

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

Third Thursday of the Month, except for January, December and summer break.

The March General Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. for adults; 5:30 p.m. for juniors. Please be there to discuss Show logistics.



**Please continue to do your part.
Wear a mask to meetings.**

Graphic borrowed from <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

CLUB EVENTS

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

The Annual Gem and Mineral Show is scheduled for April 2 & 3, 2022, at the Lancaster Event Center (indoor event). Setup on Friday, April 1. Please be there to help with setting up this event.

The Second Annual Summer Swap will be held at the Beer Family Farm on June 25 & 26, 2022. Outdoor event!! Watch for future flyers and information.

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 have limited meetings 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 to Sharon Marburger (<https://www.facebook.com/mamamar7880>).

BOARD MEETINGS

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

**Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
Vera Lyman's Residence**

Persons of general membership are invited to attend Board meetings and offer agenda items.

MARCH BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Bob Gruit

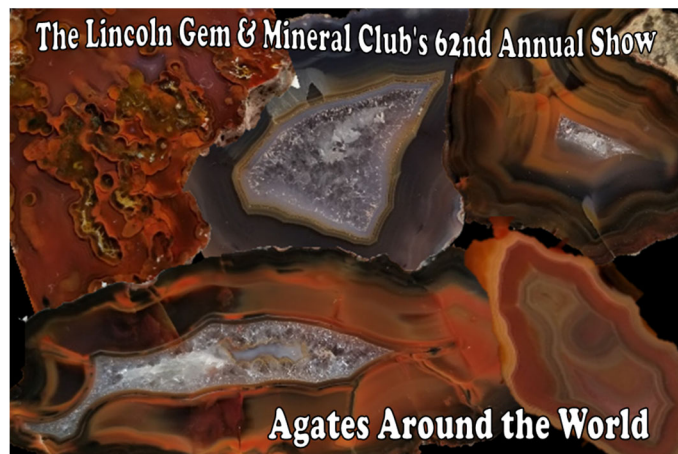
Jim Marburger

**FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING**

The February minutes were not presented for approval. They will be published next month following approval.

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Cancelled. Lincoln Parks and Recreation closed down all park shelter houses due to COVID.



Due to U.S. Postal Service changes, the new deadline for submissions to the P&S is the last Sunday of each month. I look forward to your items.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Jayne Beer

Rock friends! We have big things coming up in your club! The annual show at the Lancaster Event Center is less than a month away! We are set and ready to have a great show. We need members help to make this event run smoothly.



Please come to the March 17th general meeting and sign up for volunteering at your club's show. You will enjoy being involved and getting to know your fellow members better. We have postcards that we need your help to get into the public's hands. They will be available at the meeting on the 17th also.

Did I mention that there will be a general meeting on March 17th at the Bethany Park Shelter? Juniors start at 5:30 and adults start at 6:00. I hope you can make it to that meeting; we have a lot to discuss. The show will be top discussion. Another important discussion will be the equipment at Auld Recreation Center that has been sitting there unused for two years.

We need to get the equipment out of that space! Our first choice would be to find a location to hold classes. We have exhausted many ideas of places. We have asked members to help come up with location ideas. Unless something really works out in the next couple months, we will have to sell this equipment. It would be my dream to find a location that we could have meetings and have rock equipment available for members to use! This equipment will go up for sale at the summer swap if no location can be found.

Speaking of the summer swap! June 25th and 26th will be the second annual summer swap at the Beer Family Farm near Ashland, Nebraska! I am personally excited for this swap because it is my dream for it to get bigger and bigger each year! We have plenty of space to grow. We will discuss more about the swap at the April meeting, but get June 25th and 26th on your calendar and plan to join us there this summer.

Hey! Did you know that we must have a quorum at meetings to be able to have an official meeting and vote? That means if you are a paid member, we need you to attend meetings. See you at the meetings!

Cheers!

TIDBITS FROM WOOLY

by Charles "Wooly" Wooldridge



I met Jim Null (Agate Jim) in the early eighties when we worked at the Nebraska Center for Children and Youth. I soon discovered that Jim was a rock hound and had a lapidary shop in his basement. He invited me to come over one day and check it out. That was all it took and I had "rock fever".

I became a frequent visitor to his basement. His setup was really nice; he had a large slab saw, a trim saw, multiple 12 pound lortone tumblers, and Poly arbors with all the necessary wheels to make cabochons. After a few demonstrations from Jim, and under his tutelage, I learned how to use all the equipment. My cabs were pretty rough at first but, with practice, they improved. I will be forever thankful to Jim for sharing his time, his expertise, and equipment.

Back in those days we used silicon carbide belts and they worked just fine. I mostly made calibrated cabs to put into gold or silver plated findings. Jim taught me some basic skills that every new lapidary should learn. One of the first things I learned from him is the importance of getting the girdle right. It needs to be true to the shape of the finished product you are trying to achieve and the height needs to be uniform all the way around. If you don't have the girdle correct before moving on from the grinding stage, it will be difficult to correct. I learned to dome the cabs to get the best appearance. He showed me how to look at the reflection of a light bulb on the stone. If your dome is uniform the bulb will remain the same size in its reflection. The bulb will appear bigger on flat spots. I cut many a cab with Jim until I was able to procure my own equipment.

The next step in my rock hound development was to find my own material to cut. Once again, "Jim Dandy" to the rescue. Jim had been hunting agates and fossils for many years. He invited me to go on field trips with him and, again, I soon became "hooked". We hiked practically every foot of the rivers in southeastern Nebraska, going from gravel bar to gravel bar.

To be continued...

**Be at the March 17th General Meeting
at Bethany Park Shelter House
for final Show preparations!**

JUNIORS

by Brett Jurgens, Junior Co-leader

It's showtime! Well, just about. The show is now just weeks away; April 2nd and 3rd. It takes a great deal to put on this show, so we must come together as a club, stepping up and helping out. Friday is our setup day. We need club members to come in Friday morning to help unload the trailer, put together display cases, and set up the club booth, ticket booth, silent auction, and junior booth.



For the juniors, the biggest help we will need is helping to man the booth during the show. The gem dig is a popular event at the show; we often have every chair filled with people searching through their plate of gravel for treasure. We also need volunteers to man the rock spin, and (if we have enough volunteers) the rock race. We will have sign up sheets at our upcoming meeting to volunteer for certain times during the show. The junior booth is our contribution to the show, giving families kid activities at a low price. The booth also gives us an opportunity to promote our club and club activities. The booth generates funds for our juniors which, in turn, allows us to purchase needed items for our group.

When I was a junior, I always looked forward to working at the booth and meeting others interested in the hobby. Our next meeting, and last before the show, is March 17. Make sure to wear something green. And bring your specimen kit as I will have something for you to take home. We will have a quick meeting and show some examples of different green rocks. We will also be getting volunteer times for the show figured out. See you soon!

SHOW PREPARATION

- ◆ Plan your display
- ◆ Call Ed Ridge to reserve case(s) 402.805.8248
- ◆ Get Show Postcards from Jayne Beer or Jim Marburger. Distribute Postcards!!! (There are still about 1500 postcards left)
- ◆ Tell everyone you meet about the Show
- ◆ Share show flyer on your Facebook page
- ◆ Gather your Nebraska rocks for the Rock Pile dig. Deliver them to the Event Center early Friday morning (April 1) or contact Wooly for coordinating
- ◆ Meet at the Event Center the morning of Friday, April 1 to help with setup. Setup includes
 - ◇ covering tables
 - ◇ preparing fluorescent display
 - ◇ assembling display cases
 - ◇ helping with Juniors Booth
 - ◇ Any other task that needs doing

COMMUNITY SERVICE - TALK ON ROCKS AND MINERALS

by Brett Jurgens

On February 24th, I gave a talk on rocks and minerals to the students at George P. Stone Elementary School located at Union college. The club had received an email asking for someone to come talk to the school after their 5-8 graders had completed a science block on geology.

George P. Stone is a private, mixed grade school with students ranging from kindergarten through eighth grade. There were 24 students of varied ages in the audience. I brought a table full of rocks and minerals that we passed around during the talk. Quartz crystals and petrified wood were very popular items. The students were exceptionally behaved and asked lots of great, thoughtful questions. I would dare to say the teachers enjoyed the talk and rocks as much as the kids. There were lots of oohs and aahs after pulling the shades and showing off some fluorescent minerals from Franklin, New Jersey.

At the end of the talk each student was able to pick out a small Lake Superior agate and a polished and unpolished Bubble Gum agate to add to their collection. Each student was also given a show postcard. Activities such as this are how we grow awareness in the hobby and, hopefully, the club as well. Most kids are interested in rocks at some point. It is our responsibility to foster that interest and help it to stick.

SHOW DISPLAYS

by Brett Jurgens

The LGMC show is right around the corner! Typically we would have had sign up sheets at the last few meetings for those wishing to set up a display at the show. We will have a sign up sheet at the March meeting. There are still some club cases available. If you have your own case, you could use that as well. There has been a lot of growing interest in the hobby within the last two years. With not having the show the last two years, we are hoping to have more than the usual amount of cases to promote interest.

The show's theme this year is "Agates Around the World". While it is great to have displays linked to the theme, you can display anything related to the hobby. Show us what interests you! One does not need to have a museum level collection to display. On the contrary, we would like to showcase all levels of collections. Displays that are labeled with information on their contents are the best as the viewer can learn from them as well.

If you would like to reserve a club case or space for your case, please contact Ed Ridge at 402-805-8248. This year we will be giving show attendees a voting slip to vote on their favorite display. This helps draw more attention to the displays and increases viewer interaction. And a little friendly competition is always fun! We will be having two club displays. First, for the 2019 club trip to the Blue Forest, we are looking for photos from the trip and specimens found on the trip. The second club case is a memorial case for Roger Pabian. If you would like to contribute to either, please contact Brett Jurgens at quartz89@aol.com.

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club's 62nd Annual Show!

April 2 & 3, 2022

Lancaster Event Center

Lincoln Room

84th & Havelock

Lincoln, Nebraska

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Youth Booth

Dealers

Exhibits

Demonstrators

Nebraska Gem Dig

Fluorescent Display



Get \$1 off paid admission with a can donation to the Food Bank!

Regular Admission:

\$6 per adult.

\$11 2-day pass.

Children 11 and under

free with paid adult.

HOW TO GET A KID ADDICTED

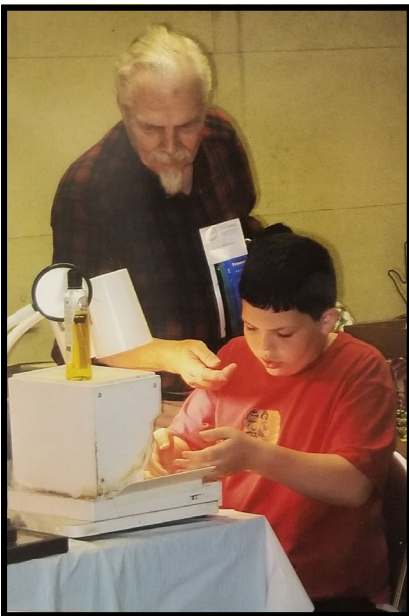
by Jayne Beer

How do you get a kid to be hooked on rocks for life? Give him his own rock grinding machine for his 10th birthday!

Here is the story of the blue "GEMSTONE" machine in our family. When Corey was about to turn 10, Roger Pabian and I started planning to give him a particular "blue machine" with all new wheels. Since the wheels were kind of pricey, several family members went in together to buy the wheels, and Roger put the machine together. When the wheels were on the machine, I "borrowed" several rocks from Corey's collection, thinking to just wrap up the rocks and then bring in the machine as a surprise. Well! The funny thing about it was that as Corey was opening the boxes of rocks, he was getting more and more confused and a little upset. He kept saying, "THESE ARE MY ROCKS. WHY IS EVERYONE GIVING ME MY OWN ROCKS!?" Then we brought in the "blue machine". He was so excited to have his first very own diamond rock machine. He has been hooked ever since.

So, when our grandson, Ja-zeil, turned 10 in February, it was Corey's idea to pass the machine on to the next generation. So we cleaned it up and put a couple new wheels on it and proceeded to wrap up several of Ja-zeil's rocks from his collection. We began by giving him the gift of all of his rocks along with a few new ones. He was not nearly as emotional about opening his rocks, but he was confused. And then Corey brought in the "blue machine" and gave it to Jazz.

We couldn't find a good table to put it on that first night, so we set it up on a plastic box and he cut his first cabochon at his house. We look forward to watching his interest grow with the help of Brett in the Juniors club, and many more shows and field trips to come.



Corey working on one of his first rocks with Roger Pabian instructing him at a gem show at Pershing Auditorium. We bought this machine at Roger's estate auction and now Corey works on this machine. I often imagine Roger standing over him, inspiring his work on this machine.

Silversmithing Classes
The Jewelry Connection Ltd.
Indian Village Shopping Ctr.
13th & Arapahoe, Lincoln
Tuesday & Wednesday Evenings
7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.
Tuition: \$150 plus \$30 supply deposit

<p><u>Tuesdays</u></p> <p>Session 1: Jan 11—Mar 1 Session 2: Mar 8—Apr 26 Session 3: May 3—Jun 21 Session 4: Jun 28—Aug 16 Session 5: Aug 23—Oct 11 Session 6: Oct 18—Dec 6</p>	<p><u>Wednesdays</u></p> <p>Session 1: Jan 12—Mar 2 Session 2: Mar 9—Apr 27 Session 3: May 4—Jun 22 Session 4: Jun 29—Aug 17 Session 5: Aug 24—Oct 12 Session 6: Oct 19—Dec 7</p>
---	---

Contact: Jayne Beer 402-890-3307; jbeer60070@aol.com

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**President**

Jayne Beer, 402.890.3307, JBeer60070@aol.com

1st Vice-President

Brett Jurgens, 402.850.3256, quartz89@aol.com

2nd Vice-President

Corey Beer, 402.466.6628

Treasurer

Vera Lyman, 402.464.6089

Secretary

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

Board Member

James Marburger, 402.430.6703, james.marburger@outlook.com

Board Member

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

Board Member

Ed Ridge, 402.805.8248

Board Member

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

2022 LONG RANGE PLANNING & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Charles Wooldridge, Chairman

- 1 year: Charles Wooldridge
Sharon Marburger
- 2 years: Vera Lyman
Jim Marburger
- 3 years: Jayne Beer
Brett Jurgens

2022 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Charles Wooldridge, Chairman

- 1 year: Brett Jurgens
Sharon Marburger
- 2 years: Jim Atkins
Corey Beer
- 3 years: Jeff Kubitz
Vera Lyman

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, Brett Jurgens

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—2022:

Jayne Beer

Summer Swap—2022:

Jayne Beer & 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

2022 SUMMER SWAP COMMITTEE

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

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF

PUBLISHER:

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

EDITOR:

Sharon Marburger; E-mail: lgmc.editor@outlook.com

CIRCULATION:

Vera Lyman; 402.464.6089
Sharon Marburger; 402.429.3323

DEADLINE:

Last Sunday of the month.

2022 SHOW COMMITTEE

Chairman: Jayne Beer
Dealers:..... Vera Lyman
Demonstrators: Vera Lyman
Displays:..... Ed Ridge
Event Center Liaison Vera Lyman
Finance/Ticket Sales: Vera Lyman,
Jim Atkins
Floor Chairman: Corey Beer, Jayne Beer
Fluorescent Booth: Brett Jurgens
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 Sharon Marburger
Silent Auction:..... Sharon Marburger
Special Features:
Web Master: Sharon Marburger
Youth Activities: Brett Jurgens, Corey Beer,
Sampson Bayer