



PICK & SHOVEL

P.O. Box 5342, Lincoln, Nebraska 68505-0342, www.lincolngemmineralclub.org

Volume 54, Issue 6
February 2012



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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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 first 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.

Calendar of 2012 Meeting Dates

<u>Board</u>	<u>General</u>
Feb. 29	Mar. 15
Apr. 4	Apr. 19
May 2	May 17
Sep. 5	Sep. 20
Oct. 3	Oct. 18
Nov. 1	Nov. 15
Nov. 28	Dec. 2

February Meeting
February 16, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

Mineral Monkeys
6:30 p.m.

Program: "Treasure Hunting"

February Rock Party

February 18, 2012, 5:00 p.m.
at the Marburgers
See announcement on page 3.

Special Activities

Geology Day	Feb. 12
Pfizer/LPS/Novartis Science Fair	Mar. 27
Show	Apr. 7-8
Grinding Party	Jul. 8

National or Regional Events

FEBRUARY 25-26: ROSEVILLE, MN.
Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club's Pre-Spring Show; Har Mar Mall, 2100 Snelling; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; CONTACT: Martha Miss, 8445 Grange Blvd., Cottage Grove, MN, 55016, 651.459.0343, info@rockbiz.biz.

SUNSHINE CORNER

Thanks to Vera Lyman for once again providing Anniversary Cake at the January meeting.

Membership

Happy Anniversary to:

I apologize. I have misplaced my research and cannot name those who have anniversaries this month.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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padr20@yahoo.com

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Board Member

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Board Member

Edward Ridge, 402-477-8469

Board Member

Charles Wooldridge, 402-416-3233
charles.wooldridge@nebraska.gov

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Richard Peterson

Our annual Mid-Winter Rock Swap & Sale was a huge success and seemed to be the best since I've been involved. Maybe it was the weather. Nevertheless, the dealers quickly set up, using all the available tables. Soon the public was elbow to elbow. Whatever the reason for great attendance, it was an enjoyable time seeing familiar faces and participating in the chatter. Rock-wise and socially, it was a great way to prepare for another year of getting more involved in what we all love.

Next up is **GEOLOGY DAY** on Sunday, February 12th. This is an opportunity for members to show off their expertise and enthusiasm to a more diverse public. Hope to see you all there.



REFRESHMENTS SCHEDULE

Feb. 16: Mark Awakuni-Swetland/Wooly	Pie/Bar Cookies
Mar. 15: Ed & Pat Dvorak/Jayne Beer	Bar Cookies
Apr. 19: Stella Thiessen/Vera Lyman	Cake
May 17: Richard Peterson/Brad Nielsen	Cookies
Sep. 20: Sharon Marburger/OPEN	Pie
Oct. 18: OPEN/OPEN	OPEN
Nov. 20: OPEN/OPEN	OPEN

MONTHLY ROCK PARTY SCHEDULE

February	18th - 5:00 p.m.	Marburgers
March	24th - 5:00 p.m.	Ridge
April	To be determined	The Jewelry Connection
May	AVAILABLE	
June	AVAILABLE	
July	AVAILABLE	
August	AVAILABLE	
September	AVAILABLE	

2012 DUES

If you have not yet paid your dues, you may reinstate your membership by paying a \$5 late fee in addition to the dues. Even with the late fee, your dues are a bargain!

March 27, 2012: Pfizer/LPS/Novartis Science Fair

Details next month

BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify. The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known solder. What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.

INEXPENSIVE ELECTRIC WAX PEN

You can make your own wax pen from a small soldering iron plugged into a light dimmer switch for heat control. Both components are easily found at Radio Shack, a big hardware store or at Harbor Freight. Set the dimmer control just hot enough to melt the wax without producing any smoke.

Look for a soldering iron of around 25-30 watts. File the tip to the shape you prefer or, even better, get a soldering iron with replaceable tips. Then you can make several tip shapes for different tasks.

For an example of the dimmer and soldering iron, see www.harborfreight.com items #43060 and #47887.

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at
groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/
 or
facebook.com/BenchTips

February Rock Party

Marburger Residence

334 Locust, Hickman

February 18, 2012

5:00 p.m.

We shall serve Italian cuisine.

We



Rock Parties

Bring your equipment
 and be prepared
 to have a lovely time!

J J & L Rocks & Minerals

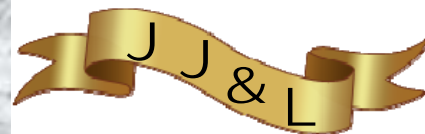
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Proudly serving
 the hobby for
 36 years

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

LGMC General Meeting, January 28, 2012, Bethany Park Shelter House

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Marburger, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by President Richard Peterson following the annual Mid-Winter Swap and pizza supper. Three Mineral Monkeys and 22 adult members were present.

MINERAL MONKEYS

The youth were presented with the Future Rockhounds of America ("FRA") badge. Vera Lyman has offered to make sashes for the kids to affix their badges. Stella Thiessen and Andrew Tiedje will begin the FRA program in earnest so the Monkeys can begin earning their program badges.

OLD BUSINESS

1. The minutes of the December meeting were published in the Pick & Shovel. Charles Wooldridge moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Andrew Tiedje. Carried.

2. The Treasurer's report was read by Vera Lyman. Mark Awakuni-Swetland moved to accept the report as read, second by Jim Marburger. Carried.

3. President Peterson submitted his proposed budget for 2012. Vera Lyman moved the proposed budget be approved, second by Ed Dvorak. Carried.

4. Reminder that Geology Day is February 12. Lincoln Parks and Recreation has completed renovations on the Chet Ager Building at the Pioneers Park Nature Center. Geology Day will be held at the Chet Ager Building, as usual.

5. The LPS/Pfizer/Novartis Science Fair will be held in March. Check the Pick & Shovel for the date.

6. The General Information Sheet has been transformed into a tri-fold brochure. Kudos to Jackie Barnhardt for the idea and to Sharon Marburger for putting it together. The sheet is attractive and much easier to read.

7. Richard Peterson has made arrangements with the Zoo School for he and Jim Marburger to

assist with specimen identification. Anyone may assist; contact Richard.

8. The next Rock Party will be hosted by the Marburgers on February 18 at 5:00 p.m. Ed Ridge has offered to host the March party. More info later.

NEW BUSINESS

Sharon Marburger has tendered her resignation as Secretary, effective at the end of 2012. Contact Charles Wooldridge, Nominating Committee Chairman, with ideas or suggestions for nominees. Article II, Section 2(d) of the club by-laws states:

The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of this club and of the Board of Directors, and such other meetings as may be called. He/She shall maintain at all times an accurate list of members of this organization.

However, Sharon has indicated she will continue to maintain the membership list.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Show

There is one confirmed special feature at this time, but we are still looking for more. Six selling demos and 4 non-selling demos are lined up. Richard has a nice variety of speakers and programs arranged.

Swap

Preliminary numbers indicate this year's swap may be a record for vendors, visitors, and sales. Treasurer Lyman will report on this next month.

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

Stella Thiessen received the adult reward and Corey Beer received the youth award. Congratulations! (See article in P&S.)

Anniversary cake, but no program due to Swap.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

LGMC Board Meeting, January 4, 2011, Gere Library

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Marburger, Secretary

The January Board meeting was called to order at 6:27 p.m. by President Richard Peterson. Board members present were Richard Peterson (“Pete”), Ed Dvorak, Al Stewart, Vera Lyman, Sharon Marburger, Robert Cropp (“Rowdy”), Jim Marburger, Ed Ridge and Charles Wooldridge (“Wooly”). Guests Judy Cropp and Pat Dvorak were also present.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Minutes of the December meeting – Jim Marburger moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Ed Dvorak. Motion carried.

2. Treasurer’s Report – Sharon Marburger moved to accept the report as printed, second by Rowdy Cropp. Motion carried.

3. Sunday With A Scientist – December 18, 2011. A reported 165 visitors. Very good attendance. Members demonstrating were Wooly, Ed Dvorak, Ed Ridge, Brian Beer, Jayne Beer, Corey Beer, Rowdy and Judy Cropp, Al Stewart, and Mark Awakuni-Swetland.

4. Geology Day – February 12, 2012 at the Prairie Building at the Pioneers Park Nature Center. (This has since been changed to the Chet Ager Building at the Pioneers Park Nature Center.)

5. Zoo School – Pete and Jim Marburger will help the students identify their rock collections sometime in February. Pete will make arrangements.

6. General Information Sheet – Sharon presented a draft of the sheet in tri-fold format. It was suggested to add the steps to becoming a member and to make a few minor changes. Ed Dvorak moved to approve the tri-fold layout with the changes and additions, second by Al Stewart. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Sharon received an inquiry about any local rock clubs. She will respond by sending a general information sheet and tell about Geology Day.

2. Pete is in the process of creating a program on “River Walking”. Sharon will assist by putting it in PowerPoint.

3. Sharon Marburger announced she is resigning the office of Secretary at the end of 2012. Wooly was asked to start looking for a nominee.

4. Rockhound of the Year – Upon Sharon’s nomination, Ed Dvorak moved to name Stella Thiessen the 2012 adult Rockhound of the Year, second by Wooly. Al Stewart nominated and moved to name Corey Beer the 2012 junior Rockhound of the Year, second by Sharon Marburger. Both motions carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. 2012 Show Committee – All dealers and most of the demonstrators have been assigned.

2. Library – Judy Cropp reported she has not had time to work on the library. Discussion ensued regarding long-term plans for the library.

3. Swap – January 28. Published in American Towns calendar.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. The January Rock Party will be held at Wooly’s, 5:00 p.m. on January 22. The main dish will be venison chili.

2. Wooly reminded that the 2013 Show is the club’s emerald anniversary and the MWF Convention.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m. on a motion by Jim Marburger second by Ed Ridge. Motion carried.

Geology Day
February 12
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

2012 ROCKHOUNDS OF THE YEAR



Stella Thiessen and Corey Beer were named 2012 Rockhounds of the Year.

Stella stepped up and took over as leader of the youth group in 2010. She has diligently attended meetings and has provided lessons to the Mineral Monkeys each month, as well as providing specimens to the kids. She and her granddaughter have run the Mid-Winter Swap Silent Auction for two years, and she has provided identification and rough appraisals to owners of antique jewelry at our annual shows. Her dedication is admirable and she truly deserves this honor.

Thirteen-year-old Corey is a dedicated hunter of rocks, minerals, and fossils. No matter where he travels, his eyes are actively searching for something to add to his collection. Additionally, he attends most meetings, field trips, Rock Parties, and other club-sponsored activities. You can find him with his grinding and polishing equipment, demonstrating cabochon cutting and other specimen preparations. Corey has been an asset to the club and we hope to recruit more youth with his enthusiasm.

LINCOLN CURIOS ROCK SHOP

6625 Burlington - Lincoln, NE 68507 [Park in alley]
(402) 310-3307

► SPECIALIZING IN ARIZONA PETRIFIED WOOD ◀

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- ◆ Great selection of tumble-polished stones
- ◆ Natural petrified wood for landscaping

Open Tuesday thru Saturday
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

MINERAL MONKEYS



Hi Monkeys!



President Peterson presents to Corey the FIRST Junior Rockhound of the Year award.

Corey has nearly perfect attendance at meetings, attends the majority of field trips, and is present at most of the monthly Rock Parties. He can be found looking for specimens and then grinding and polishing them. He definitely has earned the award!

The Silent Auction Rap
by Leahh & Makenzie

(The Timer)

It did not ring.
Oh yes it did.
It did not ring.
Oh yes it did.
It did not ring.
Don't deny it!

Corey, Makenzie, and Ellie were presented with the Future Rockhounds of America membership patch. They will now move on to earning other badges in the program.



SCIENTIST SUNDAYS

Sunday with a Scientist
Snakes: past and present

Sunday, February 19, 2012
Afternoon event: 1:30-4:30 pm

This program for children and families will explore snakes of the past and present. Jason Head, Museum Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology, will present information about fossil snakes and their relationship to climate change. He will also talk about the discovery of the 60 million year old *Titanoboa cerrejonensis*, the world's largest snake. Herpetology Professor Dennis Ferraro will show visitors various live snakes of Nebraska. There will also be a 13-foot, 100 lb. Albino Burmese Python on display. Visitors will learn about these slithering specimens and the importance of their conservation.



Head comparing vertebra of extinct *Titanoboa* (right) to modern *Anaconda*.



Ferraro collecting data in the field.

'Sunday with a Scientist' is a series of presentations that highlight the work of museum scientists and those from other institutions, while educating kids and families on a variety of topics related to science and natural history. Presenters share scientific information in a fun and informal way through demonstrations and activities or by conducting their science on site. 'Sundays with a Scientist' takes place from 1:30-4:30 pm at Morrill Hall on the third Sunday of each month.

New Exhibit Opening:
Minerals & Meteorites

Saturday, April 20, 2012



Morrill Hall rocks! See a spectacular display of rare minerals and meteorites in the museum's Cooper Gallery in April. The exhibit will showcase Earth's incredible diversity of minerals and meteorite treasures from the collections of the UNL Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, as well as private donors. Regular museum admission charged.

Copied from <http://www-museum.unl.edu/events/index.html>

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.
presents its 54th Annual Show

2012: A Rock Odyssey

Saturday, April 7, 2012: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 8, 2012: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Lancaster Event Center

84th and Havelock, Lincoln, Nebraska

CHILDRENS' ACTIVITIES

JASPER

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

DEMONSTRATIONS

PETRIFIED WOOD

GEMSTONES

MINERALS

EQUIPMENT

JEWELRY

FOSSILS

BEADS

DEALERS

SUPPLIES

AGATES

FREE
PARKING!



FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Admission: \$5 per adult, children 11 and under free with paid adult.

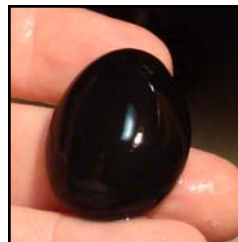
\$9 for a 2-day pass. Bring this coupon or can of food for the

Lincoln Food Bank for \$1 off admission for each adult in party.

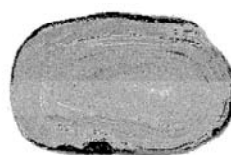
JANUARY ROCK PARTY

by Sharon Marburger

The January Rock Party was held at Wooly's home. We had his famous venison chili and several delicious sides. My favorite was Jayne's magnificent potatoes! Wooly played a video of collecting star garnets in Idaho. Then off to hobby work!



AFMS & MWF 2012 SHOW & CONVENTION



A Celebration of Agates

July 26 to 29, 2012

Seminars on Thursday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Event hours: Friday, noon to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Lindbergh Center at Hopkins High School
2400 Lindbergh Drive
Minnetonka, Minnesota**

The Minnesota Mineral Club is hosting a four-day agate show, in conjunction with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies.

Sign up for more information at www.minnesotamineralclub.org

- Celebrate agates!
- Celebrate collectors!
- Celebrate rockhounds!
- Celebrate Minnesota!
- Celebrate dealers!
- Celebrate kids and families

Silversmithing classes

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

Tuesdays

January 10, 2012

thru

February 28, 2012

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

Tuition: \$120 plus \$30 supply deposit

Contact:

Jayne Beer 402-890-3307

Judith Bay 402-423-7058

or e-mail

jbeer60070@aol.com

2012 MID-WINTER ROCK SWAP

by Sharon Marburger

The 2012 Mid-Winter Rock Swap appears to have been very successful. If not a record breaker, it came very close to being so. At times there were so many people, it was difficult to walk around. The vendors all seemed pleased with the sales, and the silent auction was the place to find bargains. The swap would not have been successful without the leadership of Swap Chairman, Richard Peterson; silent auction overseers, Stella and Makenzie Thiessen; greeters and swapper buck sales, Vera Lyman and Mary Pittard; all the vendors (swappers); members who helped pre- and post-swap; and, of course, those who attended. Thanks to you all!!



STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRMEN

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

**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

**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

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. February through December are still available. Let a Board Member know if you are interested in hosting.



Mail Exchange Newsletters to:
Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 5342
Lincoln, NE 68505-0342
Or e-mail newsletters to:
lgmsecretary@yahoo.com

PICK & SHOVEL

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SUBMIT ARTICLES, POETRY, OR DRAWINGS.

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