



# PICK & SHOVEL

November 2017, Volume 60, Issue 3

Editor: Sharon Marburger

The *Pick & Shovel* is the official publication of the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska. Articles and items appearing within may be reproduced in other club bulletins, provided proper credit is given to the *Pick & Shovel* and the author.

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.

## 2017 MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

### General Meetings:

Regular monthly meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Bethany Park Shelter House. Youth activities begin at 6:00 p.m.

November 16

December 3

January 27, 2018 Mid-Winter Swap

### Board Meetings:

Board Meetings, unless otherwise stated, begin at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, at the home of Vera Lyman.

Dec: November 29

Jan: January 3, 2018

### Activities:

November Rock Party

November 19, 2017 @ 5:00 p.m.

The Jewelry Connection

December Rock Party

December 16, 2017 @ 5:00 p.m.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Jayne Beer

Greetings!

Don't forget the upcoming general meeting on Thursday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m. (6:00 p.m. for the youth group); held at the usual spot, Bethany Park (66th & Vine). This month is elections! Be there and make your vote heard!



Unfortunately, I missed the October meeting because I made a quick run to Texas to a favorite aunt's funeral. The trip was nice and it was good to see some relatives that I only see at funerals anymore. Corey, my sister, and I did squeeze out a few hours to go rock collecting and find a rock shop. We went to Llano, Texas, which was about 45 minutes away from where we were staying. The shop was called "Enchanted Rocks & Jewelry". It was a nice shop and the owner was great to talk to. He suggested a spot along the river that runs through town and we spent some time looking through river rock. We didn't find much, but we enjoyed the time we spent looking. We plan to bring the things that we found to the November meeting for show and tell.

Judith Bay and my family and I will be hosting the November Rock Party at The Jewelry Connection (13th & Arapahoe) on Sunday, November 19th at 5:00 p.m. The food theme will be soup and comfort foods. We have hosted the November Rock Party since 2011. Our friend in the club, Roger Pabian, hosted the November 2010 party with soup as a theme shortly before he passed away in Dec 2010. I enjoy keeping the tradition going. We hope to see you there.

I'll just end by dropping a reminder here for the club's Christmas party. It will be Sunday, December 3rd at the Bethany Park Shelter. It is always a fun time! SAVE THE DATE!

CHEERS!

## November Birthdays

Pat Grimet

Gene Mulinex

*Happy Birthday!*



Where Jayne and Corey hunted for rocks in Texas.



### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTIONS

November is the month for Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.'s annual business meeting, which means it is time for elections. We have a nice slate to choose from, so come to the meeting and have your voice heard!

The Nominating Committee Chairman, Ed Dvorak, will accept additional nominations from the floor during the meeting. If you would like to take on a position, please let Ed know.

At this time, the slate is as follows:

President: Jayne Beer  
 First Vice: Charles Wooldridge  
 Second Vice: Ed Ridge  
 Secretary: James Marburger  
 Treasurer: Vera Lyman  
 Board (vote for 4): Carolyn Ashmore  
 Phillip Ashmore  
 Corey Beer  
 Ed Dvorak  
 Pat Dvorak

Long Range Planning Committee:  
 Pat Dvorak  
 Bob Grimitt  
 Nominating Committee:  
 Vera Lyman  
 Linda Guenter

## November Rock Party

Who: Judith Bay & the Beers, hosts  
 When: November 19 @ 5:00 p.m.  
 Where: The Jewelry Connection  
 13th & Arapahoe  
 Why: To have tons of fun with other rock and mineral people, work on projects, eat delicious food, chat with others who have similar interests, learn something new!

The theme is Soups and Comfort Foods.  
 Bring your favorites to share.

Bring your portable equipment, and lapidary and silversmithing projects. Equipment will be available to use.

Share your knowledge with someone, or learn something new from someone else.  
 Most of all, bring your mind set to have fun!

## Silversmithing classes

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

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

**Tuition: \$130 plus \$30 supply deposit**

**Session 5: Oct 3 - Nov 28, 2017**  
**Schedule for 2018**

**Session 1: Jan 9 - Feb 27, 2018**  
**Session 2: Mar 6 - Apr 24, 2018**  
**Session 3: May 1 - Jun 19, 2018**  
**Session 4: Aug 14 - Oct 2, 2018**  
**Session 5: Oct 9 - Nov 27, 2018**

Contact: Jayne Beer 402-890-3307  
 Judith Bay 402-423-7058  
 jbeer60070@aol.com

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

By James Marburger, Secretary

**Board Meeting, October 4, 2017, Lyman residence.**

Meeting called to order by President Jayne Beer at 6:35 p.m.

Jayne Beer, President	Present
Charles Wooldridge, 1st VP	absent, but showed up later.
Sharon Marburger, 2nd VP	Present
Vera Lyman, Treasurer	Present
James Marburger, Secretary	Present
Ed Dvorak	Present
Ed Ridge	Present
Corey Beer	Present
Carolyn Ashmore	Present
Guest: Pat Dvorak	

Motion to accept the minutes of last meeting by Ed D., second by Corey B. Passed: 8 yes, 1 absent.

Treasurer Report was given out. Motion to accept by Ed D., second by Sharon M. Passed: 8 yes, 1 absent.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A letter was received from the AMFS Scholarship committee noting that with our last donation, the club is at 2700%.

Cynthia Casselman has accepted the editorship to the Pick and Shovel, starting in January.

SCC is still having the Lapidary class with Rowdy Cropp as instructor.

Jayne to bring the T-shirts in for the Mineral Monkeys to purchase.

Charles W. arrived and gave a report on the NAES meeting that was held in Omaha, and the organization's decision to disband in 2017.

Vera L. received a letter from the insurance agent stating a replacement agent has been assigned to us.

Show Contracts have been sent out.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Bethany Park Shelter House has been reserved for the club's 2018 meetings. The new deposit for the key is \$100.00.

Rock Party at the Dvoraks' on Saturday, starting at 3:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. by Sharon M. Second by Jim M. Passed: 9 yes 0 No.

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

By James Marburger, Secretary

**General Meeting, October 19, 2017, Bethany Park**

Meeting called to order by 1st Vice President Charles Wooldridge at 7:15 after waiting for a quorum to arrive.

Members 20 were in attendance. Visitors were Paul and Cindy Rohbaugh from Steinauer, Nebraska.

Mineral Monkeys had 5 members and 1 guest.

Minutes of the last meeting were published in the Pick and Shovel. Motion to accept by Paul Ashmore, second by Carolyn Ashmore. Passed.

Treasurer's Report was given by Vera Lyman. Motion to accept by Carolyn Ashmore, second by Sharon Marburger. Passed.

The Des Moines, Iowa gem show will be October 21 and 22 at the State Fair Grounds.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Reminder that elections are next month.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Jim M. presented a inquiry from the website on cutting a star ruby. No one wanted to do it so Jim will respond to the message and suggest someone else.

The November Rock Party will be at The Jewelry Connection on November 19th.

It was pointed out that there have been a few Facebook postings with requests that have not been answered. Many people have viewed the posts, but no one responded. Let's step up, folks, and provide assistance to those who ask.

Kansas City has the Show Integrity this month.

The Christmas Party will be December 3, from 5-9 with the club providing the main dish. Bring a hot dish and a cold dish. After the meal, we will play Rock Bingo! Bring something for Bingo prizes. For those who want to participate, there will be a gift exchange.

The club is in need of a program chairman to set up programs for general meetings. Please contact President Jayne about this position.

Motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. by James Marburger, second by Carolyn Ashmore. Passed.

Meeting adjourned to the program. After a slight delay, we had a good tape on collecting Smokey Quartz and pyrite.

### MINERAL MONKEYS

By Carolyn Ashmore

I first want to thank Susy McMahan for bringing some of her collection to the last meeting, showing many examples of the three rock types. The big chunk of pumice was a big hit, and the kids couldn't believe just how light weight such a big chunk of rock really was. Everyone had lots of questions for Susy about her collection.



At November's meeting, we are going to continue with Unit 1, Rocks and Minerals, taking a look at Nebraska's state rock, mineral, and gemstone. We will also take a look at crystal shapes. I have some fun handouts on how to draw crystal shapes, and how to grow your own crystals at home. If you have already made crystals at home or at school, bring them to this meeting. They are always fun to look at and hear how they were made.

I want to thank Olive for wearing her wonderful Halloween costume this year; she came as Obsidian. Olive and her mother couldn't stay for the rest of the Halloween meeting, so I will be bringing her prize with me this month. Congrats, Olive! Well done.

ROCK ON!



### OCTOBER ROCK PARTY

By Sharon Marburger

The October Rock Party was hosted by Ed and Pat Dvorak at their Dorchester home on Saturday, October 7 at 3:00 p.m. Always looking for a good rock time, the Marburgers showed up promptly at 3; and others slowly trickled in as the afternoon wore on. I was able to get some good lapidary time, cutting 5 stones while at the party.

Ed and Pat provided hamburger soup, chili, and pie. Some other foods were chips, finger sandwiches, rolls, more pie, apple pudding, and salad. I know I have forgotten some items, but it was all delicious!

After eating, some worked on lapidary and some watched the painful Nebraska football game. Those of us working on lapidary had a great time—I can't say the same for the others.



Corey giving Jaz a lesson on the Genie. The end product was amazing!

If you get the chance, try attending a rock party. They are lots of fun and you might just learn something new.



Two of the stones Sharon cut  
Montana Agate

## J J & L Rocks & Minerals

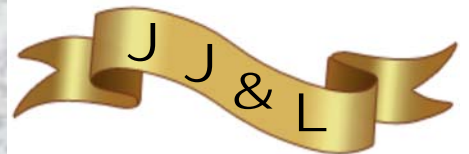
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Proudly serving  
the hobby for  
41 years

# NOTICE!

The Long Range Planning and By-Laws Committee met on November 1, 2017 to update the club by-laws. A copy of the revised by-laws, showing additions and deletions, will be available for review at the November General Meeting. The revised by-law language was presented to the Board of Directors for approval, and the Board is presenting it to the general membership for comments and discussion, followed by a vote to ratify.

The last revision was in November 2010.

# ADULT MEMBERS!

Please bring your items for the youth group's Christmas presents to the November meeting. This is your last opportunity to bring items. Call Carolyn if you have questions on what she still needs. We don't want to ruin the surprise for the kids by posting it here!  
C'mon people! Lend a hand!

## MISSOURI - THE CAVE STATE

By Sharon Marburger

I was recently sent a news article by a club member regarding caves in Missouri. It brought to mind a family vacation taken when I was 8 years old. The family drove from southern California to Illinois; the objective was to visit distant relatives. I remember one stop we made in Missouri; it was at Meramec Caverns. That experience left a deep and lasting impression in my young mind. I have been to several caves and caverns since then, but none live up to that memory of Meramec.

Here we are, a stones throw from Missouri. Did you know that Missouri has over 6,000 caves? My curiosity was piqued by the news article. Where can I find information on caves? A quick Google search took me to the Missouri Caves Association's website - [missouricaves.com](http://missouricaves.com). Wow! Below I excerpt what I found.

- Bluff Dwellers Cavern: Noel, MO. It was discovered by Arthur Browning, owner of the property, and two surveyors, Bob Ford and Bryan Gilmore, in 1925. There is a network of subterranean corridors channeling the layers of rock like a subway system. Two natural openings were found that had been hidden by hillside talus and slabs of rock weathered from the bluff face over several thousand years. The cavern was opened to the public for tours in 1927.
- Bridal Cave: Camdenton, MO. Rated as one of the most scenic caves in America, guided tours last approximately one hour. Travel through room after room of incredible mineral deposits, giant columns, delicate soda straws, and massive draperies. This cavern has more onyx formations than any other known cave or cavern.
- Cameron Cave: Hannibal, MO. Discovered in February 1925 by Arch Cameron while checking on his cattle. It contains a complex system of tunnels. With the exception of some safety regulations, it remains the same as when it was discovered.
- Cathedral Cave: Leasburg, MO. This cave is 15,639 feet long, with a few side passages and the portion known as "Upstream Cathedral." It is hollowed in Gasconade dolomite, which was laid down approximately 440 million years ago. The cave consists of two distinct sections: a larger passage and a much longer cave stream passage. This is a lantern tour that lasts approximately two hours, and covers one and two-thirds miles round trip.

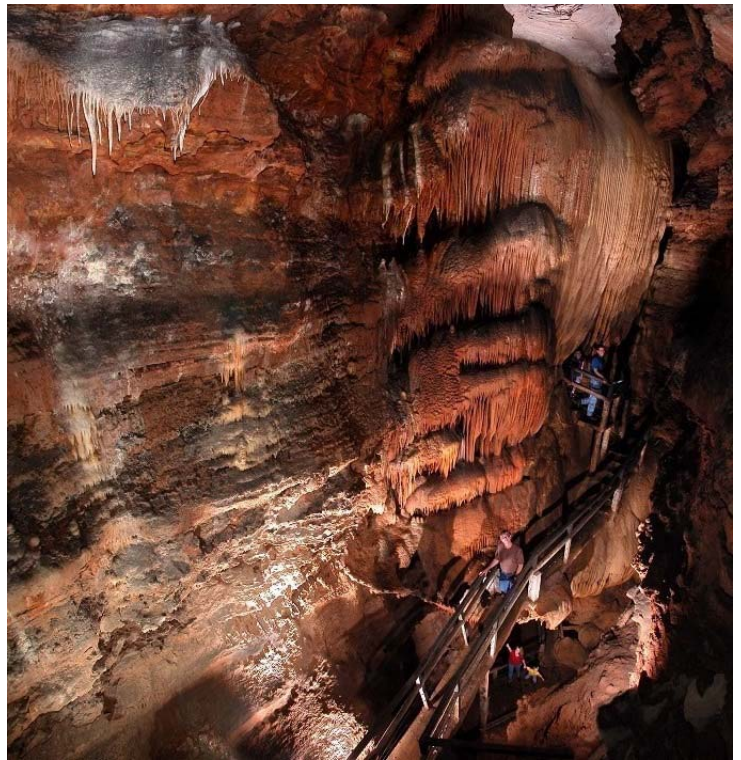
*(Continued on page 6)*

## MISSOURI - THE CAVE STATE - CONTINUED

(Continued from page 5)

- Current River Cavern: Van Buren, MO. This cavern was previously known as “Big Spring Onyx Cavern.” It contains a wide variety of natural cave formations, a year-round stream, and a small waterfall that flows from a side passage after heavy rains. There are a number of activities in the area, including cave tours, zip lines, a museum & nature center, gem panning, a gift shop and a quarry dig (where you can take home real fossils, geodes, & crystals).
- Fantastic Caverns: Springfield, MO. This beautiful cave is toured in jeep-drawn trams, the tour lasting about 55 minutes. This allows you to experience the magnitude, the stillness, and the splendor of the cave while preserving its natural features. Since it is a riding tour, anyone can participate.
- Fisher Cave: Sullivan, MO. This spectacular natural wonder offers seasonal, naturalist-led tours. Huge rooms filled with calcite deposits ranging from intricate helictites to massive columns 30 feet tall also contain well-preserved bear claw marks and cave wildlife.
- Jacob’s Cave: Versailles, MO. This is Lake of the Ozarks’ largest and most scenic cave. The breathtakingly beautiful fully guided walk-through tour is a mile long and on fully lit, paved walkways that are handicap accessible. Formations include soda straws, stalctites, columns, and helictites. There is also evidence of six ice ages and three earthquakes in the cave.
- Marvel Cave: Branson, MO. This is a wet limestone cave, complete with formations that are still alive and growing! Travel 300 feet below the surface to enter the Cathedral Room, which is the largest cave entrance room in the United States. The very strenuous tour lasts approximately 60 minutes, and nearly 600 stairs must be climbed. Not recommended for visitors with health issues or disabilities.
- Meramec Caverns: Sullivan, MO. Colorful and complex mineral formations are preserved in the spectacular sights of this cavern. Guided tours by trained rangers are conducted along well-lighted walkways that are accessible to the disabled. Meramec Caverns is the largest commercial cave in the state of Missouri.
- Onondaga Cave: Leasburg, MO. This cave has towering stalagmites, dripping stalactites, and active flowstones. Guided walking tours of just under a mile take about 1¼ hours. There is plenty to see and do if you prefer to stay above-ground.
- Smallin Cave: Ozark, MO. This was the first documented cave in the Ozarks and is historically significant. The town of Ozark was a centralized location of union activity during the civil war and there is strong evidence that Smallin Cave was used for war related activities. The tour lasts an hour and covers about one-half mile of walkways and inclines. Special seasonal tours are offered for varying prices. Enjoy the cave and this historic Civil War Site.
- Talking Rocks Cavern: Branson West, MO. This is a must see cave with a beautiful landscape of glistening crystals from Mother Nature. There are hiking trails and activities to do above ground, such as gemstone mining where you can take your treasures home.

It sounds like there is a cave in Missouri for anyone who wishes to explore. Take some time to enjoy nature underground. You will be thrilled!



A view inside of Talking Rocks Cavern.

Photo borrowed from <http://www.talkingrockscavern.com/Gallery>

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President**

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**Secretary**

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**Board Member**

Corey Beer, 402.466.6628

**Board Member**

Ed Dvorak, 402.946.3041  
ed20649@windstream.net

**Board Member**

Ed Ridge, 402.477.8469

**LONG RANGE PLANNING & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

Ed Dvorak, Chairman

- 1 year: Edward Ridge  
Rowdy Cropp
- 2 years: Charles Wooldridge  
Sharon Marburger
- 3 years: Vera Lyman  
Jim Marburger

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Ed Dvorak, Chairman

- 1 year: Vera Lyman  
Edward Ridge
- 2 years: Robert Grimit  
Sharon Marburger
- 3 years: Jim Atkins  
Andrew Tiedje

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Audit:**

Ed Dvorak, Jayne Beer  
James Marburger

**Christmas Party:**

Edward Ridge

**Facebook:**

Andrew Tiedje

**Field Trips:**

James Marburger

**Historian:**

Sharon Marburger

**Legislative Liaison:**

Susy McMahan

**Membership Record:**

Edward Ridge

**MWF Liaison:**

Vera Lyman

**Programs:**

Jayne Beer

**Property:**

James Marburger

**Recognition/Awards:**

Charles Wooldridge,  
James Marburger, Ed Dvorak

**Refreshments/Door Prizes:**

Vera Lyman

**Roadside Clean-up:**

James Marburger

**Scholarship:**

Vera Lyman

**Show—2018:**

Jayne Beer

**Swap—2018:**

Sharon Marburger

**Website:**

Jim & Sharon Marburger

**Youth Activities:**

Carolyn Ashmore, Cindy Ramey

**2018 SHOW COMMITTEE**

- Chairman: ..... Jayne Beer
- Dealers: ..... Vera Lyman
- Demonstrators: ..... Vera Lyman
- Displays: ..... Jayne Beer  
..... Ed Ridge
- Event Center Liaison ..... Vera Lyman
- Finance & Ticket Sales: ..... Jim Atkins  
..... Vera Lyman
- Floor Chairman: ..... Ed Dvorak  
..... Jayne Beer
- Fluorescent Booth: ..... Ed Dvorak
- Forms ..... Sharon Marburger
- LGMC Club Booth: ..... Charles Wooldridge
- Nebraska Gem Dig: ..... Charles Wooldridge
- Plants: ..... Ed Ridge
- Printed Program: ..... Sharon Marburger
- Publicity & Promotion: ..... Jim Marburger
- Ribbons & Recognitions: Sharon Marburger
- Security: ..... Vera Lyman
- Show Flyer ..... Jayne Beer  
..... Sharon Marburger
- Silent Auction: ..... Sharon Marburger
- Special Features: .....
- Web Master: ..... Jim Marburger  
..... Sharon Marburger
- Youth Activities: ..... Carolyn Ashmore

**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.

**PICK & SHOVEL STAFF**

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**REPORTERS:**

All members are encouraged to submit features, articles, poetry, or drawings.

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Or e-mail newsletters to:  
lgmc.editor@outlook.com



A color version of the Pick & Shovel is available at:  
<http://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/index.php/newsletters/current>

# PICK & SHOVEL

## LGMC HAS FOUND A NEW EDITOR!!

Say hello and thank you to Cynthia Casselman for offering to take over as Pick & Shovel Editor. We should all appreciate Cynthia for taking on this important job. The newsletter is the backbone of the club; without it, no one would know what is going on.

For those of you who don't recognize the name, Cynthia has been an LGMC member for nearly 10 years! She used to attend meetings regularly, but her employment hours changed and she had to work on meeting nights. Fortunately for us, her hours have changed again, so she is able to participate in more of the club activities.

So, LGMC Members, do your part by offering articles and bits of news for Cynthia to include in the Pick & Shovel. The newsletter belongs to all members; it is not a one-person job!

You may send your contributions to  
[cynthia\\_casselmann@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthia_casselmann@yahoo.com).

Let's make her feel welcome in her new position!

**Don't forget!**  
**Annual business meeting**  
**and Board elections.**  
**Also review of**  
**amended By-Laws.**  
**November 16.**