



PICK + SHOVEL

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

Lincoln, Nebraska

www.lincolngemmineralclub.org



Volume 53, Issue 8
April 2011

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Board Member

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Board Member

Charles Wooldridge, 402-416-3233
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GENERAL MEETINGS / ACTIVITIES

Regular monthly meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Bethany Park Shelter House on the third Thursday of the month: Sep., Oct., Nov., Feb., Mar., Apr., and May; the second Sunday in December; and the fourth Saturday in January. Youth activities begin at 6:30 p.m. on the same dates. Summer meetings and other activities will be announced as they are planned.

2011 Meeting Dates

Board

May 4
Jun Social: to be announced
Jul 10: Annual Grinding Party
Aug Social: to be announced
Aug 31 (Sep)
Oct 5
Nov 2
Nov 30 (Dec)

General

Apr 21
May 19
Sep 15
Oct 20
Nov 17
Dec 4

General Meeting

April 21, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Program: Stromatolites

Pebble Pups

April 21, 2011

Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
"Malachite"

Monthly Rock Party

April 16, 2011

Hosted by

Steve May

16300 Hickman Ridge Rd.

Roca, NE

(see inside for directions)

BOARD MEETING

Gere Library, Meeting Room 1, 6:30 p.m.

May Meeting: May 4, 2011

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Richard Peterson

The program at our general meeting in March was the River Rock Challenge. It was won by Charles "Wooly" Wooldridge, with Ed Ridge taking second in a field of four. Although I am the Program Chair, the evening was more of



an entertainment event! Thanks to all the members, and especially to the contestants who participated.

This President's Message is being written just a couple of days before the setup for our 53rd Annual Show. I am looking forward to another great show ... as I am sure it will be. They say that hindsight is 20/20 but, in this case, I will look ahead with clarity and know that you all enjoyed the show. The planning for our 54th Annual Show in 2012 has already begun.

SCIENTIST SUNDAYS

Sunday with a Scientist

UNL: Morrill Hall

Program Schedule

April 17:	Fruit Diversity
May 15:	Extreme Weather
June 19:	Tissue Mechanics
July 17:	Fishes of Nebraska
August 21:	Climate Change
September 18:	Plants, Feeding the World
October 16:	Fossils
November 20:	Viruses
December 18:	Minerals & Gemstones

Hobby Fun

Would you like to have some hobby fun? Consider hosting a monthly Rock Party. It doesn't matter where you hold it. All you have to do is set the date and time, provide place settings for the potluck, and have areas to work in and chairs or floor to sit on. Let a Board Member know if you are interested in hosting.

April Rock Party

Saturday, April 16, 5:30 p.m.
Steve May residence
16300 Hickman Ridge Rd.





























Bring a main or side dish for the potluck supper. Remember your projects! (Rumor has it that Steve has lots of equipment!)

DIRECTIONS

- Go south on 68th Street from Saltillo Road (toward Hickman).
- Turn left (east) at Roca Road (flashing light).
- Go one block and turn right (south) on Hickman Ridge Road.
- 16300 is the 5th house on the left. The party will be held in the building to the south of the house. You may park in the house drive or the rock drive for the building.



REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE

																
	Apr. 21: Cake															
																
	May 19: Cookies															
																
	ATTENTION!!: Mary Pittard will be asking for host(ess) volunteers for the September, October, and November meetings. Let's see lots of hands out there!															
																
																
																
																

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2011, Bethany Park Shelter

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Richard Peterson. Twenty-six adults, two juniors, and one visitor attended. The visitor, Bruce Reinhardt, became the newest member of LGMC.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The March Rock Party will be hosted by The Jewelry Connection on Sunday, March 20 at 5:00 p.m. In addition to the usual food and fun, there will be a Pabian Memorial Committee meeting.

Charles Wooldridge directed our attention to the March 2011 issue of Rock & Gem magazine. Our very own Robert Cropp was selected as "Craftsman of the Month". (*See article in this P&S issue!*)

OLD BUSINESS:

The minutes of the February meeting were published in the Pick & Shovel. Charles Wooldridge moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Roger Pittard. Carried.

The Treasurer's report was read by Vera Lyman. Charlie Messenger moved to accept the report, second by Karen Messenger. Carried.

The Science Fair is scheduled for March 29 at the Lancaster Event Center. Exhibitors must be set up by 4:00 p.m. The event ends at 8:00 p.m. See Al Stewart or Susy McMahan for more information.

Our participation at the Girl Scout Annual Event will be Monday, August 1 from 1:00—4:00 p.m. at the Eastridge Presbyterian Church (1135 Eastridge Dr.).

Andrew Tiedje reported he will have a proposal on the Facebook Account at the May Board meeting.

There will be a short meeting following the April meeting to discuss a field trip to the Mt. Ida area in Arkansas. Field Trip Chairman Jim Marburger will research and provide information at the meeting. Alan Jeanneret is unable to lead this trip.

NEW BUSINESS:

A call was made to enlist delegates to represent LGMC at the NAOESCE meeting during the show. We are allowed four delegates. Charles Woodridge, Richard Peterson, Ed Dvorak, and Roger Pittard volunteered. Robert Cropp will be an alternate, if needed.

Steve May has graciously offered to host the April Rock Party at his rock shop just north of Hickman. The party will be April 16 at 5:30 p.m.

SHOW REPORT:

Everything appears to be on schedule for the show. See Vera Lyman immediately to reserve your breakfast.

(Continued on page 4)

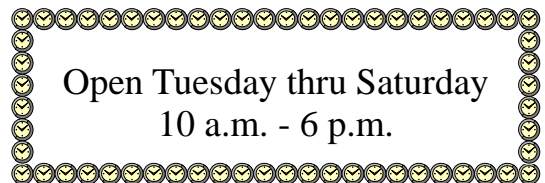
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

LGMC Board Meeting, March 2, 2011, Gere Library

The March Board meeting was called to order by President Richard Peterson. Board members present were Richard Peterson (“Pete”), Al Stewart, Ed Dvorak, Vera Lyman, Sharon Marburger, Robert (“Rowdy”) Cropp, Jim Marburger, Ed Ridge, and Charles Wooldridge (“Wooly”). Club members Judy Cropp and Pat Dvorak attended as visitors.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes of the February meeting were distributed. Vera Lyman moved to accept the minutes, second by Ed Dvorak. Motion carried. The Treasurer’s report was distributed. Wooly moved to accept the report, second by Rowdy. Motion carried.

The show preparations are coming along. More people have requested display cases. Vera reported she has secured security; postcards have been addressed and stamped; and breakfast has been ordered. The cost of breakfast is \$12 per person. Vera must have the number of people attending and their money one week prior to the show. Advertising is arranged and there will be four Food Bank cans at the door.

The Pabian Memorial Committee has a flyer for the event that Sharon Marburger was requested to publish in the Pick & Shovel. The Committee decided to provide fried chicken, tea, and lemonade. Attendees will be requested to bring side dishes and dessert.

President Pete would like to see the library inventory completed soon. The inventory will be made available on the website, and copies handed out to members who wish to have one.

NEW BUSINESS:

Wooly informed the Board that former club member, Mike Smith, had a severe stroke.

President Pete would like to see members carry a club business card. Wooly moved to authorize Jim Marburger to order up to 500 business cards, on plain cardstock, to include the information discussed at the meeting. Rowdy seconded the motion; carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. on a motion by Sharon Marburger, second by Jim Marburger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Marburger

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - CONT.

PEBBLE PUPS

The Pebble Pups voted to change the youth group name to Mineral Monkeys. So long, Pups; hello Monkeys! The group had a lesson on sapphires. Next month’s lesson will be on malachite.

The meeting adjourned to program at 7:36 p.m. on a motion by Mary Pittard, second by Karen Messenger. Carried.

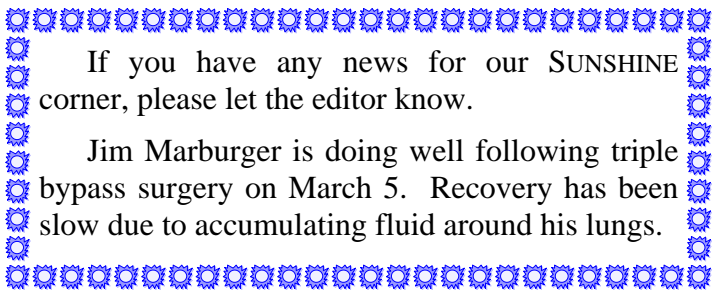
The program was a specimen identification exercise. A panel of Charles Wooldridge, Susy McMahan, Ed Dvorak, and Ed Ridge were given eleven specimens, collected by President Pete, to identify. All members were allowed to try to identify the specimens, and to assist the panel members. The contest was won by Wooly. This secretary is unsure what the prize for winning was, but Wooly was heard to shout out, “I won – I’m going to Disneyland!!!!”

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Marburger

Next month’s program will be a PowerPoint presentation on stromatolites, given by Charles Wooldridge.

SUNSHINE



If you have any news for our SUNSHINE corner, please let the editor know.

Jim Marburger is doing well following triple bypass surgery on March 5. Recovery has been slow due to accumulating fluid around his lungs.

ROCK & GEM'S CRAFTSMAN OF THE MONTH

Written by Robert Cropp for Rock & Gem magazine's Craftsman of the Month column. Published in Volume 41, Number 03, March 2011.

"This is a project I started at the second silversmithing class I took," writes March Craftsman of the Month Robert Cropp. "It uses Apache Dendritic Picture rhyolite from around Deming, New Mexico, one of my favorite stones to polish and certainly one of the rarer rocks to find. I met one of the holders of the claim from which this very unusual material comes last year, and have been a huge fan of the material ever since.

"First, I selected a nice section and cut it out of a slab in a freeform shape that saved the most picture pattern I could without making the cab too large. I then polished it on my Genie with 220, 600, 1200 and 1400 grit wheels. This particular rock is a little harder to polish than a lot of others and takes a little patience. It usually will not take a 'mirror' finish, but it does polish up nicely and has very unique colors and patterns.

"Next, I shaped a bezel around the cab and soldered it together with hard silver solder. The next thing I decided to do was solder a piece of square wire inside the bezel with medium solder, instead of using a solid backing sheet, so I could show both sides of the stone, as I had a really hard time deciding which side of the cabochon looked best. This was the most difficult piece I have ever done, as I found it very hard to solder this small piece in all the way around. I have only been doing silversmithing for less than two years and don't quite know all the tricks, yet.

"After that, I sanded the edges smooth. The next thing I did was take another piece of square wire and make a small loop on the top of the bezel for a jump ring for the chain to pass through and a small loop of square wire on the bottom for the beads that I wanted to attach to the bottom of the pendant. I soldered them on at the same time with a soft solder. I then smoothed out everything once again. After that, I made a jump ring out of some silver scrap and soldered it together inside the loop on top with soft solder.

"Finally, I got to put the cabochon into the pendant and polish the piece. The finishing touch was putting

two small garnet beads and a natural pearl on a piece of wire that had a blunted end and attaching it to the pendants.

"This is the most difficult project I have done to date, and I don't know if I could ever part with this piece, as it turned out much better than I thought it would. It was truly a joy to see the finished product."

Photo courtesy of Jim Atkins



2011 ALL AMERICAN

As contributors can attest, it is much easier to supply to Sharon Marburger the information for the next All American Club Award Application as the events happen. If you do any presentations, programs, take pictures at club events, or anything else to benefit the club, please provide copies to Sharon for inclusion in the application. Additionally, the application can be compiled as we go through the year, rather than waiting until the last minute - which creates a lot of unnecessary stress for Sharon. Not to mention you will receive her undying appreciation!

Thanks to Susy McMahan for sending a copy of her letter regarding Rockhound State Park! Great job, Susy!

MAPS, MAPS, WHO HAS THE MAPS?

by Jim Marburger

With summer coming, the rockhound in all of us turns to thoughts of collecting. But do we know where we are going, or where we are? For safety's sake, it would be nice to know and to be able to tell someone - or heaven help the 911 operator trying to locate where you are if assistance is needed. I know from experience it is hard trying to tell someone where you are in the field. A map of the area where you are collecting might be a good safety tool, plus notes can be written on it so details on collecting sites won't be forgotten. GPS coordinates can be added to the map if you have a portable unit, or saved in the unit so you can find the sweet spot again.

So, where can one get a great county map for the 93 counties in Nebraska for a very reasonable cost? Well, we are blessed in this state because the Nebraska Department of Roads has available to be downloaded to your computer a complete set of county maps. Most of the maps have been updated to include the road names and many new items that have changed.

The maps contain a revision date so you know when the information was updated. The web site is <http://www.dor.state.ne.us/maps/countymaps.htm>.

There are instructions on how to download or print on this site. For most people, the Adobe PDF file is the easiest to use at home. If printed to full size, the maps will be about 22 inches by 45 inches. The printing will have to be done on a plotter which can be found at print stores like FedEx/Kinkos. The approximate cost of a full size map is about \$6.00 each. Or you can print the maps on 8 ½ by 11 sheets at home by using the Adobe tools to zoom in and do multiple prints to cover the area that you are working in. The other option to printing the maps would be to download the maps to a laptop computer that you take to the field with you. The PDF files can be saved on the computer or to a media stick for safekeeping.

SPECIMENS FOR SCHOOLS

by Sharon Marburger

We are again collecting samples for the Lincoln Public Schools' (LPS) 5th grade science classes. The requested specimens are to be 1 to 2 inches in size, and 12 to a bag. If possible, a minimum of 12 bags are requested per specimen. (To help with the confusion, this would be 144 pieces of any one specimen.) The bagged specimens are to be given to Vera Lyman for delivery to the LPS contact. The list of requested specimens is below:

1	Quartz	13	Obsidian
2	Feldspar	14	Pumice
3	Mica	15	Sandstone
4	Calcite	16	Shale
5	Halite	17	Limestone
6	Talc	18	Chalk
7	-----	19	Coal
8	Pyrite	20	Marble
9	Copper Sulfide	21	Slate
10	Sulpher	22	Quartzite
11	Granite	23	Petrified Wood
12	Basalt	24	Fossil Gastropods

Silversmithing classes

**The Jewelry Connection Ltd.
Indian Village Shopping Ctr.
13th & Arapahoe, Lincoln**

Tuesdays

May 3, 2011

thru

June 21, 2011

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Tuition: \$100 plus \$25 supply deposit

Contact:

Jayne Beer 402-890-3307

Judith Bay 402-423-7058

or e-mail

jbeer60070@aol.com

MINERAL MONKEYS



Hello Monkeys! We officially say good-bye to the Pebble Pups as you voted your group be named “Mineral Monkeys”. Nope, it’s not an April Fools joke. We look forward to some articles and drawings by our Monkeys in future issues.

Mrs. Thiessen will have a lesson on **malachite** at the April meeting. I have put together a puzzle of words associated with malachite, and some locations where it is found. Happy hunting!

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| ADAMANTINE | CARBONATE | MALACHITE | SOFT |
| ARIZONA | COPPER | MONOCLINIC | STALACTITIC |
| AUSTRALIA | CRYSTALLINE | NAMBIA | VITREOUS |
| BANDED | FRANCE | PRISMATIC | ZAIRE |
| BOTRYOIDAL | GLOBULAR | SIBERIA | |
| BRITTLE | GREEN | SILKY | |

Photos courtesy of Jim Atkins and Sharon Marburger

Puzzle manually created by Sharon Marburger.



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

2011 POST-SHOW MINI-REPORT

by Roger Pittard

Overall, I felt the show went VERY well although the attendance definitely could have been better! The weather was about perfect which was probably the main reason for the short numbers. However, as Floor Chairman, I was pleased with the way it all fell into place, with no major problems.

I was surprised at the popularity of the fluorescent display; it was very busy throughout most of the show. Some of the younger crowd were back two or three times and they seemed to enjoy it.

We had a good, diverse selection of dealers and, although I didn't quiz any of them, I didn't hear any complaints. [Editor's Note: The Dealer Chairman told me the dealers were all satisfied with the show, considering the poor economy these days.] The displays were very good, and the amber exhibit drew several nice comments.

Two of my great-granddaughters visited, with their parents in tow, from San Antonio, Texas, and they really enjoyed their time spent at the junior booth, digging for gems, racing rocks, and spinning the "Wheel of Rock Fortune".



Show photos courtesy of Jim Atkins

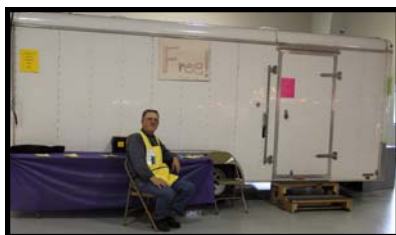


Photo and caption courtesy of Jayne Beer



Charles "Wooly" Wooldridge and Jim Null sing "Happy Trails to You" at the close of the 2011 Gem and Mineral Show. They did a great job and I am so glad that they kept this tradition alive!! A fitting close to the show dedicated to Roger Pabian. Happy Trails Roger!!!

ROGER PABIAN MEMORIAL PARTY

by Jayne Beer

The Roger Pabian Memorial Party was a fantastic evening! We began with eating, of course. There was a fabulous spread of food. LGMC provided fried and baked chicken from Super Saver, drinks and tableware. All of the guests brought many delicious side dishes.

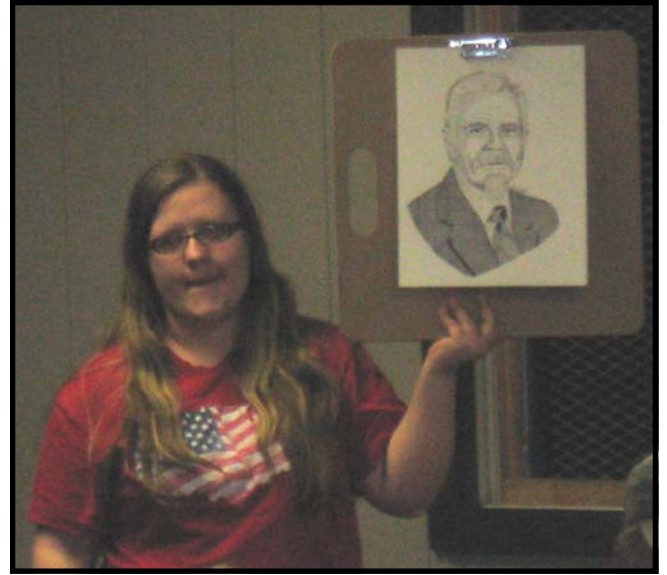


While we ate, we ran the slide show that Susy McMahan put together. It was a touching group of pictures from when Roger was a baby, to junior high, to in the army, to university pictures, to university retirement, to many rock collecting field trips, to a numismatic society show, and ending up with a heart-wrenching photo of Bill White waving good-bye.



Then Wooly suggested that every one stand up and introduce themselves and tell how they knew Roger, or relate a story about him. There were many tears and much laughter. It was overwhelming just to sit there and realize how important Roger was to so many people. He is truly, truly missed by so many.

There were about 75 to 80 guests at the party, including eight or nine people from Roger's family (his brother, Howell Pabian, and several cousins). I had never seen anything like this. Wooly had a great vision of how the evening should go and he directed it flawlessly. So many people came to me as it was winding down to tell me just how much they need this



type of thing to deal with the loss of our friend. At the end of the evening, Eddie Ridge was there until the end, helping to rearrange the tables, cleaning and sweeping, then being responsible to return the shelter house key.

When I got home from the get-together, I opened my e-mail and found that I had gotten a message from a friend of Roger's, Maziar Nazari from Iran. Here is a quote that he had hoped for us to share at the party. *"Richness is not our bank account or estate, it is the number of people who know and love us around the world. Roger was my richest friend."*



Maziar has an Agate web site and he and Roger had exchanged many stones and ideas for about the last 15 years. If anyone would like to check out the web site, it is www.iranian-agates.freeservers.com. He also has a link to Roger's agate lexicon on his site. Everyone in the club should spend some time at both sites.

Photos courtesy of Jayne Beer

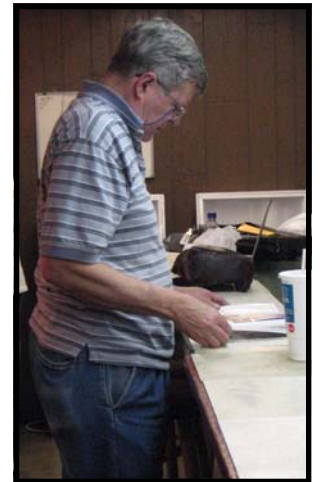
MARCH ROCK PARTY

by Jayne Beer

The March Rock Party was held March 20 at The Jewelry Connection with Judith Bay and Jayne Beer as hosts. Present were Judith Bay; Jayne, Brian, and Corey Beer; Al Stewart; Richard Peterson; Charles Wooldridge; Judy and Rowdy Cropp; Linda Guenter; Susy McMahan; Andrew Tiedje; and Jim Null.

First we ate - Brian and I made a large roaster full of corned beef, potatoes, carrots, and cabbage. Brian tried his hand at pecan pie, using his mom's old recipe that she has been making forever. He made two of them and they were almost all gone. I think everyone loved them.

We then had a meeting for the Roger Memorial. It was decided that we would get the chicken from Super Saver, a suggestion from Vera, since that is where she gets the chicken for the Christmas party. Richard said he would be happy to bring the club projector. Everyone chose a food to bring to the memorial. The meeting was adjourned and a few people left, then the rest of us started on some projects. Mostly we talked and relaxed and enjoyed each others' company. Andrew shared several great ideas that he has for the club's future. I love his enthusiasm. I cannot remember what time we finished up, but I very much enjoyed having everyone down at The Jewelry Connection for the evening.



Mark your calendars! The April Rock Party will be hosted by Steve May in Hickman on April 16!

J J & L Rocks & Minerals

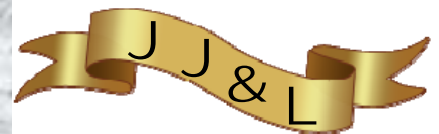
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STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRMEN

Audit	John Harrison
	James Marburger
	Ed Dvorak
Christmas Party	Edward Ridge
Education / Librarian	Charles Wooldridge
	Judy Cropp
Field Trips	James Marburger
Geology Day Coordinator	Aulden Stewart
Grinding Party	Aulden Stewart
Historian	Sharon Marburger
Legislative Liaison	Richard Peterson
Membership Record	Edward Ridge
MWF Liaison	Vera Lyman
Programs	Richard Peterson
Property	James Marburger
Refreshments / Door Prizes	Mary Pittard
Scholarship	Vera Lyman
Show—2012	Charles Wooldridge
Swap—2012	Richard Peterson
Website	Jim Atkins
Youth Activities	Stella Thiessen
	Vera Lyman
	Kay Jurgens

ADVERTISING, SUBSCRIPTION, AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Advertising by rock / hobby business or interest is permitted with the approval of the Board of Directors. Contact the Editor with your proposed ad. The rate is set at \$20.00 per full page; \$10.00 per 1/2 page; \$5.00 per 1/4 page (minimum) per issue, paid in advance to the Club treasurer. Ads will be placed throughout the newsletter as space permits.

Subscription to the Pick & Shovel is \$15.00 per year for mailed copy.

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

- Adults (age 16 and over) - \$15 per year or \$25 per couple (within the same household)
- Juniors - \$2 per year (with a responsible adult)

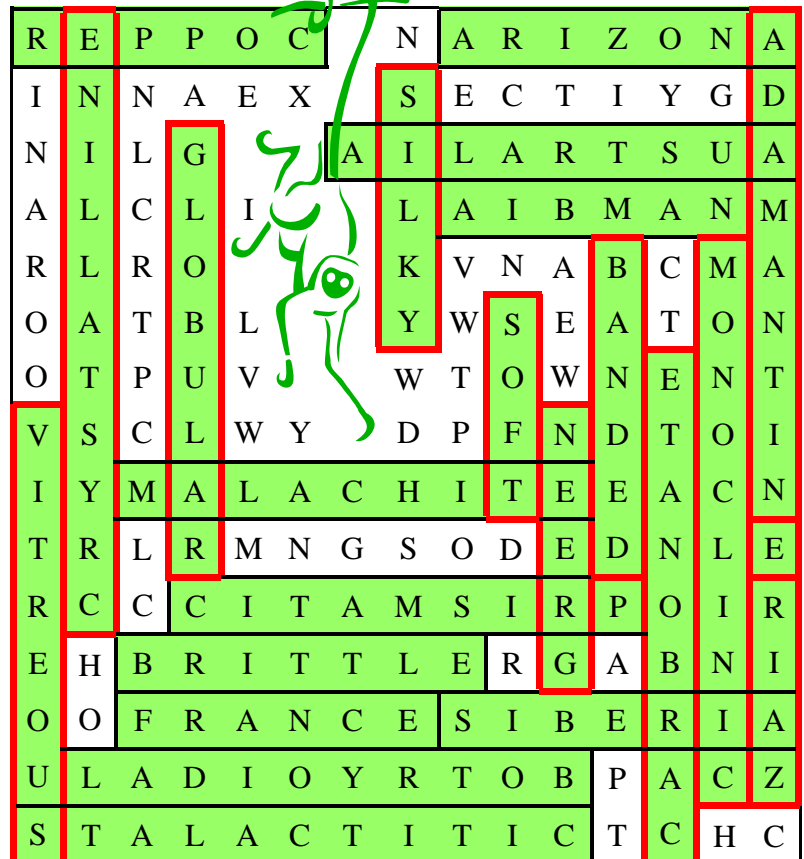
All new memberships must be accompanied by a written application. Prospective members must gain Board approval and attend one regular meeting before being approved for membership.

LONG RANGE PLANNING & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1 year	Edward Ridge
	Robert Cropp
2 years	Charles Wooldridge
	Sharon Marburger
3 years	Vera Lyman
	John Harrison

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

3 years	Brad Nielsen
	Roger Pittard
2 years	Robert Cropp
	Judy Cropp
1 year	Vera Lyman
	Edward Ridge



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PICK & SHOVEL

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