

THE PICK & SHOVEL



In association with

The Official Publication of the

Lincoln Gem &
Mineral Club, Inc.



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 (4th Saturday), December (1st Sunday), and summer break (June, July, August). Juniors meet at 5:30 p.m.; adults meet at 6:00 p.m.

Summer Break (no meetings)

September 15, 2022

October 20, 2022

November 17, 2022 (Annual Business Meeting)

December 4, 2022 (Christmas Party)

BOARD MEETINGS

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

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, September 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Vera Lyman's Residence

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

CLUB EVENTS

A field trip to Morrill Hall is scheduled for **Sunday, July 31**. We plan to meet at Morrill Hall around 12:30 p.m. near Archie. Admission is \$9.50 for adults, \$5.50 for children.

JULY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Susy McMahan
Charles Messenger
Sharon Marburger
Jim Null



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.



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

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

**Check out the
Sunday Fun-Day Auction
on our Facebook page
(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/223555904325876>)
most Sundays
from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

Sunday Fun-Day Auctions are the only times that sales are permitted on this site.

Nominations for the 2023 Board of Directors will be taken at the September 15 meeting. Please be prepared to nominate someone, including yourself. If you have been a club member for a minimum of one year, you may run as a Board member. If you have been a member for a minimum of two years, you may run for any office. Let's try to get some new blood on the Board, to continue to lead the club in the direction it needs to go.

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

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>).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Jayne Beer

Hello, fellow rock friends! I certainly hope that you were all able to attend the second annual Rock Swap at the Beer Family Farm! It was a fabulous weekend! We had great weather; I'm not sure how we got so lucky two years in a row. I am so impressed at the great merchandise all the vendors bring out. It is a very difficult task getting all of that fragile and heavy merchandise out there in good condition. We had 21 vendors this year and I believe 360 customers, which is about the same as last year's numbers. If you have been there, you know that this thing has lots of room to grow. I am always interested in your suggestions of things we can do to make it bigger and better. Start thinking of next summer!



Recently, several club members went out to Geneva to help sort and organize the rocks and fossils in Roger Pittard's estate. There are a LOT of rocks out there! And some equipment. There will be an auction in September - watch the Ford and Ford website for the date and the sale bill. I will try to remember to post the info on our Facebook page as well.

We are getting ready to move the lapidary equipment from Auld Recreation Center out to the farm. Watch the Facebook feed for a call for help in doing that task; we could really use some muscle.

In case you had not heard, we are planning to bring back the Mid-Winter Swap at Bethany Park! Watch for the upcoming announcements and flyers. It is planned for January 28, 2023, provided we can reserve the shelter house.

I hope you have many rock adventures planned this summer!

CHEERS!

JUNIORS

by Brett Jurgens, Junior Leader

Hello juniors. I hope you are all enjoying your summer break. While we don't have meetings during the summer, there are some plans in the works for some get togethers. Please look in the Pick and Shovel, or on the website, for info.

The Summer Rock Swap was a resounding success. People came from all over, and it was great exposure for both the club and the hobby. I encourage everyone to try to make it next year - you will have a blast!

I returned from my trip to Wyoming a day before the summer swap. Part of the trip was spent visiting the Sublette County Rockhounds' annual rock show over Father's Day weekend. If you ever have the chance, check it out. They put on a great show, and have field trips every morning. While in the area, make sure to check out Jim Gray's rock shop in Marbleton. He has some treasures. A highlight of my trip was meeting up with both old and new friends I have made through the hobby. Kim Nielsen joined us for a day of collecting in the Blue Forest. While at the rock show I was able to finally meet in person Rod and Margie Miller, and their grandchildren. Let me generalize and say that "rock people" are some of the best people you can meet.

One of my favorite rock events is quickly approaching - the Crawford Rock Swap. Held in the city park, vendors from all around (17 different states last year) set up tents and tables and sell their rock-related wares. The local club also offers field trips most mornings to go collect north of town. The elusive Fairburn Agate is the treasured prize, but chalcedony and petrified wood are easily found. The landscape around Crawford is breathtaking - I highly recommend a trip to the area.

I look forward to our upcoming events, and the return of our meetings in September. I want to see what you found this summer! Stay safe.

**BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH****REMOVING A STONE FROM A BEZEL**

If you've forgotten to use dental floss and got your stone caught in a bezel, there's one thing you can try before starting to pry. Find some sticky wax or beeswax. Roll it into a pencil-sized cylinder and stick the end onto the top of the stone. Mold it on well and yank. But if the stone is really stuck, there are two other tricks - but each with risks and consequences. The first is to pry open the bezel with a sharp knife blade being very careful not to wrinkle or tear the bezel. If you try this, make sure to pry gently in several passes around the stone. The last solution is to drill a small hole into the bezel setting from the back side so that you can push the stone out. Note that this does leave a hole, but in some cases you can use it to saw out a design under the stone.

Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

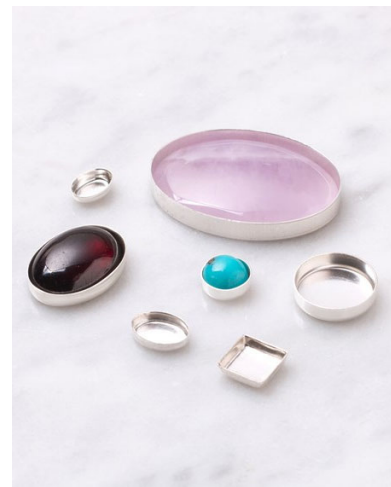


photo from <https://www.kernowcraft.com/jewellery-making-tips/gemstone-setting-advice/how-to-adjust-bezel-settings-to-fit-cabochons>

SWAP RECAP

by Sharon Marburger (Photos by Jayne Beer)

The 2022 Summer Swap held at the Beer Family Farm on June 25 and 26 was a smashing success! There were 21 vendors, selling a variety of items. 360 adults attended (children were not counted because they had free admission). Everyone seemed to have a good time. Vera reported that people were quite enthused and many asked if we planned to hold the event next year.

Many thanks to Jayne Beer for coordinating everything and finding food vendors, porta potties, and tables. Thanks to Corey Beer and Brian Beer for help preparing the property for the Swap, and assisting Jayne. Thanks to Vera Lyman, Gene Mulinex, and Jeff Kubitz for working the admittance table. Kelly Beer and her friend, Reanna, directed traffic for vehicle parking; their efforts are appreciated! Thanks to those working the club booth and the junior booth. Brett Jurgens kept us all hydrated during the event. And the biggest thanks to all the vendors who participated; without them there would have been no swap. If I forgot anyone, I apologize.



Jackie Barnhardt and Charles "Wooly" Wooldridge



Aaron Grow



Nykky little Crystal - Nick & Nykky Lytle



Jim's Gems - Jim Marburger
and
LGMC Club Booth - Sharon Marburger



bythebeerslapidary - Corey Beer



SWAP RECAP - CONTINUED



Brad Nielsen



Spirit Upload



Brett and beverages



Black Kat Gallery



Kessler on the Rocks - Randy Kessler



Steve May and Richard Hedges



The Finest Things - Bruce Sturges



Ed Ridge

SWAP RECAP - CONTINUED



Afghan Silver - Hanif Sufizada



Oddballs & Outcasts - St. Clairs
Photo by Kay Jurgens



Venture Path Studios - Jesse Bennett



Diane Rose and hubby



Greg & Betty Syslo



Sunday Food Vendor - Raina on the Run



Papio Creek Gems - Jim MacNabb

SWAP RECAP - CONTINUED



Patrick Carey



Ken



Patrick Milliken did not want his picture taken (back to camera), so we give you another photo of Nick Lytle



Kelly and Reanna as they were finishing their car parking career



Our greeters and admissions takers
Vera Lyman, Jeff Kubitz, and Gene
Mulinex

PROJECT AT THE PITTARDS'

by Sharon Marburger (photos by Jayne Beer)

On June 28, 29, and 30, a group of LGMC members made the trip to Geneva, Nebraska to assist the Pittard Family with sorting, cleaning, and identifying Roger and Mary Pittard's rock collection. Included in that group was Ford & Ford Auctioneers (Greg and Annette are club members); Jim Marburger; Jayne Beer; Corey Beer; Aaron Grow; Rowdy Cropp; and Sharon Marburger.

Roger had an unbelievable amount of items in his collection. When Jim and I left on Wednesday, there were 38 pallets with each pallet holding at least 9 five-gallon buckets. Additionally, there were about 200 flats. There were lots of oversized rocks that will be sold individually. Since we didn't work on Thursday, I don't know the final number.

Ford & Ford has scheduled the two-day auction for September 24 and 25, 2022. Watch their website for more information as it becomes available.

<http://www.fordfordauctioneers.com/index.php/features/item/936-upcoming-2-day-rock-auction-saturday-september-24th-sunday-september-25th-2022-geneva-ne>



A few items before the cleaning and sorting started



Digging out specimens in order to clean and sort



Sharon sorting and sifting. Jim in background sorting the items that were stored in the house basement

TIDBITS FROM WOOLY

by Charles "Wooly" Wooldridge



Congratulations to the Beer Family for another fun and successful Summer Swap! Everyone I talked with said they had a great time.

We are now in the Dog (Rock Hound) Days of summer. In Nebraska, this means periods of high heat and humidity. Precautions should be taken to avoid the ill effects of prolonged exposure to heat, humidity, and strenuous activity.

There are three levels of negative physical response: muscle cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke; each being progressively more severe.

- Muscle cramps occur as a response to dehydration. To avoid dehydration, start drinking water well before the activity. By the time you get thirsty, it may be too late to maintain proper fluid and electrolyte levels. Wear a hat. Your head is an excellent heat exchanger.
- The next level is heat exhaustion. Symptoms include: excessive sweating, muscle cramps, faintness, dizziness, fatigue, nausea, and headache, among others. You need to get into the shade, drink cold water, take a dip in some water if there is some nearby, and get to some air conditioning. At this point, your trip should end. To continue is to risk very serious consequences.
- The third and most dangerous condition is heat stroke. Heat stroke occurs when body temperature hits 104° or above. This condition requires immediate medical treatment. Symptoms include all the aforementioned, plus delirium and loss of consciousness. At this point, you may stop sweating. Continued exposure may result in death. Steps to take: Get out of the heat; move to air-conditioning as soon as possible; give cool fluids; and get medical attention as soon as possible.

The Looney Toons Gang was robbing a liquor store. Bugs held a bottle up to Elmer saying, "Is this whiskey?" Elmer replied, "Not as wisky as wobbling a bank!"

Stay safe and good rock hounding!



Make your plans now to attend this event. Let's support them as they support us!

18th Annual Nebraska Artifact Show

Seward County Fairgrounds - Harvest Hall

Saturday, August 20, 2022

Seward, Nebraska

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Presentation:
(to be announced)

**Flint Knapping
Demonstrations**

**World Class Displays of
Prehistoric Stone Artifacts
from the Great Plains Region**

**Over 100 Display Tables
Free of Charge**



**The Nebraska Artifact Show
is a non-commercial show sponsored by
the Nebraska Archaeological Society
No buying or selling of antiquities is permitted**

**Adults \$5
Children 12 & under free**

**Bring the Family
Concessions Available**



**This event is for the
exhibition of authentic
Native American artifacts
and related items.
No unlawful items allowed**

For more information: 402-225-2525 or 402-326-9061

FROM DIAMOND DAN'S MINI MINERS MONTHLY
VOL. 14, NO. 5, MAY 2022

There is a really fun and well-organized special group on Facebook. It is called "Rock Swap." The Facebook page heading has a quote, "Friendship: It's not a big thing. It's a million little things."

"Rock Swap" was started by Stephen Eskes, a mineral collector from South Branch, Michigan. (He is also a fireman.) He wanted to give kids a chance to meet other mineral collectors and be able to trade specimens with each other. There are right now about 4,100 members! This Facebook group has grown much faster than he ever expected. It is now so big that he has other people helping to watch over (moderate) the page.

How can you join "Rock Swap"? It's very easy. Search for the group on Facebook. You will ask to join the group. Before you join you will have to answer some questions. Then one of the moderators will add you to the group (as long as you promise to follow the rules! That's one of the questions.)

One of the things that Diamond Dan loves about the group is that it does not allow advertising! It is a group for young mineral collectors who want to trade specimens, make friend connections, and enjoy the mineral hobby. In a world where every website and every TV program has a lot of advertising, it is so great to have a place you can go and know that you will NOT be hounded with advertisements.

One of their special events every year is a "Secret Santa" experience in December. Mr. Eskes and his friends randomly match up the group's members in pairs. If you want to do this, they will give you the name and address of another member and you can send a mineral specimen to that person. Another person will send you a mineral specimen. It's a lot of fun. You will make a new friend, or two, in the process.

Why Is Quartz So Cold?

Brrrrr. On a warm day, put your hand on a big piece of quartz that hasn't been sitting out in the sun. Do you know what you will feel? Will it feel warm or cold?

Surprise, it will feel COLD! The ancient Roman naturalist, Pliny the Elder, concluded that quartz is water that froze so hard that it would never melt. In other words, quartz is petrified ice. Why did he think this? First, he noted that quartz crystals were found near glaciers in the Alp mountains, where it is very cold in the winter, and at least cool in the summer. Second, he also noted that quartz crystals are not found on volcanic mountains. Third, he pointed out that when large quartz crystals are held, they will cool the skin on his hand. Therefore, quartz crystals must be petrified ice.

So, why does it feel cold? Heat is energy. Energy moves from hot objects to cooler objects, until both objects are the same temperature. The ability of an object to absorb heat is called its "thermal conductivity." Sounds scientific, doesn't it? What it means is that solid objects have the ability to take heat (energy) from the world around them and move that heat into the object itself. Hold an ice cube in your hand. Feel how very cold it is? It feels cold because the block of ice is taking heat away from your hand.

2023 MID-WINTER SWAP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Sharon Marburger
 Club Booth.....
 Finance & Swapper Bucks Sales: Vera Lyman
 Floor Chairman:..... Corey Beer, Jayne Beer
 Insurance..... Vera Lyman
 Publicity & Promotion:..... Jayne Beer, Jim Marburger
 Web Master: Sharon Marburger
 Youth Activities:.....Brett Jurgens

2023 SHOW COMMITTEE

Theme:.....Fools Gold (Iron Pyrite)
 Chairman:..... Jayne Beer
 Dealers & 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
 FormsSharon Marburger
 LGMC Club Booth:.....Charles Wooldridge
 Nebraska Gem Dig:.....Charles Wooldridge
 Plants:..... Ed Ridge
 Publicity & Promotion: Jim Marburger
 Raffle..... Gene Mulinex
 Ribbons & Recognitions:Sharon Marburger
 Security: Vera Lyman
 Show Flyer & Printed Program.....Sharon Marburger
 Silent Auction:Sharon Marburger
 Youth Activities:Brett Jurgens

2023 SUMMER SWAP COMMITTEE

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

This is what happens with quartz. Quartz has a very high thermal conductivity. This means that it can move heat very easily and quickly away from your hand. When it does this, your brain tells you that the quartz feels cool and that your hand is feeling cool as well.

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:

All Members

Property:

James Marburger

Recognition/Awards:

Ed Dvorak, Jayne Beer, Charles Wooldridge

Refreshments:

Vera Lyman

Show—2023:

Jayne Beer

Swap (Mid-Winter) 2023:

Sharon Marburger

Swap (Summer) 2023:

Jayne Beer & Corey Beer

Website:

Sharon Marburger

Youth Activities:

Brett Jurgens

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

Contact Jayne or Corey Beer if you are interested in attending lapidary classes.

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF

PUBLISHER:
Lincoln Gem & Mineral
Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 5342
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505

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.

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

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

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