



PICK & SHOVEL

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

Volume 55, Issue 3
November 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. Youth activities begin at 6:30 p.m. Summer activities will be announced as they are planned.

General Meeting

November 15

7:00 p.m.

Annual Business Meeting
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Program: Not yet determined

Mineral Monkeys

November 15

6:30 p.m.

Lesson: Nebraska State Fossil
(Youth leaders were not in attendance in October for this lesson, so it is rescheduled for this month.)

Calendar of 2012 Meeting Dates Board

Dec: November 28

General

Nov: November 15

Dec: December 2
(Christmas Party)

TENTATIVE 2013

Board

Jan: January 2

Feb: February 6

Mar: March 6

General

Jan: January 26
Mid-Winter Swap

Feb: February 21

Mar: March 21

REGIONAL EVENTS

Nov. 10-11: FREEPORT, IL.
Northwest Illinois Rock Club's Annual Show; Highland Community College Student Conference Center, 2998 W. Pearl City Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4

Nov. 17-18: MADISON, WI.
Madison Gem & Mineral Club's Annual Show; Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-5.

Rock Party

November 10 at 5 pm

Hosted by Carrie Burkhart
2924 N. 57th (south of Adams)

Bring projects and specimens to share and discuss.
Don't forget your potluck item!

The theme is:
Give thanks to our veterans -
Red, White, & Blue, It's Up to You
Carrie will provide Porcupine Meatballs
(a dish from her military childhood)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Richard Peterson, 402-489-2996
padr20@yahoo.com

1st Vice-President

Ed Dvorak, 402-946-3041
ed20649@windstream.net

2nd Vice-President

Aulden Stewart, 402-483-1044
mmstewart@inebraska.com

Treasurer

Vera Lyman, 402-464-6089

Secretary

Sharon Marburger, 402-792-2348
lgmc.editor@windstream.net
new address

Board Member

Robert Cropp, 402-465-8432
rowdyrc@hotmail.com

Board Member

James Marburger, 402-792-2348,
jm24122@windstream.net

Board Member

Edward Ridge, 402-477-8469

Board Member

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Richard Peterson

November already, and that means my favorite holiday, Thanksgiving, is not far off. This also means that opportunities for going to the field are getting fewer and fewer. I am already hoping for lots of rain and snow, then more rain to swell the rivers. What new finds are waiting ...?

This is also election month, both nationally and for the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club. I feel we have a slate of candidates that reflects an interest in improving and growing the hobby we all love. It is encouraging to see some new blood stepping up to add their thoughts and ideas, and contributing to the club's direction.



It is Election Time again! LGMC Board of Directors Slate of Nominees

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| President: | Jim Marburger |
| First Vice-President: | Ed Dvorak |
| Second Vice-President: | Aulden Stewart |
| Treasurer: | Vera Lyman |
| Secretary: | Mark Awakuni-Swetland |
| Board Members: (Vote for 4) | Jayne Beer |
| | Rowdy Cropp |
| | Richard Peterson |
| | Ed Ridge |
| | Charles Wooldridge |

Nominations will be taken from the floor immediately prior to voting at the November General Meeting. Nominations will be accepted for all positions. If you or someone you know would like to be on the Board of Directors, make the nomination in November.

REFRESHMENTS

Nov. 20:

Al Stewart & Jim Atkins

Dec. 2

Christmas Party

SUNSHINE CORNER

November Birthdays

Mark Mueller
Ian Williams

CORRECTIONS

- This Secretary and Editor apologizes to Al Stewart for inadvertently not including him on the attendance at the May 2012 Board Meeting.
- The October Pick & Shovel incorrectly states the Board Meeting date being reported. It should be September 5, 2012.

WANTED

* New home for the Club Library

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2012, Bethany Park Shelter House

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Marburger, Secretary

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by 1st Vice President Ed Dvorak. (President Richard Peterson was touring Burma.)
- Members present: 27; Mineral Monkeys: 2; Visitors: 5.
- Minutes of the September meeting were published in the Pick & Shovel. Jim Marburger moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Jim Null. Carried.
- The Treasurer's report was read by Treasurer Vera Lyman. Charles Wooldridge moved to accept the report as read, second by Bob Gruit. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- Field trip to the Nemaha River: Terry Anderson shared the story of his find of a Native American axe head. Reports of finds by other participants.
- Columbus field trip: Corey Beer found a bubble gum agate with amethyst and also a Laker. Charles Wooldridge found a Fairburn agate.
- Elections: The slate of nominees was read. No nominations were taken from the floor (per club by-laws).
- Bill and Shirley Rockel were awarded Lifetime Memberships. They have been members for approximately 30 years, and have spent most of those years helping with the youth booth and silent auctions at the annual shows.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Lapidary Class needs grinding wheels for the equipment. Rowdy Cropp will purchase them from JJ&L Rocks & Minerals and will submit the receipt.

The class also needs donations of nice lapidary material.

- The November Rock Party will be hosted at the home of Carrie Burkhart. The theme will be thanks to veterans; Red, White, and Blue, it's up to you!

SHOW COMMITTEE REPORT

- Charles Wooldridge, Jim Atkins, and Jim Marburger met with Mark Harris to discuss joint advertising options.
- Share in advertising costs. Our share of ads in *Nebraska Life* and *Lincoln Kids* will be \$750.
- UNL will provide graphic artists to assist with ad design.
- Wooly has spoken with Doug Moore who has tentatively agreed to provide a special display and present a program.
- The request to Mr. Bones has been withdrawn. Our show budget for 2013 cannot handle his fee. We will consider asking him to the 2014 show.
- Wooly still needs someone to chair Programs (speakers).
- A request for a Special Features chairman resulted in Bob and Patricia Gruit agreeing to take the job.
- Sharon Marburger suggested that we consider eliminating the ribbons attached to nametags in future shows. The ribbons fall off or get in the way when working. She showed an example from a national show where nametags had color coded dots to indicate a person's affiliation and paid activities. This would eliminate not only the ribbons, but other tickets (like

(Continued on page 4)

J J & L Rocks & Minerals

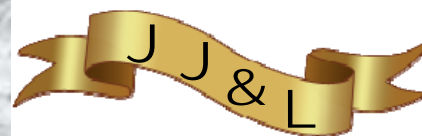
**P.O. Box 68
Hickman, NE 68372**

**330 Locust
Hickman, NE 68372**

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Lee Harrison
402.792.2337

James Marburger
Sharon Marburger
402.792.2348

jimandjohn@jjlrocksandminerals.com
www.jjlrocksandminerals.com
jjlrocksmin - Ebay Username



**Proudly serving
the hobby for
36 years**

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - CONT'D

(Continued from page 3)

- the Breakfast). Overall, it should reduce costs.
- Vera Lyman moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Rowdy Cropp. Adjourned to refreshments and program at 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

- Jim Null provided a PowerPoint presentation on Lake Superior Agates, which included a history of Lakers and how they were formed. Slides consisted of close-up pictures showing the various minerals trapped between the bands, and many beautiful specimens. Thanks, Jim, for a wonderful program!

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 3, 2012, Gere Library (October meeting)

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Marburger, Secretary

- Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Richard Peterson.
- Members Present: Richard Peterson, Ed Dvorak, Vera Lyman, Sharon Marburger, Jim Marburger, Ed Ridge, Charles Wooldridge. [CORRECTION: Add Al Stewart]
- Visitors: Pat Dvorak, Andrew Tiedje
- Minutes of the September meeting were distributed. Ed Dvorak moved to accept the minutes, Jim Marburger seconded. Motion carried.
- The Treasurer's Report was distributed. Jim Marburger moved to accept the report, second by Ed Dvorak. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Upcoming shows: Des Moines, IA; Springfield, IL; Omaha, NE
- State pins have been ordered
- The October Rock Party will be held at 5:00 p.m. on the 27th at the Jewelry Connection. Halloween theme.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Secretary pin dangle – Sharon suggested she give her "Secretary" dangle to the new secretary and order a "Past Secretary" for herself.
- Richard Peterson previously suggested participation in the Adopt-A-Highway program. This would entail de-trashing a two-mile stretch of

highway twice a year. The subject was to be presented to the general membership in September, but it did not get put on the agenda. It will be presented at the October general meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Jim Marburger and Wooly met with Mark Harris and Dana Ludwick at the State Museum. The museum will share publicity with LGMC in KidSpeak magazine and Nebraska Life magazine. They will also help with graphic arts layouts. They asked for an information booth at the show, and they will be a selling demo.
- Wooly had a request from a scout troop in need of their Geology Badge. Discussion of when and where. Jim Marburger agreed to provide the lesson to the scouts.
- Assorted rockhound items have been donated to the club by the Ralph Ulrich family. Several very nice Native American items are included. Wooly will speak with Mark Awakuni-Swetland regarding the ethics surrounding ownership and sale of said items.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 2013 Show Report:
 - Wooly reported that the request for Mr. Bones has been withdrawn. With our focus on emeralds and advertising for this show, the cost for Mr. Bones was not feasible.
 - Wooly contacted Doug Moore. He is contemplating bringing a special display and presenting a program on German Agates.
 - Still no response from the Kenfields.

(Continued on page 7)

“DOP - DANG IT!!!”

by Jim Marburger

If you have ever been in the lapidary hobby cutting cabochons, I am sure you have said that quote - and more. The dopped cabochon you are working on just popped off and frustration sets in. I hope I can help you to avoid this problem, no matter if you are new to it or an old hand, so here goes a short course on Dopping.

Dop wax is used to attach a stone to a dop (handle), to hold the stone for greater control in the grinding and polishing of gem stones. The wax used in lapidary arts comes in four softening temperatures and colors. Red softens at 140°F., brown softens at 145°F., green softens at 150°F., and black softens at 175°F. The type selected depends on the strength needed; the higher softening temperature is harder and will hold more with less wax. In general, green is a good all around and easy to use wax, with black being used more for the faceting arts where very small surface areas are used. Dop wax has been around for a long time. It was originally used as a sealing wax for envelopes or packages, with the family crest imprinted in the seal.

To properly melt the wax, many things can be used. Alcohol lamps, candles, 100 watt light bulb, a tuna fish can on the stove or hot plate, a double boiler, or an electric dop pot.

Safety First. Hot dop wax (runny or tacky) is



dangerous and will cause major burns when in contact with skin. It will stick to the skin and continue to burn the flesh until it is cool. Have a dish of cool water near the dop station so the wax can be cooled fast if it sticks and is burning your fingers. Another problem is a fire issue. Dop wax is flammable and will burn intensely. This is caused by the “flake

shellac” used as the binding agent in dop wax. It is important to keep the wax below the vapor temperature of the shellac. An electric dop pot eliminates the fire problem of over heating, but skin and flesh burning is still an issue.

The main points in the art of dopping stones are:

- ◆ The stone must be clean, dry, free of oil, dust or dirt.
- ◆ The type of dop stick used. From match sticks, wood dowels to metal dops.
- ◆ Correct sizing of the dop stick to the size of stone being dopped.
- ◆ Correct sizing of the dop stick to the size of your hands.
- ◆ Preheating of the stone being dopped. It must be warm-to-hot to the touch. **Caution:** If the stone is heat sensitive, such as opal, other methods of dopping should be used.
- ◆ Enough wax on the stick to make the transition to the stone.
- ◆ Center the dop stick on the stone.
- ◆ Square up the cabochon to the dop stick.
- ◆ After dopping, let the stone and wax cool to the touch by itself. Do not rush it.



If you are having consistent problems with the wax not holding, use fresh wax or add a pinch of “flake shellac” to the wax. Flake shellac is the same shellac that is dissolved in alcohol to make the old fashioned wood shellac finish.

To remove the cabochon from the dop stick (and it isn't a temperature-sensitive stone), just put it in the freezer for a short time (approximately five minutes) and the stone will drop off or pop off the wax due to the contraction factors of the two different materials. Or the stone can be soaked in a closed container of alcohol which will dissolve the wax over time. **Caution:** Alcohol is flammable. Also, the color of the wax could transfer to a soft stone.

Photos courtesy of Jim and Sharon Marburger.

OCTOBER ROCK PARTY

By Sharon Marburger

The October Rock Party was hosted by Judith Bay and Jayne Beer at The Jewelry Connection on October 27, 2012. Those present included Judith Bay; Brian, Jayne, Kelly, and Corey Beer and Kelly's son, Ja'zeil; Ed Dvorak; Judy Cropp; Mark Awakuni-Swetland; and Jim and me.

We enjoyed all kinds of "different" foods: There were three kinds of witches brews in cauldrons (soups), some cold witches brew (chili), red eyeball salad, brain parts with gray matter dip, toad wart and ghost coprolite salad, candied witches, fingers, mummies, and something I was afraid to ask about (top left in picture).

After gorging ourselves, we settled in for some hobby activities. (Yes, I know. Eating is a hobby for some of us!) As always, Corey entertained us by sharing some of his finds. He is the luckiest kid I know, when it comes to finding stones, fossils, and minerals. I would say it's because he is closer to the ground, but he is taller than

Photos courtesy of Jim and Sharon Marburger.



me, so that can't be the reason. After sharing, he went to the grinding and polishing equipment to work on some stones. I worked on a 38x52 cab-ochon until my cab popped off the dop stick (DANG IT!!!). I couldn't get the doming right without the dop, so I quit for the night.

Silversmithing classes

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

Tuesdays

October 9, 2012

thru

November 27, 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



Jayne, Judith, and Judy all worked on different silver projects.



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OCTOBER ROCK PARTY - CONT'D

(Continued from page 6)

Photos courtesy of Jim and Sharon Marburger.



Ed completed two wire-wrapping projects.

Mark drilled some freshwater shells, then ground and polished a couple of them.



Kelly worked on a beading project.



With Brian's help, we all listened to the Nebraska football game on the radio.

It was a fun night filled with calm and peaceful camaraderie. Those who don't attend do not know what they are missing.

NEXT ROCK PARTY IS NOVEMBER 10. JOIN US!

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

(Continued from page 4)

- Sharon Marburger asked the Board for feedback regarding business sized advertisements in the Show's handout program. It was determined that it is a good idea and it was suggested to charge \$25 per ad. General Excavating, who will provide material for the Parking Lot Field Trip, would receive a free ad. Vera Lyman offered to approach businesses to obtain advertisers.
- Nominating Committee:
 - The slate has changed due to the withdrawal of Judy Cropp for Secretary. Mark Awakuni-Swetland has agreed to the nomination.
- Ed Dvorak moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Charles Wooldridge. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

LINCOLN CURIOS ROCK SHOP

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

► **SPECIALIZING IN ARIZONA PETRIFIED WOOD** ◀

- ◆ Rough stones and fossils for the hobbyist
- ◆ Polished stone items for interior décor
- ◆ Great selection of tumble-polished stones
- ◆ Natural petrified wood for landscaping

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

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

by Sharon Marburger

Bill and Shirley Rockel were awarded Life Memberships in Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. during the October general meeting. First Vice-President Ed Dvorak had the honor of bestowing the award upon them. They have been members and have served the club for over 30 years. Congratulations Bill and Shirley!

Photo courtesy of Sharon Marburger



MWF YOUTH POSTER CONTEST

by David Rich

Theme: "Fossils of the World" A poster illustrating one or more Fossils that interest you, from anywhere in the world.

ELIGIBILITY: 1st through 8th grade: Each grade will have a winner. Ribbons awarded 1st through 4th place, the 1st place winner will also receive a prize.

CONTEST RULES:

- ◆ All entries must be presented on paper 12"x18"
- ◆ Include name, address, age, and school grade of participant on back of entry
- ◆ No three-dimensional posters accepted
- ◆ The title may be on front or back
- ◆ List of names of the fossils and why you chose them.
- ◆ All entries become the property of the MWF and Summit Lapidary Club

SCALE OF POINTS:

- ◆ Originality and Art Work--30 points
- ◆ Design--25 points
- ◆ Title--25 points
- ◆ Listing of Fossils and reason you chose them--20 points

YOUTH POSTER CONTEST - CONT'D

Artwork may be pen, ink, crayons, magic marker, paint or any other artist's medium.

DEADLINE:

Entries must be postmarked by March 2, 2013.

Send to: Jennifer Fike
P.O. Box 26276
Akron, Ohio 44319

Winners will be announced at the MWF Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska on April 6, 2013.

If you have questions, contact Poster Judge Jennifer Fike by e-mail at SLC.youth.poster.contest@gmail.com.

Contest information at Lapidaryclubofohio.org.

This article was published in the *MWF News*, November 2012, Issue 516.

I would like to see entries from LGMC's Mineral Monkeys. Get drawing, Monkeys!

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB'S
34TH ANNUAL ROCK SWAP
JANUARY 25, 2013 1:00PM - 5:00PM



BETHANY PARK SHELTER
64TH & VINE STREET LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

FREE ADMISSION
BUY - SELL - TRADE - ROCKS - MINERALS
FOSSILS - JEWELRY - EQUIPMENT

CASH SALES MUST BE COMPLETED USING SWAPPER DOLLARS. SWAPPER DOLLARS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE CLUB TREASURER AT A 10% SURCHARGE, PAYABLE BY THE BUYER.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB BOX 5342 LINCOLN NE 68505-0342
CONTACT RICHARD PETERSON 402-489-2996

MINERAL MONKEYS

Hi Monkeys!



See if you can find the state fossils in this puzzle. Happy hunting!

BELEMNITE
 BIVALVE MOLLUSK
 BIVALVE SCALLOP
 BRACHIOPOD
 COELOPHYSIS
 CRINOIDEA
 DINOSAUR FOOTPRINTS
 DINOSAUR TRACK
 DUCK BILLED DINOSAUR

HAGERMAN HORSE
 ICHTHYOSAUR
 KNIGHTIA
 MAMMOTH
 MASTODON
 PETRIFIED PALMWOOD
 PETRIFIED WOOD
 SABER TOOTHED CAT
 SEA SCORPION

SHARK TOOTH
 SNAIL
 STEGOSAURUS
 THEROPOD
 TRICERATOPS
 TRILOBITE
 TULLY MONSTER
 WHALE
 WOOLY MAMMOTH

Puzzle manually created by Sharon Marburger.

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| R | H | D | P | R | V | R | O | O | D | P | R | V | R | O | W | D | L | L | F | L | R | O | W | T |
| A | M | J | M | N | G | S | S | L | J | M | N | G | S | O | D | U | R | V | F | I | S | I | D | P |
| C | D | D | I | N | O | S | A | U | R | T | R | A | C | K | W | C | P | C | C | F | D | P | W | M |
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Answers on page 11.

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—2013 | Charles Wooldridge |
| Swap—2013 | Richard Peterson |
| Website | Jim Atkins |
| Youth Activities | Andrew Tiedje |
| | Susy McMahan |
| | 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)

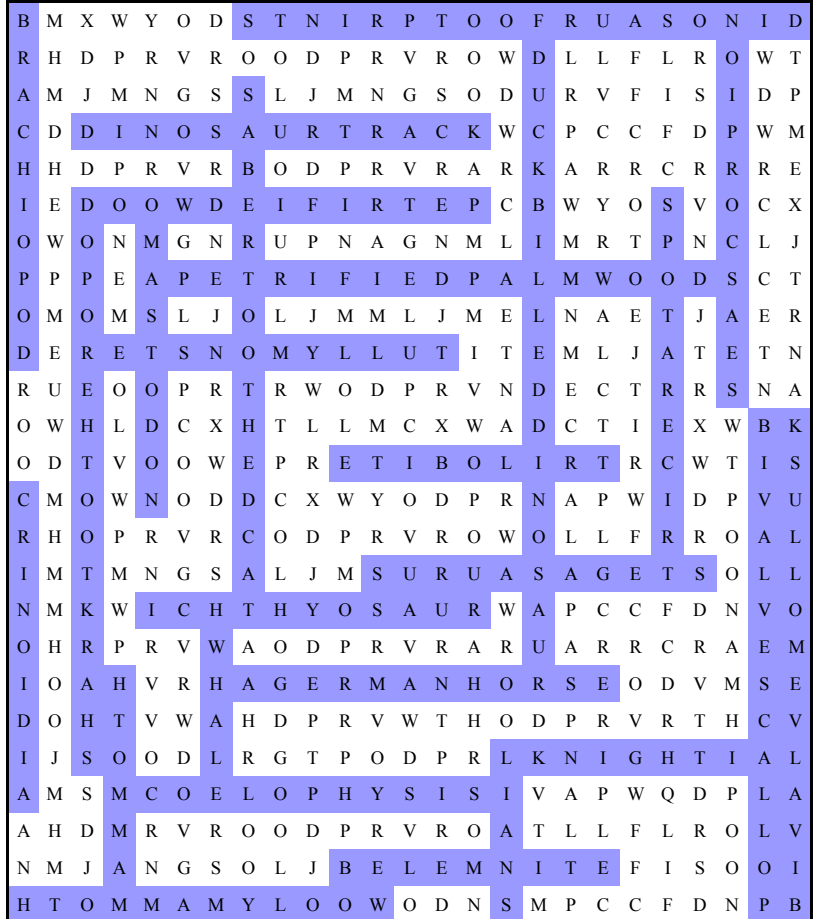
All new memberships must be accompanied by a written application. Prospective members must gain Board approval and attend one regular meeting before being approved for membership.

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 |



Mail Exchange Newsletters to:
Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 5342
Lincoln, NE 68505-0342
Or e-mail newsletters to:
lgmc.editor@windstream.net

PICK & SHOVEL

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YOUR PICK & SHOVEL STAFF:

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