



# PICK & SHOVEL

December 2017, Volume 60, Issue 4

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.

- December 3
- January 27, 2018

### 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:

December Rock Party  
December 16, 2017 @ 5:00 p.m.  
Marburgers' Residence

Mid-Winter Swap & Pizza Supper  
Saturday, January 27, 2018  
Setup: 12:00 noon; Open to Public at 1:00 p.m.  
Bethany Park Shelter House

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Jayne Beer



Greetings fellow friends in rock! I have to start by saying a grateful thank you for electing me as president of this fine group once again. I know that I am certainly not your most "professional" president, but I DO care about this group and I will do my best to make this group the best it can be. I am sure that you all think that maybe after another year, I can hope to begin to follow these "Robert's Rules" that I am supposed to be using at the meetings. Well, we will see about that. Corey is also happy to once again be on the board of directors.

Thank you to the great members of the group who showed up at our rock party! It was once again a big success! Amazing food, but best of all, great friends and conversations! I enjoy opening up my shop to the club and seeing people just relax and create there.

PLEASE remember the club Christmas party on Sunday, December 3, 2017! It starts at 5:00 p.m. and the club will provide fried chicken and drinks and tableware. Please bring a side or dessert to share. There will be a gift exchange for those who choose to participate. If you bring a gift, you get to choose a gift. Up to \$10 cost limit. Rock related gifts. If it matters, mark it "male or female". Also bring fun things for the rock bingo prizes and come with your best BINGO! shout.

Let's all make the effort to support our new editor, Cynthia Casselman. Send her articles, pictures of club events, ideas for articles, and anything else that can be published for the good of our members and club. This is a very important job that Cynthia has taken on. Remember, "It takes a village ...".

If I don't get to see you before then, I hope that you and your family have a wonderful Christmas season!

## *Happy December Birthdays*

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Paul Ashmore      | Jim Atkins     |
| Mia Eno           | Aulden Stewart |
| Janette VanButsel |                |

**LGMC**  
**Christmas Party,**  
**Potluck Supper,**  
**And Awards Ceremony**

**Sunday, December 3, 2017**

**5:00 Youth Group Activities & Adult Social**  
**6:00 Potluck Supper (club provides fried chicken, beverages,**  
**& place settings)**  
**7:00 Short Meeting and Awards Ceremony**  
**!! Rock Bingo !!**

*Bring an inexpensive gender neutral gift for exchange (\$10 max)  
 Bingo donations welcomed*

## J J & L Rocks & Minerals

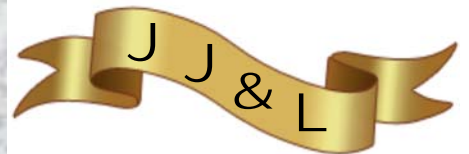
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**Proudly serving  
 the hobby for  
 41 years**

**MEET THE 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President: Jayne Beer  
 First Vice: Charles Wooldridge  
 Second Vice: Ed Ridge  
 Secretary: James Marburger  
 Treasurer: Vera Lyman  
 Board: Carolyn Ashmore  
 Phillip "Paul" Ashmore  
 Corey Beer  
 Ed Dvorak

**CONGRATULATIONS!****MINERAL MONKEYS**

By Carolyn Ashmore

Happy Holidays Juniors!!!

This December 3rd meeting is our Christmas Party. We start our class an hour earlier, at 5:00 p.m. instead of 6:00 p.m., so please don't be late. There will not be a regular monthly lesson this month, but instead we're all going to be doing a fun holiday project together that I picked out. Afterwards, there will be a meal, then awards are presented. Then we play one of my personal favorite games, ROCK BINGO!!!! The whole night is a blast!



At January's meeting, we will resume our lesson about crystals and the many types and shapes, so if you have any calcite, tourmaline, or any other favorite crystal at home, bring it to this meeting.

We want to thank Susy again for bringing some of her collection to share with us, and for the wonderful pieces of aragonite crystals she handed out to all of you for your collections. Thank you again, Susy!!!!

ROCK ON!

**Mid-Winter Swap**  
**January 27, 2018**  
**1:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**See flyer on page 6.**  
**You may copy the flyer**  
**and distribute it to your**  
**favorite advertising locations.**

## December Rock Party at the Marburgers

Saturday, December 16, 2017  
 Arrive any time after 3:00 p.m.  
 Eat at 5:00 p.m.

Jim will smoke some meat  
 and Sharon will make  
 hamburger chili.

Bring your portable equipment.  
 Don't forget your lapidary and  
 silversmithing projects.  
 Two Genies will be available.

Share your knowledge with someone,  
 or learn something new from someone else.

We plan to have a ton of rock 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**

**W i n t e r B r e a k**  
**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

No November Board Meeting minutes at this time. Watch for them in the January Pick & Shovel.

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES



By James Marburger, Secretary

### **General Meeting, November 16, 2017, Bethany Park Shelter**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Jayne Beer.

Attendance: 21 Adults; 8 Juniors. No adult visitors; 2 junior visitors.

Minutes of the last meeting were published in the Pick and Shovel. Motion to accept by Ed Dvorak, second by Jim Atkins. Passed.

Treasurer's Report was read by Vera Lyman. Motion to accept by Pat Dvorak, second by Allan Gossman. Passed.

### **Old Business and Announcements:**

- ◆ The November Rock Party will be November 19th at 5:00 p.m. at The Jewelry Connection. Soups and comfort foods.
- ◆ The Christmas Party will be December 3 at the Bethany Park Shelter, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Eat at 6:00. Club will provide fried chicken, beverages, and place settings. Members to bring both a hot dish and a cold dish for the sides. Gender neutral gift exchange, nothing over \$10. If the gift is gender specific, please mark "male" or "female" on the package. We will play Rock Bingo after the meal. Bring bingo prizes.
- ◆ Mid-Winter Swap is January 27, 2018 at Bethany Park Shelter, with pizza supper and general meeting following. Sharon M. will provide more information in the Pick & Shovel.
- ◆ President Jayne is looking for a Program Chair replacement.

### **New Business:**

This is the Annual Business Meeting and Elections. Nominating Committee Chairman Ed Dvorak asked three times each for nominations from the floor for President, First Vice, Second Vice, Treasurer, Secretary, and Board Members. Hearing none, Jim Marburger moved to close nominations and accept the officer slate by acclamation. Second

by Vera Lyman. Passed. President—Jayne Beer; First Vice President—Charles Wooldridge; Second Vice President—Ed Ridge; Treasurer—Vera Lyman; Secretary—Jim Marburger.

There were 5 people nominated for the four Board Member positions. Ballots were distributed to members; ballots marked; then ballots were collected and tallied by the volunteer assistants. The 4 nominees receiving the most votes were Carolyn Ashmore, Paul Ashmore, Corey Beer, and Ed Dvorak.

Jim Marburger moved to destroy the ballots, second by Ed Dvorak. Passed.

The Long-Range Planning and By-Laws Committee had met to suggest updates to the By-Laws. The last changes were made in November 2010. The Committee presented the changes to the Board of Directors at the November Board Meeting. The Board accepted the changes and recommended they be taken to the rank and file for review and discussion. After some discussion and clarification of language, Susy McMahan moved to accept the changes, second by Paul Ashmore. Passed. The newly revised By-Laws will be available on the club's website, or you may pick up a copy from Vera Lyman. Sharon M. agreed to update club forms to reflect the changes that were passed.

Cynthia Casselman was introduced as the new editor of the Pick & Shovel. Her tenure begins with the January 2018 issue. Cynthia requests articles and pictures be submitted to her as soon as possible so the Pick & Shovel can be published on time. You may offer handwritten items to her, or you may e-mail her at [Cynthia\\_Casselmann@yahoo.com](mailto:Cynthia_Casselmann@yahoo.com).

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. by Corey Beer, second by Sharon Marburger. Passed.

Meeting adjourned to the program, which was a video on West Texas red plume agate. Collecting was done on the Woodward Ranch.

NOVEMBER ROCK PARTY

By Sharon Marburger

The November Rock Party was hosted by Jayne Beer and Judith Bay at The Jewelry Connection. By the time Jim and I got there at 5:05 p.m., the place was filled with people. I was quite surprised because we are usually one of the first families to arrive at these events.

Jayne scrambled to make room on the table for our food items. There were many kinds of soup: potato, turkey noodle, hot and sour, vegetable beef, bean, and vegetable pork. There were biscuits, cornbread, and rolls; chips and cheese dip; turkey; and two kinds of salads. There were several desserts: pumpkin pies, cinnamon rolls, apple cake with caramel sauce, apple pie, lemon merengue pie, and caramel popcorn. Oh my! Enough food to feed half an army! And it was all delicious!

After the priority business of eating was completed, everyone spread out to their places of hobby work. Nick, Corey, Eddie, and I went for the lapidary equipment. Judith, Susy, and Elayna did some silver work. Others sat around and shared summer finds. There were some mountainous tales told of past field trips. Anyone entering the shop could tell that this group of people enjoy the hobby and each other. There was lots of laughter and good-natured ribbing.

Rock Parties are the events to attend if you want to learn any aspect of the hobby. There is always someone there who can teach lapidary. Several members can assist with stone and mineral identification. Want to know how to use your tumbler? Come to a Rock Party. We are a little short on attendees who can help with fossils, but we hope to change that. Jayne is at nearly every Rock Party; she can help with silver smithing. Both Jayne and Judith are excellent teachers in smithing! Susy knows about beads, if that is your thing. And, if you already know everything there is to know, you might enjoy the friendship and camaraderie, not to mention being a mentor to someone else!

The next Rock Party will be December 16 at the Marburgers' home in Hickman. Contact a club member to get the address. We look forward to seeing you there!



Nick, Corey, and Sharon hard at work in the lapidary room.



Judith & Jim



Susy assisting granddaughter Elayna master the silver smithing torch.



Eddie & Nick, deep in discussion



Corey telling Nykky a tall tale



Cabochon Sharon worked on at the Rock Party.



Elayna's finished bracelet. Twisted sterling silver wire entwined with copper. Great job, Elayna!

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB'S  
**39th Annual Rock Swap**

**Saturday, January 27, 2018**

**1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**



**!Free Admission!**

**Help the Lincoln Food Bank replenish its shelves after the holidays.  
 Bring a canned item for the Food Bank.**

**Bethany Park Enclosed Shelter**

**64th and Vine Streets**

**Family  
 Friendly**

**Jewelry**

**Fossils**

**Silent  
 Auction**

**Buy  
 Sell  
 Trade**

**Lapidary  
 Supplies  
 &  
 Equipment**

**Rocks  
 &  
 Minerals**

**Swapper Tables: ½ Table - \$10; Full Table - \$20 - Set up at 12:00 Noon.**  
Swappers are responsible for collecting Nebraska State Sales Tax and remitting it to the State.

**Cash Sales Only!**

**All sales must be completed using  
 SWAPPER DOLLARS which 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: Sharon Marburger, 402.429.3323



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President**

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JBeer60070@aol.com

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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:**

**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) - \$20 per year or \$30 per couple (within the same household)
- Juniors - \$2.50 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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Vera Lyman  
402-464-6089

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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

## BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

### MARKING YOUR TOOLS

It makes sense to mark your tools if you ever lend them to friends or take them out to classes or workshops. The question is how to mark them permanently. For metal tools, I use a very small ball bur running fast in the Dremel or Foredom to "engrave" my initials. Other times I'll form the initials with a number of hits with a center punch.

But for hammer handles and other wooden tools, the country boy in me came back and thought, "Why not make a branding iron?" If you'd like to try one, all you need is a little scrap copper or nickel about 22-24 gauge, a piece of heavy brass or copper for a base, about 6 inches of metal rod, and a piece of wood for the handle.

I formed my initials from a couple 4mm wide strips of sheet nickel. The "S" was one piece, but the "B" was three pieces soldered together with hard. (Remember to form the letters backwards). I then soldered the letters with medium onto a piece of 1/8 inch thick brass bar to act as a heat sink. Finally, I soldered a piece of 1/8 round rod on the back of the brass bar as a shaft to join to a wooden handle.

