



# PICK & SHOVEL

September 2018, Volume 61, Issue 1

Editor: Sharon Marburger

## 2018 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.

- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 2 (Christmas Party)

### 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.

- September 5
- October 3
- October 31 (November meeting)
- December 5

### Activities:

September Rock Party  
 Sunday, September 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.  
 The Jewelry Connection  
 Mexican Food! Ole!



## Happy August and September Birthdays

### August

### September

Rowdy Cropp

Brett Jurgens

Elayna McMahan

Vera Lyman

Karen Messenger

Brad Nielsen

Andrew Tiedje

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Jayne Beer

Greetings, fellow rock lovers!

I have missed you all this summer! I am hoping to hear your stories about your rock collecting trips. The meeting program on September 20 will be YOU. Please bring your show and tell items. We would like to see your summer field trip finds and hear your stories.



One thing that we will need to vote on at the meeting is Roadside Clean-up. With diminishing interest in this activity, it may be time for us to move onto something new. Please think about possible community volunteer activities for our club to participate in. I really would like to find another volunteer activity for our group.

ROCK PARTY! My family will host the September gathering at The Jewelry Connection on Sunday, September 23 at 5:00 p.m. Corey says he would like us to bring Mexican food for the grinding party. You can either bring something Mexican, or just your favorite party food. PLEASE JOIN US! Thank you to Jim and Sharon for having the rock party in August! It was a great one! Good food and lots of people. We enjoy getting to know the club members at these get-togethers. For me, general meetings can be hectic and difficult to get to know people. If you haven't been to a rock party, please join us. It doesn't take too much to host a rock party; just decide on a theme or a main dish and have people over. Is there anyone who would line to host the October party? Please let us know at the September meeting.

As I write this, we are getting large amounts of rain and hoping for a nice day in the near future to head to the river to see what may have been washed up and uncovered.

I hope some of you got to go to the Crawford show this year. We were hoping to, but it didn't work out. I know that Jim and Sharon went and they have quite a story to tell, but I'll let them share that with you.

Remember to bring your ideas for volunteer opportunities to the meeting on September 20; and don't forget to write an article and send it to Sharon for the Pick & Shovel.

See you all soon at the meeting!

CHEERS!

**MAY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

By James Marburger, Secretary

**General Meeting May 10, 2018, Bethany Park Shelter**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Jayne Beer. 21 adult members, 7 youth members, 4 guests.

Minutes were published in the Pick & Shovel. Charles Wooldridge moved to accept them as published, second by Bruce Sturgis. Passed.

Treasurer Report was read by Vera Lyman. Motion to accept the report by Ed Dvorak, second by Corey Beer. Passed.

**Old Business:**

Roadside clean-up had 11 people picking up trash and we collected 30 bags of trash. The rock party followed the clean-up and much fun and good food was had.

June 2 is the rock show and GRILLFEST events in Fairbury, Nebraska.

Our Camping and Collecting Field trip is set for June 29 to July 1. Check the Pick & Shovel for details.

The Rocky Mountain Federation Convention and Gem Show in Rapid City, SD will be in July. Jim Marburger will lead the trip and will have more information in the Pick & Shovel as it becomes available. Please notify Jim if interested.

Does anyone want to host a rock party this summer?

**New Business:**

From the Board of Directors, it was proposed to the general membership the question of continuing the Roadside Clean-up or change to something else for the club to be involved with. A discussion was had. The subject will be brought up at the September meeting for a vote.

E-Bear has come back home from the Midwest Federation spring meeting via the Marburgers. He is visiting our club to raise funds for the Endowment Fund. He has some large pockets that need donations.

Door Prizes were picked and winners were happy with the items.

Brett Jurgens will be going to Wyoming for collecting July 6 – 14. If you want to go, contact him for information.

Motion by Jim Marburger to adjourn, second by Ed Dvorak. Passed.

Meeting adjourned to refreshments and to the program by Teresa Rowan on rock collecting in Wyoming.

**MAY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

By James Marburger, Secretary

Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.; Board of Directors Meeting; May 2, 2018 at the Lyman residence.

Meeting called to order by President Jayne Beer at 6:40 p.m.

Jayne Beer	President	Present
Charles Wooldridge	1 VP	Absent
Ed Ridge	2VP	Present
Vera Lyman	Treasurer	Present
James Marburger	Secretary	Present
Corey Beer	Board	Present
Ed Dvorak	Board	Present
Carlyon Ashmore	Board	Absent
Paul Ashmore	Board	Absent

In attendance: Sharon Marburger and Pat Dvorak.

Minutes of last meeting were handed out. Motion to accept the minutes by Ed D., second by Corey. Passed 5 yes.

Treasurer report given out. Motion to accept by Ed D., second by Ed R. Passed 5 yes.

**Old Business:**

Motion by Jim M. to bring to the general meeting group the question: Do we as a club want to continue the roadside clean-up? Attendance at the event is dropping and the age of participants is going up. Second by Ed D. Passed 5 yes.

Jim M has offered to lead the South Dakota Field trip. If anyone wants to attend, please contact him soon. He will also have more information in the next Pick and Shovel.

**New Business:**

Motion by Jim M. to purchase new tires for the club trailer, second by Ed D. Passed 5 yes.

It was noted during the tire discussion that the treads are cracked around the tires. Normal replacement of tires is about 7 years and the current tires are nearly 18 years old. Will set up appointment to replace tires in the spring, shortly before the 2019 show.

Show business was discussed. The evaluation sheet for the Event Center was filled out and will be returned to them. The 2021 Show dates have been reserved at the Event Center, which is the normal 3-year advance reservation.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Corey, second by Jim M. Passed 5 yes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

## **THE ASHMORES' TRIP TO THE U.K.**

By Carolyn Ashmore

Just what are the chances you leave the country for a two-week vacation and you happen across a rock show going on in the same city and country you're visiting? Well, that's just what happened to us. We went to Oxford, England for our daughter, Rachel's, wedding and our granddaughter, Lilly's, christening. We heard bits and pieces of an advertisement for an up and coming Mineral and Fossil Show on Oxford radio. We finally caught the date and time—May 13th at 10:00, and were looking forward to attending our first United Kingdom (“U.K.”) show.

The U.K. Mineral & Fossil Events Company puts on four shows a year from March to November, and are held only on Sundays from 10:00-4:00. This show was held at the Exeter Hall in Kidlington, a suburb of Oxford. We got there just as they were opening, so I got a lot of good pictures before it got too busy. With free admission and free parking and a total of six hours of show time, you can imagine how crowded this show was when we left at 3:00 p.m.

This venue had a cafeteria with a seating area on the upper end of the stage, serving lunch, beverages and other goodies, while surrounded with about 30 or so vendors selling lots of rocks, fossils and minerals, with the occasional vendor selling polished stones and a few cabochons. There was not a lot of jewelry, necklaces, earrings, or finished pieces there, but there were tons of different raw material to work with.

Even with everything going on around us, we still had a chance to talk to some of the vendors, and met with lot of rock people from the local area as well as some people from the London and Birmingham areas that traveled to be there that day. I introduced myself and told them I am from America, and that we belong to our local club, the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club in Lincoln, Nebraska. Of course, I had to explain just where Nebraska is located in the U.S., as some people had never heard of it. I wasn't surprised; I've been asked that question many times before when visiting the U.K., and I always reply, “I live in the in the middle of the country, what we call the Heartland.”

I met some members of the Russel Society, where our friend, Alistar, is a member. The Russel Society is the U.K.'s equivalent to our American Federation. And like the U.S., they have smaller individual clubs all over the U.K., like Oxford's Club.

We walked all over and saw some of the most beautiful specimens of minerals and fossils found in mines, quarries, and other locations around England, Scotland, and Wales. We also saw a lot of popular minerals and fossils from around the world there. We even came across a piece of Jade from California.

I saw quite a bit of the mineral fluorite, and I got the chance to purchase a small piece of the gemstone Blue John. Blue John is a unique gemstone, found only in the vicinity of Treak Cliff near Castleton in Derbyshire

England. It is a banded variety of the mineral fluorite, and it has been mined for hundreds of years and made into jewelry, goblets, and numerous other decorative items that are sold around the world. I'm looking forward to going back to England in a couple years and visiting the mine where this beautiful piece came from.

I also bought a nice specimen of Opal from West Carclaze Pit at St. Austell in Cornwall, and a piece of mica from the Little Scatwell Mica Mine in Scotland. I was looking for unusual pieces to add to my already growing collection of British Minerals and other materials that I have acquired over the years from visiting the area. But this was a treat to actually attend a show while there and have the chance to meet other rockhounds just like us.

We spent five hours at the show, meeting people, asking a lot of questions, and just walking together and talking shop like all rock people do when they get together. I totally felt a connection with my new friends, and our common interest in this hobby. And I found that rockhounds are rockhounds, no matter what country you happen to be from.

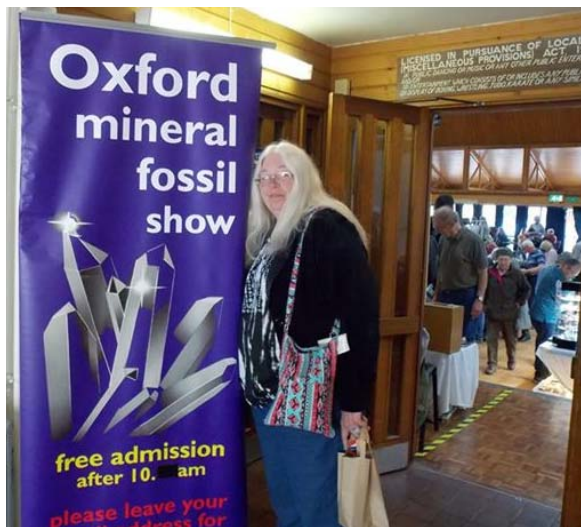


Photo by Paul Ashmore

### **HOST A ROCK PARTY**

- ◆ Let the Board know if you would like to host October, January, February, or March.

#### **Hosting a party is easy!**

- ◆ Pick a date and time
- ◆ Determine what the theme or main dish will be.
- ◆ Provide plates and serveware.
- ◆ Have room (inside or outside) to set up equipment.
- ◆ That is pretty much it! Now, get ready to have some fun fellowship with other rock, mineral, and fossil enthusiasts!

## ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

Nominating Committee Chairman, Ed Dvorak, wants to remind you that Club elections are coming up in November. He will take nominations from the floor at the September 20 meeting. Nominate someone (including yourself) if there is interest in being on the Board of Directors. Remember, more than one person can be nominated for any position.

The following have agreed to nominations to date:

President: Jayne Beer  
 1st Vice:  
 2nd Vice:  
 Secretary: James Marburger  
 Treasurer: Vera Lyman  
 Board Members (4):  
     Paul Ashmore  
     Corey Beer  
     Ed Dvorak

## MINERAL MONKEYS

By Carolyn Ashmore

Greetings Juniors!

I hope you all had a safe and wonderful summer vacation, and you all got the chance to do a little rockhounding while you were at it.

September 20 is our first meeting back from summer break. This meeting will be a show and tell session, so please bring whatever you want to share with us. It is awesome to see what all is found by our junior members over the summer vacation. After we're finished, you will have the chance to walk around and look at what other members found over their summer.

I went to England this spring and stayed at Weymouth a couple days, so I have some things I found to share with you as well. Cindy and I are looking forward to seeing you all again.

SEE YOU SOON!



## FREE LAPIDARY JOURNALS

The following message came in on the club website. Contact Sharon Marburger to obtain information for the person donating the Journals.

**Upon the passing of my father-in law, I obtained some Lapidary Journals. I have several in the early 50s, 64, 65, 71, 72, and 73. I would like to donate these to someone would get some use from them.**

## 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**

### Schedule for 2018

**Session 4: Aug 14 - Oct 2 ,2018**

**Session 5: Oct 9 - Nov 27, 2018**

**Watch for 2019 Schedule!**

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

## J J & L Rocks & Minerals

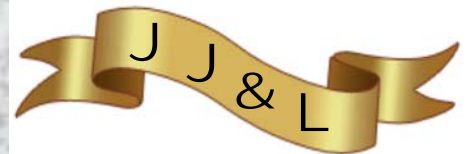
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 42 years**

## [INCREDIBLE NEW ARMORED DINOSAUR FOUND IN UTAH](#)

By George Dvorsky, 7/19/2018, as published on <https://gizmodo.com/look-at-this-incredible-new-armored-dinosaur-found-in-u-1827720161>  
Submitted by Allan Gossman

They're calling this newly discovered dinosaur "thorny head," and it's changing what we know of North American ankylosaurs, the heavily armored herbivores that had the misfortune of living alongside *Tyrannosaurus rex* during the Late Cretaceous.

Behold *Akainacephalus johnsoni*, a new species and genus of ankylosaurid dinosaur. It's considered the most complete Late Cretaceous ankylosaur ever found in Utah—or in the entire southwestern United States for that matter. Unlike other North American ankylosaurs that lived around the same time, this particular dinosaur featured spikes and cones on its head and snout, hence its name, which translates to "thorny head." The latter half of its name, *johnsoni*, honors Randy Johnson, a museum volunteer who helped to prepare its skull. The details of this remarkable new creature were published today in the science journal PeerJ.

The fossilized remains of *Akainacephalus johnsoni* were discovered in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in south-central Utah. Its bones were buried in 76-million-year-old rocks of the Kaiparowits Formation, a geological layer composed of sedimentary rocks deposited by rivers and streams.

Working in this high desert terrain, paleontologists from the Natural History Museum of Utah and the University of Utah managed to pull out a number of bones, including an immaculately preserved complete skull, bony armor (including neck rings and spiked plates), several vertebrae, a forelimb, various hindlimb bones, and nearly complete tail with the iconic ankylosaur club still attached. In all, it took paleontologists nearly four years to assemble and fully prepare the bones for analysis.

*Akainacephalus johnsoni* had a medium build, measuring between 13 to 16 feet long and about 3.5 feet tall at the hips. Its four legs were positioned directly below its body. Like other ankylosaurid dinos, this creature was built for defense; it featured formidable armor from head to tail, including bony plates called osteoderms. Its head was adorned with a crown-like covering of spikes and horns, and the tip of its tail was equipped with a large bony club, which it likely used to ward off predators. Indeed, as its tank-like appearance suggests, *A. johnsoni* needed these extreme defenses to survive the brutal conditions of Late Cretaceous North America. This herbivore would have come into regular contact with its contemporary *Tyrannosaurus rex*, among other predators.

This discovery shows that ankylosaurids were more diverse in their physical characteristics than paleontologists thought. These dinosaurs originated in Asia between 125 million to 100 million years ago, but there's no sign of them in the North American fossil record until about 77 million years ago. The spikes and cones found on the skull of *Akainacephalus* resemble those of its ankylosaurid cousin, the New Mexican *Nodocephalus kirtlandensis*, but that's about it. Other North American ankylosaurids, like *Ankylosaurus*, *Euoplocephalus*, and *Ziapelta*, featured smooth bony armor on their skulls.

The authors of the new study, Jelle P. Wiersma from the Natural History Museum of Utah and Randall B. Irmis from the University of Utah, suspect that *Akainacephalus* and the New Mexican *Nodocephalus* are more closely related to some Asian ankylosaurids. A working hypothesis is that two separate groups of ankylosaurid dinosaurs existed in North America during this time, and that a second migration wave from Asia, likely via a land bridge, made it possible.

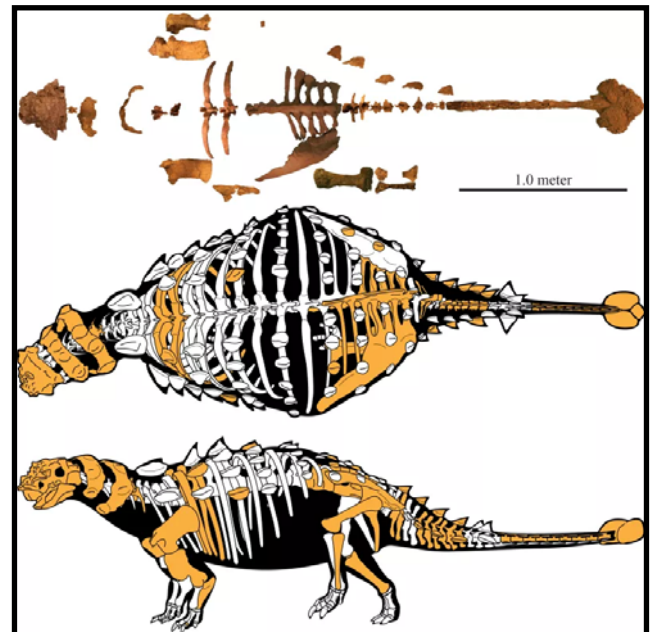
Excitingly, casts of the *Akainacephalus johnsoni* fossil are now on public display at the Natural History Museum of Utah in Salt Lake City.



Artist's impression of the new ankylosaurid.  
Illustration: Andrey Atuchin/DMNS 2017



The dino's skull being prepared for display.  
Image: Phase 2 Productions



Skeleton of the new armored dinosaur as represented by preserved bones.  
Image: Jelle Wiersma/PeerJ

### AUGUST ROCK PARTY

By Sharon Marburger

We had a spectacular Rock Party in August. Lots of members showed up for burgers and hot dogs, and a ton of rock fun! As always, there was plenty of food with lots of variety. I love hosting the Rock Parties and am always a little surprised at how many people attend. This month, we had 13 members, plus Jim and me.

Jim showed a new member how to use the Genie grinding and polishing machine. Several others availed themselves of the Genies once those who otherwise have no access to the equipment finished.

Several of us went to look at the rock shop and equipment, as well as the variety of rock available. It was a very fun time!

Being able to share knowledge and stories is the best part of these gatherings. If you don't attend, you miss out on a lot of fun and learning.



Photos by Jim & Sharon Marburger



### CRAWFORD SWAP AND FIELD TRIPS

By Sharon Marburger

Jim and I headed out to Crawford on Thursday before Labor Day, hoping to participate in all of the field trips offered by the Crawford club. We got a late start due to an appointment, so we made it only as far as Alliance that night, thereby missing the early Friday morning field trip.

No worries. We wandered around the swap on Friday. It was a fairly warm day, so it was probably good to not be out in the agate beds with no shade. I found several slabs and an ocean jasper marble I thought I couldn't live without, and a beautiful azurite slab I figured Jim would be very happy to have. We talked with nearly all of the vendors; it's always fun talking rocks!

There were not many visitors at the swap on Friday, which I found somewhat disappointing. I have heard stories during the 25 years that I've lived in Nebraska about how wonderful, crowded, and awesome the swap is. I hope for the club's benefit that things picked up on Saturday and Sunday.

Jim and I camped at an RV park in Chadron as there were no campsites available in Crawford. We got up extra early on Saturday and Sunday to drive to Crawford to meet up for the field trips on those days. Saturday's trip was out to an agate bed near Boardgate Reservoir off Sugarloaf Road. We picked up lots of specimens for our show's Nebraska Gem Dig. Some folks headed back to the swap, some folks stayed, and Jim and I went exploring. We drove around trying to figure out what areas were still open for collecting. The Forest Service has shut down many "roads", and now we are only allowed to drive on Forest Service marked roads containing 3 numbers. We were able to still get back to the Nebraska Blue Agate beds. It amazes me about how much material is still there to be picked up. We collected lots—some for the gem dig, some for the juniors to share with their rock pen pals, and some for us.

Sunday's field trip was to another agate bed off Sugarloaf Road. We collected some prairie agates there, and a couple of pieces of petrified wood.

It was a good rock collecting trip. It is too bad that no one else from our club was able to go, as they have in past years.



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

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

Ed Dvorak, Chairman

- 1 year: Charles Wooldridge  
Sharon Marburger  
2 years: Vera Lyman  
Jim Marburger  
3 years: Pat Dvorak  
Robert Gritit

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- 1 year: Robert Gritit  
Sharon Marburger  
2 years: Jim Atkins  
Andrew Tiedje  
3 years: Linda Guenter  
Vera Lyman

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James Marburger

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Edward Ridge

**Facebook:**

Andrew Tiedje, James Marburger

**Field Trips:**

James Marburger

**Historian:**

Sharon Marburger

**Legislative Liaison:**

Susy McMahan

**Membership Record:**

Edward Ridge

**MWF Liaison:**

Vera Lyman

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Jayne Beer, Charles Wooldridge

**Property:**

James Marburger

**Recognition/Awards:**

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James Marburger, Ed Dvorak

**Refreshments/Door Prizes:**

Vera Lyman

**Roadside Clean-up:**

James Marburger

**Scholarship:**

Vera Lyman

**Show—2018:**

Jayne Beer

**Swap—2019:**

Sharon Marburger

**Website:**

Jim & Sharon Marburger

**Youth Activities:**

Carolyn Ashmore, Cindy Ramey

**2019 SHOW COMMITTEE**

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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  
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..... Sharon Marburger  
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..... Sharon Marburger  
Youth Activities: ..... Carolyn Ashmore,  
..... Cindy Ramey

**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 \$20.00 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 - \$3 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. Applications are available on the website: <https://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/about/membership>.

Mail Exchange Newsletters to:

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 5342  
Lincoln, NE 68505-0342

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

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.



All articles, tidbits, and photos not individually identified as being contributed to this publication are provided by the Editor.



This Editor is a member of Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors

**It's time to start planning!**  
**LGMC's 61st Annual Show**  
**Nebraska's Hidden Treasures**  
**April 6-7, 2019**  
**Mark your calendars!**

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.