend. Jim received a request to consider a field trip to Jet, Oklahoma, to dig for selenite crystals. After confirming there was enough interest to have such a field trip, it was decided to combine the trips into one weekend. (See article in Pick & Shovel for more information.)

The membership was reminded about the MWF Spring meeting in Columbia, Missouri the weekend of May 8. Robert and Judy Cropp agreed to attend as representatives of LGMC. A reminder was also given about the AFMS show scheduled for June 18-20 in Whittier, California.

NEW BUSINESS:

The notice in the MidWest Federation newsletter regarding the Second Annual World Rock Tumbling Championship was shared. Anyone interested in participating was encouraged to contact Sharon Marburger for more information, or go to the website www.oroverture.rocks.com.

Roger Pabian and Richard Peterson are responsible for providing cookies to the May 20 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned to refreshments and program at 7:33 p.m. on a motion by Charles Messenger, second by Karen Messenger. Motion carried. The program was an entertaining video entitled Grand Canyon – the Hidden Secrets.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 31, 2010, Gere Library

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by President Charles Wooldridge. Board members present were Charles Wooldridge, Roger Pittard, Al Stewart, Vera Lyman, Sharon Marburger, Ed Dvorak, Jim Marburger, Richard Peterson and Ed Ridge. One visitor, Mary Pittard, attended.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes of the March meeting were distributed. Jim Marburger moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Roger Pittard. Motion carried. The Treasurer's report for March was distributed. Ed Dvorak moved to approve the report, second by Jim Marburger. Motion carried.

The Pfizer-LPS Science Fair was held on March 30. Ed Ridge, Roger Pabian, Al Stewart, and Charles Wooldridge attended, providing demonstrations and information to the multitude of Lincoln's 8th graders and their parents.

Vera Lyman reported that the vests have been completed. They will be distributed at the show.

It is reported that Susy McMahan is having some trouble getting around, following her double knee replacement surgery.

Jim Marburger is still working on lining up field trips to Tepee Canyon, with a separate trip to the Hutchinson, Kansas salt mine. A question of going to Jet, Oklahoma was raised, so Jim was going to check on that, perhaps in conjunction with the Hutchinson trip.

Final show preparation details were discussed. It looks like the show is on schedule.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pick & Shovel editor, Sharon Marburger, was asked to hold off publication of the newsletter until after the show.

The April Rock / Grinding Party will be held at Wooly's residence on April 25 at 5:30 p.m.

continued

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - CONTINUED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m. on a motion by Sharon Marburger, second by Jim Marburger. Motion carried.

FIELD TRIP TO HUTCHINSON, KANSAS & JET, OKLAHOMA

By Jim Marburger

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND, MAY 29 - 31, 2010.

Let me know by May 15th should you choose to join us for this fun-filled adventure. Please RSVP to jm24122@windstream.net or 402.430.6703.

The trip from Lincoln, Nebraska to Hutchinson, Kansas is about 250 miles. Sharon and I plan to head down to Hutchinson on Friday evening (May 28). We will camp overnight at Melody Acres RV Park, 1009 E. Blanchard, Hutchinson, phone 620.665.5048. There is a nightly charge of about \$22.50, depending on hook-ups. Motels are available in the area; reservations are on your own.

Saturday morning, May 29, we plan to tour the Kansas Underground Salt Museum located at the corner of Avenue G and Airport Road in Hutchinson. The Museum itself is 650 feet below the visitor's center. The first tour of the day starts at 9:00 a.m. and we should be there a little before that. Joint tickets for the Underground Museum and the Kansas Cosmosphere Space Museum cost \$29.00 each for adult and \$23.00 child.

The Gallery Tour is a self-guided walking tour of the underground museum, which includes mining, transportation, equipment, and geology exhibits. It also includes an exhibit about Underground Vaults & Storage, plus authentic movie costumes on loan from Sony and Warner Bros. The Dark Ride is a guided tour on a tram into an undeveloped portion of the mine. It includes the opportunity to collect a souvenir piece of salt. The whole tour takes about 1½ hours.

After the Salt mine tour, we will move on to the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center, located at 1100 North Plum Street. It is one mile north, 4 miles west, then ½ mile north of the mine. The Cosmosphere grew from a planetarium established on the State Fairgrounds in 1962. The 105,000 square foot facility now houses the largest collection of Russian space artifacts outside of Moscow and the

second largest collection of space artifacts in the world, second only to the National Air and Space Museum.

The Cosmosphere has four venues: The Hall of Space Museum, The Justice Planetarium, The Carey Imax Dome Theatre, and Dr. Goddard's Lab, which is a live science presentation. Depending on the amount of time spent in each venue, the Cosmosphere can take 1 - 4 hours to tour.

In the late afternoon, we plan on traveling to Cherokee, Oklahoma. It is about 119 miles or about a 2½ hour drive. We plan to camp at the Cherokee RV Park located at 200 N. Grand Ave., 580.596.3326. The Cherokee Inn is available for those who prefer a motel. It is located at 1720 S. Grand Ave., 580.596.2828. Reservations are required, and you must make your own.

Sunday, May 30 will begin our digging for selenite crystals. We will travel two miles south of Cherokee, then turn left onto a paved county road that leads to the dig area. There is a large sign on the left hand side of the highway advertising the dig area. There is a 10-pound limit on the amount of crystals taken. An individual is allowed one cluster in addition to the 10 pounds. That is a lot of crystals!

Facilities are extremely limited at the dig site. There are public restrooms at the entrance, and that is it. Things that you absolutely must have for a successful dig are: Round nosed shovel, water supply 3 to 5 gallons, a can or sprayer for washing the crystals loose, bucket or flats to put the crystals in, a pronged garden digger will help loosen the crystals, drinking water, a change of clothes, sunscreen, lunch, wide-brimmed hat, rubber boots or grungy sneakers, and a long-tailed shirt to protect the plumber's crack from the sun. A small wagon to carry your water and other items might be a good idea.

Monday, May 31 is your choice of a second day of digging or returning to Lincoln.

Continued on p. 6

FIELD TRIP TO HUTCHINSON & JET - CONTINUED

The following is an excerpt from the April 2010 issue of the Denver Gem & Mineral Guild's *Tips and Chips*.

DGMG FIELD TRIP TO JET, OK: MAY 29-31

by Janie Bennett

The digging site located at the Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge is controlled by the U.S. Dept of Interior - Fish and Wildlife Service. The Salt Plains are a perfectly flat expanse of mud, completely devoid of vegetation, located in north central Oklahoma. A thin layer of salt covers the flats. This salt was used by early Indian tribes in the area. Underlying the entire area is a quagmire of quicksand. It has a surface crust which is fairly shallow. The area designated for parking is thick enough to support a vehicle. It is also thick enough to support people walking on it. The Plains border the Salt Plains Reservoir. This area also contains a National Wildlife Refuge which is an important feeding area for migratory waterfowl.

No matter how well informed you may be you won't be prepared for the digging sight that will confront you when you pull up to the entrance gate. The parking area, which is about a mile out on the flats, has vehicles parked in a long line. The diggers appear as a mirage in the center of the lake. With the thin layer of white salt that coats the flats and the heat of the clay, the vehicles and diggers appear as if they are floating in a mirage. Digging is allowed from 8am to 5pm on Sat, Sun and holidays during the period from April 1 to October 15. The only equipment needed to dig selenite is a shovel, a tin can, and a 5 gallon can of water. The water is needed to initially prime your digging site. The tin can filled with water is poured down the sides of your hole to wash out the

sand and expose the crystals. Beer flats and paper towels are needed to pack your "keepers". An umbrella or tarp to provide shade is also a good idea. Sunscreen, a shade hat and sunglasses are a necessity. Take plenty of water to drink while digging.

Selenite is a crystallized form of gypsum. Gypsum is a common mineral which is found in many crystal forms and shapes. Crystals from this location can have chocolate brown hourglass inclusions in the otherwise clear crystals. The color is due to the iron oxide in the soil. Other foreign objects in the soil such as sticks, rocks, bones and cockle burrs are occasionally embedded in the crystals. On the Salt Plains the crystals are formed just below the salt-encrusted surface. They are seldom found deeper than 2 feet below the surface. Single crystals, penetrating twins and clusters are the typical crystal shapes. In certain places on the Salt Plains gypsum and saline solutions in the soil are sufficiently concentrated to promote crystal growth. When temperatures and brine conditions are ideal, the crystals may form very rapidly. When heavy rains or floods occur some of the selenite crystals may go back into solution until conditions are again right for recrystallization. Different areas of the Salt Plains are designated for digging each year to allow the re-growth of crystals in recently dug areas. As long as nothing happens to change the mineral content of the waters draining into the Salt Plains, these crystals will continue to form.

After driving your vehicle on the flats it is a good idea to run it through a car wash to remove the salt build-up. Take old clothing and shoes to wear while digging, because your clothing becomes imbedded with salt and sand which is impossible to remove.

SOUTH DAKOTA FIELD TRIP

Field trip chairman, Jim Marburger, has information and maps available for a trip to the Custer, South Dakota area for specimen collecting. As he is unable to lead this trip himself, Jim is asking for a volunteer to head up a field trip to hunt for Fairburn Agates, Tepee Canyon Jasper, and Ingersoll Mine gem tourmaline. If you would be interested in doing this or participating, please contact Jim at jm24122@windstream.net or telephone 402.430.6703.

PEBBLE PUPS



Hello Pups! This month's puzzle relates to the field trip planned for Memorial Day Weekend. The trip is to Jet, Oklahoma to dig for selenite crystals. The puzzle contains items you might need and things you might see. Have fun solving. Remember to bring your completed puzzle to the meeting on May 20 to claim your prize.

BOOTS	HAT	SAND
BUCKET	HOLE	SELENITE
CLAW	LAKEBED	SHOVEL
CLUSTERS	LUNCH	SPRAYER
CRYSTALS	MIRAGE	SUNGLASSES
FLATS	OLDSHOES	SUNSCREEN
GYPSUM	SALT	WATER

Puzzle created by Sharon Marburger.

P	L	R	R	E	T	A	W	L	M	N	A	Y	R	S	T	L
H	A	T	B	X	Y	R	P	U	E	D	J	G	O	D	A	R
Z	K	M	M	W	F	J	O	L	D	S	H	O	E	S	P	A
R	E	B	H	I	P	B	L	C	H	A	Q	Z	R	M	R	R
W	B	F	M	Q	G	E	Z	S	Y	L	E	V	O	H	S	L
Q	E	W	H	I	B	P	P	R	D	T	M	K	C	D	E	C
J	D	H	C	N	U	L	U	N	Z	P	E	B	K	M	F	J
R	P	A	N	Z	C	C	K	J	A	R	C	D	W	W	L	M
S	T	M	K	C	K	A	T	B	X	Y	R	P	C	L	A	W
E	A	Q	Z	R	E	G	A	R	I	M	A	Q	Z	R	T	M
S	J	O	L	D	T	Q	G	E	Z	S	Y	D	N	A	S	B
S	K	S	U	N	S	C	R	E	E	N	A	N	Z	C	C	K
A	V	R	P	W	H	G	S	G	E	Z	G	E	T	A	W	L
L	N	E	L	O	H	P	P	T	B	X	Y	T	A	W	L	M
G	Y	T	T	M	K	L	R	M	M	W	P	Y	R	P	U	E
N	D	S	P	E	B	C	A	B	H	I	S	T	O	O	B	X
U	Z	U	R	C	D	A	Y	M	R	R	U	C	Y	T	B	X
S	E	L	E	N	I	T	E	H	S	L	M	S	D	M	M	W
W	H	C	R	C	D	W	R	D	E	C	X	R	Z	B	H	I

COLLECTING ROCKS - PART 2

Excerpt taken from an article written by Rachel M. Barker, U.S.G.S.

Sedimentary rocks are formed at the surface of the Earth, either in water or on land. They are layered accumulations of sediments - fragments of rocks, minerals, or animal or plant material. Temperatures and pressures are low at the Earth's surface, and sedimentary rocks show this fact by their appearance and the minerals they contain. Most sedimentary rocks become cemented together by minerals and chemicals or are held together by electrical attraction; some, however, remain loose and unconsolidated. The layers are normally parallel or nearly parallel to the Earth's surface; if they are at high angles to the surface or are twisted or broken, some kind of Earth movement has occurred since the rock was formed. Sedimentary rocks are forming around us all the time. Sand and gravel on beaches or in river bars look like the sandstone and conglomerate they will become. Compacted and dried mud flats harden into shale. Scuba divers who

have seen mud and shells settling on the floors of lagoons find it easy to understand how sedimentary rocks form.

Sometimes sedimentary and igneous rocks are subjected to pressures so intense or heat so high that they are completely changed. They become *metamorphic rocks*, which form while deeply buried within the Earth's crust. The process of metamorphism does not melt the rocks, but instead transforms them into denser, more compact rocks. New minerals re created either by rearrangement of mineral components or by reactions with fluids that enter the rocks. Some kinds of metamorphic rocks - granite gneiss and biotite schist are two examples - are strongly banded or foliated. (Foliated means the parallel arrangement of certain mineral grains that gives the rock a striped appearance.) Pressure or temperature can even change previously metamorphosed rocks into new types.

To be continued next month.

PEBBLE PUPS **SPECIAL**

The Amazing World of Rocks!

By Grace Cassel

Maybe you have never thought much about rocks, but if you take a closer look at them, each one has its own story. It has taken millions of years for the graphite in your pencil to form into the useful tool that you use all the time. Rocks and minerals have been used to make the streets and sidewalks we walk on as well as the diamonds used to decorate the crown of the Queen of England! In fact, you probably use rocks every day.

Diamonds did not start out as diamonds – they formed first as carbon. All rocks form in a cycle, first igneous, then sedimentary, and finally metamorphic. Over time, igneous rocks are transformed by wind and rain. Then the sedimentary rock can be changed into metamorphic rock by extreme heat or pressure. If those rocks get deep underground they can melt and turn back into igneous rocks. Then the cycle starts all over again.

Igneous rocks are different sizes, colors, and shapes. They are found all over the world and come in over 600 kinds. Igneous rocks are made below and above the Earth's crust. Our planet is made of many layers. The top level is called the surface or the crust. Inside the surface is very hot lava, which is melted rock, and sometimes called magma. When lava cools, it gets hard and forms igneous rock.

People have used igneous rocks to make things for a long time. Once, people used obsidian to make tools. People sometimes use granite to make buildings. Granite is strong and doesn't break down in weather.

Sedimentary rocks are in and on top of the earth's crust. They are the most common rocks in the world. Coal is a sedimentary rock formed by plants that have been pressed between rocks for millions of years.

Sedimentary rocks can form from minerals. Dry stream, pond, and lake beds leave behind many minerals, which can build up into rocks over many years. Did you know minerals build and form rocks? Minerals also build up on shells and lots of pieces of sediment. For years and years sediment covers

sediment and that forms a sedimentary rock. The layers on top press down on the bottom sediment layers. After lots of years, the sediment-pack becomes a sedimentary rock! Limestone is a sedimentary rock, it contains lots of calcite and fossils. Fossils were once living creatures that died many millions of years ago.

Sedimentary rock can be used for many things. Cement, brick and tiles can all be made from sedimentary rock. It has even been used to make many famous buildings. The Romans used to use limestone to make the Parthenon. Sedimentary rocks were also used to build the Pyramids in Egypt.

A metamorphic rock is a rock that is created from igneous or sedimentary rocks through heat and pressure. All metamorphic rocks were once other kinds of rocks. Limestone changes into marble, slate turns into schist with pressure, then, with more pressure it becomes gneiss. The more heat or pressure applied, the harder the metamorphic rocks will become.

People use marble, a metamorphic rock, to make statues and buildings, the Taj Mahal, the Lincoln Memorial, and even our Nebraska State Capital were made with marble. People sometimes use slate, another metamorphic rock, to make roof tiles.

A lot of people like to collect rocks. There are many museums that have rocks for people to look at, study, and enjoy. If you'd like to start your own rock collection, the first thing you need to do is find rocks or buy rocks and also a container to keep your rocks in. Then you should study and learn about your rocks to tell other people. The tools that will be helpful to you when you are going to look for rocks, are a geologist's hammer, acid (such as diluted hydrochloric acid (HCl) or vinegar is a safer alternative) to test rocks, a streak plate to test the color, and a map so you don't get lost.

There are not that many precious metals. The most valuable metal is gold. Did you know that there is not that much gold in the world? That is what makes it more valuable than silver because there is more silver than gold.

Continued on p. 9

PEBBLE PUPS ****SPECIAL**** - CONTINUED

Did you know that geologists also study how hard minerals are? Diamonds are the hardest kind of mineral, and talc is the least hard mineral. Table A shows the ten-point hardness scale which uses well-known minerals to compare to.

For over 2000 years, traditions from different groups of people and religions have connected gems, crystals and precious stones to different months of the year. The specific stones haven't always been the same; they sometimes differ for different countries. Table B shows the most commonly recognized birthstones in western countries.

I hope you have enjoyed learning about rocks and the fascinating things on God's earth. As you read this, some rocks were being transformed into the beautiful things that you use every day, like the pencil in your hand or, perhaps, the earrings you're wearing. You could start your very own rock collection as long as you keep on learning more about rocks.

Table A. 10-point Hardness Scale

<i>Level of hardness</i>	<i>Name of the Mineral</i>
1	Talc
2	Gypsum
3	Calcite
4	Fluorite
5	apatite
6	Orthoclase
7	Quartz
8	Topaz
9	Corundum
10	Diamond

Table B. Birthstones

<i>Month of the year</i>	<i>Gemstone</i>
January	Garnet
February	Amethyst
March	Aquamarine
April	Diamond
May	Emerald
June	Pearl
July	Ruby
August	Olivine
September	Sapphire
October	Opal
November	Topaz
December	Turquoise

APRIL ROCK / GRINDING PARTY

The report from Wooly is that everyone at the gathering on April 25 had a great time. There were people working at faceting, others working on cabochons. Even the library got a little attention as some members worked on further organization.

Due to some technological difficulties, the picture below is the only one available from the April gathering. It looks like a happy crew!



UPDATES TO WHO'S WHO

Addresses, phone numbers, and other contact information may be obtained at the general meeting. See Secretary Marburger or Treasurer Lyman for the information.

Please correct the following in your Who's Who. Someone had "happy fingers" when typing, and made some incorrect spellings!

Jayne Beer is the correct spelling of her name. Please add daughter, Kelly Beer, to the family.

Brad Nielsen is the correct spelling, as is indicated by his e-mail address.

Welcome to new member Kathy Highstreet! Welcome back to reinstated members James Null; Betty White; Norman Balliet; Brett Jurgens; Nancy and Pat Akins, Sr.; and Terry Anderson with Pebble Pup Leahh Anderson.

COLOR P&S



Would you like to have your Pick & Shovel in color? It is available in full color on the club's website - www.lincolngemmineralclub.org. You may also request to receive the P&S via e-mail. Just send your e-mail address to the editor at lcmcsecretary@yahoo.com.

AFMS/CFMS 2010 Gem Show

Hosted by:
North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society

Games
Displays
Raffle Prizes
Gems & Jewelry
Sponsoring:
La Habra Youth

Fossils
Kids Room
Food

**Free
Parking**

HIDDEN TREASURES

June 18 - 20, 2010
Fri. - Sun. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

So. CA University of Health Sciences
16200 E. Amber Valley Dr. Whittier, CA 90604

Information: (626) 330-8874 - cdwarthen@verizon.net
or (609) 599-2450 - donogden@aol.com
cfmsinc.org - noogms.com

	L		R	E	T	A	W												
H	A	T																	
	K							O	L	D	S	H	O	E	S				
	E										A								
	B										L	E	V	O	H	S			
	E					B					T								
	D	H	C	N	U	L												F	
						C												L	
S						K									C	L	A	W	
E						E	G	A	R	I	M							T	
S						T									D	N	A	S	
S		S	U	N	S	C	R	E	E	N									
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S	E	L	E	N	I	T	E					M							
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Answers to Pebble Pup's puzzle

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