

THE PICK & SHOVEL



The Official Publication of the
**Lincoln Gem &
Mineral Club, Inc.**

In association with



The Midwest Federation of
Mineralogical and
Geological Societies



The American
Federation of
Mineralogical Societies

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.

GENERAL MEETINGS

NO IN-PERSON MEETINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. LINCOLN PARKS & RECREATION HAS CLOSED DOWN BETHANY PARK SHELTER HOUSE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, DUE TO COVID-19.

2021 DUES

If you were a paid member in 2020, DO NOT PAY DUES FOR 2021. 2020 memberships have automatically rolled over to 2021, due to the pandemic and lack of club activities.

BOARD MEETINGS

Until further notice, Board Meetings will be held at 6:30 on the first Thursday of each month.

Meetings are open to all members. If you are interested in attending via Zoom, contact Jim Marburger for the log-in information. You can attend Zoom meetings via computer, tablet, smart phone, or regular telephone. You are not required to use the video option; you may use voice only if desired.

**Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, May 7, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.
(via Zoom)**

APRIL BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Corey Beer



2021 SUMMER SWAP COMMITTEE

Chairmen: Corey Beer, Jayne Beer
Vendors: Sharon Marburger
Finance & Ticket Sales: Vera Lyman
Floor Chairman: Corey Beer, Jayne Beer
Insurance Jayne Beer
LGMC Club Booth:.....
Publicity & Promotion: Jim Marburger
Silent Auction: Sharon Marburger
Web Master: Sharon Marburger
Youth Activities: Brett Jurgens, Corey Beer
Suggestions & Input: Charles Wooldridge, Jeff Kubitz
..... Ed Ridge

CLUB EVENTS

No monthly **Rock Parties** until further notice.

No club-organized **field trips** at this time.

Summer Rock Swap: June 26 & 27; Beer Family Farm near Ashland, Nebraska. See flyer and information on pages 4 & 5. We are in need of volunteers to help out at the Swap. Directing traffic, spending time in the Club Booth, and lending a hand wherever help is needed are some of the ways you can help. Please contact Corey Beer or any other Swap Committee member.

See schedule of events on page 10 for the 2021 National Show in Big Piney, Wyoming on June 16 - 22.



One of Corey's Missouri rocks. See story on page 5.

Please send your hobby-related photos with captions or explanations for publication in the Pick & Shovel. Field trips, lapidary projects, fossil projects, metal projects, wire wrapping, tumbling, or any other activity of interest to the club. Since we are not allowed to meet in person at this time, it is important to share with others what you are doing. Your project may inspire someone else. Send via email (lgmc.editor@outlook.com) or via Facebook Messenger.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Charles "Wooly" Wooldridge

Jackie and I have been traveling in our camper trailer the past few weeks. March is a great time to explore, especially the south. Because it is off season, prices are low, bugs are not a problem, and spring is bursting forth. We found a site with full hookups along a bayou in Louisiana for \$10 a night.



Our first stop was near Mt. Ida, Arkansas to dig quartz crystals. We camped at the Brady Mountain Campground, a beautiful spot on Lake Quachita. We have dug at Ron Coleman's mine several times, so we thought we would try some new areas. I wanted to look for phantoms at the Wegner Mine but, because there were so many spring break tourists going on their two hour regular mine tour, they were not running the phantom tour. I stopped by their rock shop, but it was too crowded to even purchase crystals.

Disappointed, I headed back to camp. On my way, I stopped at a Rock Shop west of Mt. Ida called Real Earth Creations. Jerry and Lisa Griffin run a nice shop and were very helpful. Jerry directed me to Judy's Rock Shop just down the road saying they have one of the best mines around. He was right. For \$25 you can dig all day. David, one of the miners, kept bringing fresh loads of material to go through. Everyone was productive. The mine owners also have a turquoise mine about fifty miles away. They had some beautiful robins egg blue turquoise for sale. On display was the largest turquoise nugget ever discovered in North America, found in their mine.

After digging all day, we stopped back at Real Earth Creations to thank Jerry. I started talking about cleaning quartz. I told him I had been using muriatic acid. Jerry recommended oxalic acid. He says muriatic can etch the crystals. Oxalic acid is safer and won't cause etching. According to Jerry, oxalic acid is naturally found in plants like rhubarb leaves and potato eyes. One tip is that if your acid starts to turn yellow or green, even the slightest bit stop using it. It will color the quartz, and he has yet to find a way to remove it.

Corey, Jayne, and Sharon have been working hard to make the Summer Swap a success. It is important to get the word out, so please send the flyer that is on our website out to all your friends and contacts.

Stay safe and I hope to see you soon.

Sharon & Corey discussing finds from the Beers' Missouri trip.

Photo by Brett Jurgens.

JUNIORS

by Brett Jurgens, Junior Co-Leader

On Saturday, April 3rd, I was able to meet Jim Brace-Thompson during a gathering at the Marburgers. He brought several California specimens to swap with club members. Those of us there were very lucky indeed. Jim designed and instituted the Future Rockhounds of America program. In the program, there are different lessons that earn your way to being a future rock hound. The former juniors leader, Carolyn Ashmore, did an excellent job teaching the program. I am learning it as we go. I am hoping to be able to pick up where she left off when we are able to meet again.



We are planning to have some junior's activities at the club's summer swap. Currently, the plan is to have the gem dig up and going. We may have more activities such as the rock race if we are able to get more volunteers. If you are able to help out, please email me at quartz89@aol.com.

I still have the specimen kits we put together for the junior members. I have not been able to contact some of you to make arrangements to deliver your kit. Please reach out to me at the above email address so we can figure out a time. The plan originally was to use the kits to do some of the lessons remotely. I'm guessing from the response that everyone is a bit overwhelmed with everything going on. Learning about rocks is definitely more fun as a group, so we will hold off until that time.

Be compassionate and stay safe.



LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB
HOSTS A

Summer Rock Swap

June 26 & 27, 2021

Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Beer Family Farm

18701 Ashland Road, Ashland, Nebraska

Admission: Adult \$2.00; Kids 15 and under \$1.00

Help the Lincoln Food Bank replenish its shelves.

Bring canned items for the Food Bank.

Swap is open to the public, for both selling and buying.
Everyone is welcome!

**Family
Friendly**

Jewelry

Fossils

**Silent
Auction**

**Buy
Sell
Trade**

**Lapidary
Supplies
&
Equipment**

**Rocks
&
Minerals**

If you are interested in being a vendor, go to
<https://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/happenings/other-events>
for more information and to fill out the Advanced Reservation form
or let Corey or Sharon know at the contact info shown below.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB
Box 5342

Lincoln, NE 68505-0342

Contact Corey Beer at 402.890.9155 or

Sharon Marburger at 402.429.3323; lgmc.editor@outlook.com.

2021 SUMMER SWAP

LGMC is hosting its first public summer swap on June 26 & 27 at the Beer Family Farm near Ashland, Nebraska. Provided COVID doesn't alter the plans, here is what is planned:

- Vendors will include dealers and swappers.
- Anyone wishing to swap or sell geology or hobby-related items are welcome to rent booth space.
- As with our usual Mid-Winter Swap, members of the public are welcome.
- Booths of various sizes and rental rates are available inside a rustic barn; electricity available. These booths will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Advanced reservations are encouraged. Rates inside the barn are \$40 per table, one to four tables per booth available.
- Nearly unlimited spaces available outside, rented at \$25 per 10'x10' increments.
- Reservations are preferred, however, booth spaces will be available to those not having advanced reservations. Without an advanced reservation, barn spaces are not guaranteed.
- Outside vendors to provide their own tables, awnings, or pop-ups.
- Friday setup noon to 8 p.m.; Saturday setup 7 a.m.
- Saturday hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Silent Auction both days.
- Grill-out supper at 6 p.m. Saturday. Voluntary donations for meal will be accepted.

Let Jayne and Corey know if you can help out with any aspect of the Swap. Let's make this a mammoth event!

A VERY QUICK TRIP TO MISSOURI

by Jayne Beer (Photos by Jayne Beer)

I was innocently scrolling through Facebook and ran across an agate dig in Missouri. My mistake was showing it to Corey. He said, "That sure would be a good trip to go on for my birthday." It wasn't long before we were trying to figure out how we could swing a quick trip.

We left Saturday after Brian got off work and we arrived in Bonne Terre, Missouri about midnight. Brian, Corey, Ja-zeil, and I got up early Sunday morning and headed over to Mineral Point, Missouri.

As soon as we pulled up, Corey and Ja-zeil were already picking up little chunks of agate and drusy from the parking lot. The owners had us sign a waiver and then took us in a golf cart type vehicle to the collecting area, telling us where we could dig and hunt. We made our way to one of the pits and started slowly familiarizing ourselves with the area, realizing just how much material there was to collect.

At this point, Ja-zeil and I went over to where Bryan Major was digging with his excavator. Bryan is famous to YouTube watchers like Corey and Ja-zeil, he is known as "The Crystal Collector," and was the one who organized the event.

My husband, Brian, went another direction, and Corey headed to surface collect down in the valley away from where the majority of people were looking. The people who owned the property were in the process of getting the land prepared to be open to the public for the long-term and had 4-wheelers running up and down, picking up peoples' buckets

and transporting them back up to the top to the parking area. Corey made good use of them as he sent at least 8 buckets of material, plus multiple pieces too large to fit into buckets that were strapped onto the 4-wheelers and hauled up for us.

Meanwhile, Ja-zeil, Brian, and I spent more time up by the pits, Ja-zeil collected a lot from them while I spent much of my time collecting many small fragments of drusy quartz and agate that littered the ground. At the end of the day, we had 23 buckets and several large specimens. Our largest specimen weighed 107 pounds. We were told that we set a new record for number of buckets taken out and also for the largest single rock. The employees of the mine watched in awe as we managed to load all of this into our minivan. Plus, we had a motel room full of clothes and other stuff to get into the van. It was definitely overloaded, but we made it home. We had an amazing time and would like to go back



Corey's famous quotes of the day were, "I can't believe a place like this exists!" and "Every single rock is an AGATE!"

A VERY QUICK TRIP TO MISSOURI - CONTINUED



Ja-zeil, Corey, and the catch of the day



Ja-zeil and the 107 pound specimen



What the location looks like

Ja-zeil and Brian in a pit (left); surface material (right)



One of Corey's rocks

**Silversmithing classes
2021 Schedule**

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

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

Tuition: \$150 plus \$30 supply deposit

~~Session 1: Jan 5 - Feb 23~~

~~Session 2: Mar 2 - Apr 20~~

Session 3: Apr 27 - Jun 15

Session 4: Aug 17 - Sep 5

Session 5: Oct 12 - Nov 30

Contact: Jayne Beer 402-890-3307

Judith Bay 402-423-7058

jbeer60070@aol.com

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting March 4, 2021. Meeting held via Zoom teleconferencing. Minutes recorded by Sharon Marburger, Asst. Secretary.

Meeting called to order by President Charles Wooldridge at 6:32 p.m. The rules of meeting conduct continue to be suspended, due to COVID-19.

ROLL CALL

Charles Wooldridge	President	Present
Jayne Beer	1 VP	Present
Brett Jurgens	2VP	Present
Vera Lyman	Treasurer	Present
James Marburger	Secretary	Present
Corey Beer	Board	Present
Jeff Kubitz	Board	Present
Sharon Marburger	Board	Present
Ed Ridge	Board	Present

The Minutes were sent electronically and read aloud. Motion by Vera to accept the minutes with correction, 2nd by Corey. Passed.

The Treasurer's Report was read. Motion by Jim to accept the Treasurer's Report, 2nd by Sharon. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Wooly reported that he has Oklahoma selenite for the juniors. Jim has Odell diamonds for the juniors and the rock club exchange.

Sharon reported that she tried to set up the Amazon Smile account, but the site did not recognize LGMC as a charitable organization. Brett located information from a third party stating that LGMC is a 501(c)(4) organization, rather than a 501(c)(3). Sharon researched this further, but could find nothing stating under what statute the club was organized. More research is needed.

NEW BUSINESS

The Jewelry Connection has proposed to retrieve some of the Lapidary Class equipment to use in a lapidary workshop at its location. After much discussion on insurance, fees, and other miscellaneous items, Jayne made the following motion:

“That The Jewelry Connection be allowed to borrow up to six pieces of equipment for a lapidary workshop for an undetermined amount of time, until such time that the lapidary class begins again with Rowdy as instructor, or equipment is sold if no location for a class is found. Rowdy is to accompany Jayne and Corey to select equipment, at Rowdy's convenience.” Motion 2nd by Jim.

COMMITTEE REPORT

The Summer Swap is moving forward. The purchase of liability insurance for the landowner is still in the works. There are nine show and swap vendors that have paid reservations.

The information packet has been posted on the Facebook page and the website; and will be published in the March Pick & Shovel. Posting to other online calendars and publications will be handled by Publicity Chair, Jim Marburger.

Vera moved to adjourn the meeting, Jayne 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.



One of Corey's Missouri rocks. See story on page 5.

J J & L Rocks & Minerals

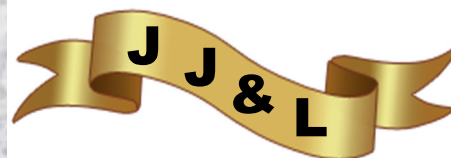
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Proudly serving
the hobby for
45 years

SUMMER TRAVELS

by Eric Fritsch

This is often the time of year when people are thinking about summer vacations. Practically anywhere you travel you can find museums, however, this list is meant to show you where you can find some of my favorite mineral museums. If you find yourself visiting one of these areas, you might want to carve aside a couple hours or more to visit these impressive displays. This isn't intended to be an all inclusive list of mineral museums, but a helpful aid. Many cities, colleges, and even local museums may have small displays of minerals. (See map on page 9.)

1. Smithsonian Museum. <https://naturalhistory.si.edu/> This is one of the great museums of the world, located in Washington, D.C. It is actually a series of buildings and museums with the natural history museum housing the minerals. It is home to some of the most iconic specimens in the world. I've been to this museum a half dozen times and always want to return. D.C. is a great destination for a vacation and, with subways, it is an easy city to get around in.

2. American Museum of Natural History. <https://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/permanent> This museum, located in New York City, has recently undergone an upgrade to its displays. It is a major metropolitan museum and other displays will keep you interested along with the minerals. The mines and museum (<https://franklinmineralmuseum.com/>) at Franklin, New Jersey are also nearby.

3. Mineralogical and Geological Museum at Harvard University. <https://mgmh.fas.harvard.edu/> This is a great college museum and there are a lot of other things to do and see in and around Boston. The museum display is in old wooden cases and is one of the earliest collections in the United States.

4. Maine Mineral Museum. <https://mainemineralmuseum.org/> This is a new museum and I haven't been there yet. It was opened in late 2020, had some flooding issues, then reopened in 2021 and had to shut down due to COVID. It is privately funded and is located in Bethel, Maine. The collection of local material is fabulous and it has a great meteorite collection as well. I am hoping to get there in the next couple of years as a destination vacation.

5. Royal Ontario Museum. <https://www.rom.on.ca/en/exhibitions-galleries/galleries/natural-history/teck-suite-galleries-earths-treasures> This is a museum at which I spent lots of time as a kid. Whenever my father traveled for work to New York City, Washington D.C., or Toronto, I'd tag along. When he went to work, I'd figure out the local bus, train, or subway system and visit the mineralogical museums. The ROM has a great display and the last time I was up there, they had recently upgraded their exhibits and it is perhaps the best displayed mineralogical museum. Toronto is a great city to visit.

6. Canadian Museum of Nature. <http://www.nature.ca/en/research-collections/collections/minerals> This museum bought Bill Pinch's collection of minerals and merged it with their own collection to make a wonderful display. Ottawa is the national capitol of Canada and borders Quebec, so it has

an international feel. It is kind of hard to get to, but a great place to visit.

7. A.E. Seaman Mineralogical Museum. <https://museum.mtu.edu/> This college collection is located far north in the Keweenaw Peninsula, in Houghton, Michigan. It is hard to get to, but well worth the visit. I've been to this museum several times and about four years ago, they moved the exhibit to a freestanding building on campus.

8. Carnegie Museum of Natural History. <https://carnegiemnh.org/> This is one of about three or four museums I haven't been to on this list, despite it being close to where I grew up. I just never had a chance to visit Pittsburg. Perhaps one of these days I'll visit it, but I hear it has a great mineral collection.

9. Museum of Geology. <https://www.sdsmt.edu/Academics/Museum-of-Geology/Museum/> Located in Rapid City, South Dakota, this collection started as ore specimens to teach miners and engineers. I worked there for about 10 years and it isn't as fancy as some of the other museums on this list, but it is a nice collection. The Black Hills is a special place to visit.

10. Montana Tech Mineral Museum. <http://www.mbmgt.mtech.edu/mineralmuseum/about.asp> Another mining college collection, this one located in Butte, Montana.

11. Colorado School of Mines Museum of the Earth. <https://www.mines.edu/museumofearthscience/> This is the premier mining college mineral museum located in Golden, Colorado (just a few miles west of Denver). The collection is well cared for, funded, and up to date.

12. Denver Museum of Nature and Science. <https://www.dmns.org/> Located in Denver, Colorado, this municipal museum is well worth the admission charge to see the Alma King, the reconstructed rhodochrosite pocket, or the gold vault. Denver is a fun city to vacation in.

13. New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources Mineral Museum. <https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/museum/> Located on the campus of New Mexico Tech in Socorro, New Mexico, this is another mining college collection. They've recently undergone a renovation and are constantly adding new specimens. They host a popular mineral symposium in November each year.

14. The Perot Museum Lyda Hill Gems and Mineral Hall. <https://www.perotmuseum.org/exhibits-and-films/permanent-exhibit-halls/lyda-hill-gems-and-minerals-hall.html> Located in Dallas, Texas, Ross Perot left money to establish this municipal museum with Lyda Hill and others donating specimens and finances to support this section of the museum.

15. Houston Museum of Natural History. <http://www.hmns.org/> I haven't been to this museum, but it is on my bucket list. I've heard extraordinary things about the mineral collection, some of which was purchased by

(Continued on page 9)

SUMMER TRAVELS

(Continued from page 8)

T. Boone Pickens, an eccentric oil tycoon.

16. Alfie Norville Gem and Mineral Museum. <https://gemandmineralmuseum.arizona.edu/> This exhibit is still being constructed and plans to open soon. I've visited the University of Arizona collection several times and this collection, along with new pieces, will soon grace the former Pima County Court House in a new museum in downtown Tucson.

17. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. <https://nhm.org/experience-nhm/exhibitions-natural-history-museum/gem-and-mineral-hall> This is a great collection that is often overlooked when people visit Los Angeles. I once flew out to this museum with my girlfriend (now wife) to see the collection and return the same day - I was working for an airline at the time and could fly for free. This collection houses an impressive gem, gold, and California collection.

18. Keck Earth Science and Mining Museum. <https://www.unr.edu/mackay/keck-museum> This is another mineral museum that I haven't visited, but have heard great things. Located on the University of Nevada at Reno campus, this collection also inspired miners and engineers to examine minerals that they were mining. Lake Tahoe is nearby and gambling is legal in Reno.

19. Rice Museum of Rocks and Minerals. <https://ricenorthwestmuseum.org/> This collection is located in the house owned by the collector in Hillsboro, Oregon (just west of Portland, Oregon). It has many nice zeolite specimens collected in the area. A good stop on your way down to the Oregon coast.

There are many other museums and displays to check out. I've heard great things about the University of Delaware; Tellus Museum (Cartersville, GA); James Madison University (Harrisonburg, VA); Yale (Peabody Museum); and elsewhere. Sadly, some museums tend to think of their collections as stagnant and push minerals aside. I encourage everyone to visit mineralogical museums and take some time to appreciate the things we collect. Check the museums' websites for their hours, days open, parking, admissions, and other information. Currently, many of these museums are closed due to COVID, but we expect them to reopen soon. Estimates are that perhaps one-third of museums that closed during COVID may not recover and will close permanently. Support your local museum.



2021 NATIONAL SHOW, JUNE 16 - 22

2021 AFMS & RMFMS Conventions

Sublette County Rock Hounds' Gem & Mineral Show

SCHEDULE

June 16, 2021 WEDNESDAY	9am	Field Trip North of Farson, off old Hwy 191	Fairgrounds' Event Center, Door A
	TBD	Judges' Training	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
June 17, 2021 THURSDAY	9am – 5pm	Exhibit Set-up	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	9am – 5pm	Vendor Set-up	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	9am – 5pm	Delegate Registration, AFMS & RMFMS	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	9am – 10:15am	Uniform Rules Meeting	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
	10:30am – 12pm	AFMS Annual Meeting	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
	1pm	Scholarship Meeting	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
	3pm	Judge's Meeting	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
	5pm	Potluck	Fairgrounds' Canopy Area
June 18, 2021 FRIDAY	9am – 10am	Delegate Registration	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	9am	Show Opens	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	10am	RMFMS Executive Meeting	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
	5pm	Show Closes	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	5pm – 7pm	Social Hour, hosted by AFMS Pres. Judy Beck	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
June 19, 2021 SATURDAY	9am	Show Opens	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	10am	RMFMS Delegates Meeting	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
	12pm	President's Luncheon	Fairgrounds' Commer. Bldg.
	5pm	Show Closes	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	5pm – 6pm	Happy Hour	Fairgrounds' Commer. Bldg
6pm	Awards Banquet	Fairgrounds' Commer. Bldg	
June 20, 2021 SUNDAY	8am	Editor/Webmaster Breakfast	Fairgrounds' Commer. Bldg
	9am	Show Opens	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	11am	ALAA Presentation	Fairgrounds' Commer. Bldg
	1pm	ALAA Annual Meeting	Fairgrounds' Commun. Hall
	2pm	ALAA Live Auction	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	4pm	Show Closes	Fairgrounds' Event Center
	4pm	Exhibits Release	Fairgrounds' Event Center
June 21, 2021 MONDAY		Blue Forest Petrified Wood	led by Doug True contact dtruefossils12@yahoo.com
June 22, 2021 TUESDAY		Fish Fossil fee dig	led by Doug True contact dtruefossils12@yahoo.com

Daily during the Show there will be lectures; a schedule of events will be available near the Show entrance.

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**President**

Charles Wooldridge, 402.975.0416, charles.wooldridgeii@gmail.com

1st Vice-President

Jayne Beer, 402.890.3307, JBeer60070@aol.com

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Board Member

Jeff Kubitz, 402.540.9395, jkubitz@neb.rr.com

Board Member

Sharon Marburger, 402.429.3323, lgmc.editor@outlook.com

Board Member

Ed Ridge, 402.805.8248

LONG RANGE PLANNING & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Jayne Beer, Chairman

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

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jayne Beer, Chairman

- 1 year: Linda Guenter
Vera Lyman
- 2 years: Brett Jurgens
Sharon Marburger
- 3 years: Jim Atkins
Open

ADVERTISING 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.

STANDING COMMITTEES**Audio/Visual:**

Jayne Beer

Audit:

Ed Dvorak, Jayne Beer
James Marburger

Christmas Party:

Edward Ridge

Door Prizes:

Corey Beer, Brett Jurgens, Charles Wooldridge

Facebook:

James Marburger, Jayne Beer

Field Trips:

James Marburger

Historian:

Sharon Marburger

Legislative Liaison:

Susy McMahan

Membership Record:

Edward Ridge

MWF Liaison:

Vera Lyman

Programs:

Charles Wooldridge, Brett Jurgens

Property:

James Marburger

Recognition/Awards:

Ed Dvorak, Jayne Beer, Charles Wooldridge

Refreshments:

Vera Lyman

Show—2021:

Cancelled

Summer Swap—2021:

Corey Beer

Website:

Jim & Sharon Marburger

Youth Activities:

Brett Jurgens, Corey Beer, Sampson Bayer

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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 paying dues. Applications are available on the website: <https://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/about/membership>,

or you may contact Treasurer Vera Lyman for a printed copy.

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



One of Corey's
 Missouri rocks.
 See story on page
 5.

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF

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DEADLINE:

Date of Board Meeting, usually the 1st
 Thursday of the month.

BOOK REVIEW: GOOD TIMES IN THE BADLANDS

by Charles "Wooly" Wooldridge

I have been reading a book that many of you may find interesting. It is titled *Good Times in the Badlands* by Raleigh E. Emry. It is a collection of stories and recollections of five decades of fossil hunting by Morris Skinner, a renowned paleontologist, curator, and, in his own words, "Fossil Digger." Born and raised in the Nebraska Sandhills around Ainsworth, he became the Curator Emeritus for the Frick Laboratory, American Museum of Natural History, New York, N.Y.

The author, Emry, is from near Ainsworth. At the age of 16, he joined his brother, Bob, as an assistant to Morris and his wife, Marie, also an acclaimed paleontologist and curator. He tells the stories of Morris through the direct recollections of the many assistants that worked with him.

One of the many stories I enjoyed is that of Maudie, a 1927 Model A Pickup that Morris used to remove overburden. The truck didn't have enough power, so even though mechanics said it couldn't be done, he installed a second transmission behind the first to give it the oomph he needed. Maudie was prone to breakdown, so whenever Morris found a junkyard, he would salvage spare parts.

I hunt fossils in areas that Morris hunted and have assisted University of Nebraska Paleontologists dig at sites that Morris Skinner had researched. This made the book especially interesting for me. I'm sure if you are interested in fossils, the upper Midwest geology, or the Sandhills, you will enjoy it, too.