



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

THE PICK & SHOVEL

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 (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.

January 28, 2023 (Mid-Winter Swap)

February 16, 2023

March 16, 2023

BOARD MEETINGS

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

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Vera Lyman's Residence

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

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Brett Jurgens, 402.850.3256, quartz89@aol.com

1st Vice-President: Corey Beer, 402.466.6628

2nd Vice-President: Jayne Beer, 402.890.3307, JBeer60070@aol.com

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

2023 LONG RANGE PLANNING & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Jayne Beer, Chairman

1 year: Vera Lyman & Jim Marburger

2 years: Jayne Beer & Brett Jurgens

3 years: Sharon Marburger & Clyde Ogg

2023 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Charles Wooldridge, Chairman

1 year: Jim Atkins & Corey Beer

2 years: Jeff Kubitz & Vera Lyman

3 years: Jayne Beer & Brett Jurgens

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLUB FUN



ATTENTION!!!!

We have a club member with a severe peanut allergy. Please bring peanut-free foods to Club functions. Please provide any nut information on your foods.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB'S
42nd Annual Mid-Winter Rock Swap
Saturday, January 28, 2023
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



!Free Admission!

Help the Lincoln Food Bank replenish its shelves after the holidays. Bring canned items for the Food Bank.

Bethany Park Enclosed Shelter
64th and Vine Streets

Family Friendly Jewelry Fossils Club Sales

Buy Sell Trade Lapidary Supplies & Equipment Rocks & Minerals

Swapper Tables: 1/2 Table - \$10; Full Table - \$20 - **Set up at 12:00 Noon.**
Swappers are responsible for collecting Nebraska State Sales Tax and remitting it to the State.

Cash Sales Only!
All sales must be completed using SWAPPER DOLLARS.
SWAPPER DOLLARS, which include a 10% surcharge to offset rental of the facility, are available at the door.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB
Box 5342
Lincoln, NE 68505-0342
Contact: Sharon Marburger, 402.429.3323



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.

JANUARY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Brian Beer

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. 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 Brett Jurgens

Hello LGMC! It is with great honor I serve as president of the club for the coming year.

As many of you know, I grew up in the club. I have wonderful memories of club events, and members, from when I was a child. The lifelong friends and mentors have helped me form my core values.

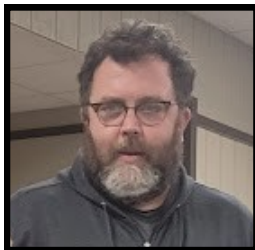
This club has a lot of history. Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club was formed in January of 1955, with its first show a couple years later. The hobby had a surge in popularity in the 60s and 70s. At one point, Nebraska had over 40 rock clubs! Most no longer exist; the only record of them is an announcement of an upcoming show in an archived Pick & Shovel newsletter (on our website). Apparently LGMC has done something right to survive. But I want the club to do more than survive. I want it to thrive!

Our club's founders laid the foundations for our club, one of those being our club's mission statement. It is found on our website and in the Pick & Shovel. A quick summation of it is that the club was founded to promote the interest and education of the different aspects of the hobby, with an emphasis on sharing that interest and education with youth. Our juniors program is one of the longest running in the nation for club youth groups. Let's continue the tradition. Promote the hobby. Talk about rocks to strangers. When meeting someone, one of my icebreaker questions is, "What do you collect?" I have found that a high percentage of people collected rocks as a kid. The big question is, how do we make that interest stick?

Our next club event is the Mid-Winter Swap on Saturday, January 28th. We are anticipating a high turnout of people wanting to sell. It should be a fantastic swap. The handwritten flyer for our second Mid-Winter Swap proclaimed, "Free Coffee". I'm sure glad we had our priorities figured out early. We continue the tradition by offering free coffee at the swap today.

Our big annual show is April 1st and 2nd. Preparations for the show are coming along. Dealer contracts were sent out and all have been returned. Demonstrator contracts will be sent out shortly. Our next step for the show will be getting volunteers to help run the show. As I've said before, it takes a lot to put on the show. Volunteers are needed to help set up the show, man the show while open, and tear down. Also, please consider setting up a display case. It's a good way to show others what interests you, and to promote different aspects of our hobby. Last year we had over 50 display cases. There were lots of nice compliments from show attendees on the quantity and quality of the displays. Nothing would make the Board happier than to have to scramble to find additional cases to accommodate demand. Ed Ridge is in charge of displays if you have any questions. Let's work together to promote both the club and the hobby!

See you at the Swap!

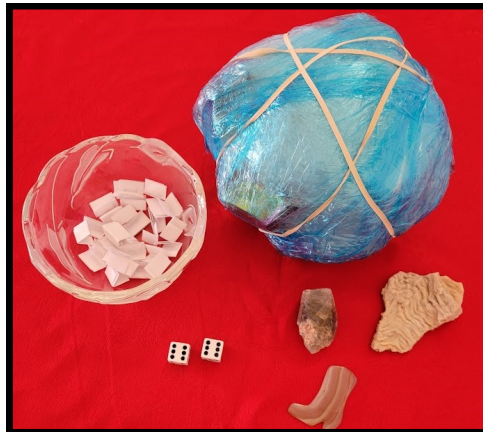
DECEMBER ROCK PARTY

by Sharon Marburger

In addition to Jim and me, thirteen people attended the Rock Party on December 17, 2022. As usual, we enjoyed some good food, conversation, and fellowship.

Jim took a group of people downstairs to do some lapidary work. Wooly entertained those who remained upstairs with stories of his trip to India, showing off his fantastic purchases.

Since it was almost Christmas, I thought it would be fun to have gifts for attendees. After eating, I offered numbers to those who wanted to play a game I discovered in a magazine. Each person selected a number from a bowl, determining the order of play. A



couple days before the Rock Party, I made a ball using Saran Wrap, incorporating prizes as I went. Included were small slabs, tumbled stones, crystals, a rock painting, and other specimens. I didn't count how many prizes I wrapped, but there were a lot, having the "grand prize" in the center. The object of the game was to have each person, in turn according to the number they drew, unwrap the ball, claiming prizes as they were uncovered while the next person in line rolled the dice, trying to roll doubles. Once doubles were rolled, the person unwrapping passed the ball to the roller, and the next person in line took the dice. This process continued until the ball was completely unwrapped. The ball made several passes around the table, offering each person the opportunity to unroll multiple times. Never having played this game before, I wasn't sure how long the game would take or how spread out the prizes would be. I had three "booby" prizes (shown in the picture above) in case anyone didn't unwrap a prize. There was a lot of laughter and coaching on how to unwrap the ball. It ended up that everyone received at least one prize from the ball. I offered the "booby" prizes to the three people who received only one prize, so everyone went home with at least two items. I believe it was Arvid Olson who unwrapped the "grand prize" of a nice, solid, polished geode half. It appeared that the game was a success since there were lots of smiles, laughter, and sparkling eyes.

Those doing lapidary had a good time, too. Arvid worked some lapis; Evan slabbed stones and worked on some cabochon projects; Donnette and Mike toured our rock shop, discussing various specimens on display and locations in Wyoming for collecting, taking home a polished stromatolite and a polished turrutella agate; and Allen selected slab boxes to take upstairs to Tammy so she could select and purchase slabs to add to her painting inventory.

Overall, I think everyone had a good time.

LGMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2022 at the Lyman Residence
Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Jayne Beer.

Roll Call

President:	Jayne Beer	Present
1st Vice Pres.:	Brett Jurgens	Present (via phone)
2nd Vice Pres.:	Corey Beer	Present
Treasurer:	Vera Lyman	Present
Secretary:	Jeff Kubitz	Present
Board:	Charles Wooldridge	Absent
	Sharon Marburger	Present
	James Marburger	Present
	Ed Ridge	Present
Guest:	Clyde Ogg	

Minutes were distributed. Motion to accept the Minutes by James, second by Vera. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report was read. Motion to accept as corrected by Sharon, second by Ed. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Jayne stated that most of the Lapidary equipment has been moved to the new location, "Hidden Gems". Most of the donated paint has been used up during the revamp of the property. James asked if the big saw and other items had been removed from Auld and Jayne said it is still there and we will need to get it. Vera suggested paying for it to be moved. Instead, Jayne would like to save that money for equipment repair and have members of the club move the saw and the rest of the items to the new location. Jayne said Nicki did all the electrical rewiring for Hidden Gems. Since it was necessary for the lapidary equipment setup, Vera moved that the club reimburse Jayne for parts and labor of the electrical work; second by Sharon. Motion passed.

The Mid-Winter Swap is planned for January 28, 2023 at Bethany Park Shelter House. Sharon mentioned that Hanif of Afghan Lapis would like to be a swapper this year. Sharon also stated the Silent Auction will be at the Club Booth. Snack food and club coffee will be available at the Swap. Brett said flyers for the Mid-Winter Swap are on the website and in the Pick & Shovel. James said signage will be put up on the fence at the driveway entrance, with permission of Parks and Recreation. Setup time is 11:00 to arrange tables; swappers setup at noon; and we are open to the public from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Brett said promotion of the Swap will be on Facebook after the holidays. James will use Facebook Event for this. Clyde asked about Silent Auction items and Sharon said all items sold at the Silent Auction are donations made to the club. The proceeds go to the Lapidary Class Fund.

The Christmas Party will be held on December 4. The Club will provide chicken, cups, plates, and drinks. Bingo will be played, with Sharon calling out the numbers.

The December Rock Party will be hosted by Jim and Sharon Marburger on December 17.

Brett said he will report next time on information for a new projector. They run from \$400 to \$600. Jayne asked if a TV would be better. Clyde Ogg said the projector screen would be better for viewing. Jayne said we will discuss more about this in the future.

Sharon said Francina Marie Davis would like to become a member of the club again. Vera moved to reinstate Francina's membership, second by Sharon. Motion passed.

Discussion regarding quorum numbers. Sharon reviewed the club by-laws and confirmed that 20% of membership is required at a meeting to make a quorum. Allowing membership of people living too far away to attend meetings increases the number of people needed to meet quorum rules, with no increase in meeting attendees. The By-Laws Committee will need to meet to find proposed solutions to present to the Board.

Discussion about changing the meeting venue to Hidden Gems. Brett would like the juniors to meet there at different times. Vera stated Bethany Park has been paid for the whole year in advance, although we would be able to cancel reservations if needed. Meeting place and times tabled for future discussion.

New Business:

Clyde Ogg would like to see more educational speakers at meetings, but the 8:00 p.m. closing time precludes this. He also mentioned having Zoom speakers. Jayne said this could be done. Clyde and Jayne also thought it would be fun to have club members speak about their collections or favorite rocks, which could last from 10 to 15 minutes. Brett said Eric Fritsch has some great programs. Brett and Clyde want to have a committee for programs.

The Messengers should be contacted to find out when is the last day to collect from their previously owned property. A field trip will be set up accordingly. Jayne will call Karen to see if she would like to come along to identify items. Lights, gloves, and masks are needed.

Show Business

Francina Marie Designs notified us that she will be unable to attend the 2023 Show. She suggested we ask Custom Gems to take her booth. Since we have a waiting list for vendor spaces, it was decided to ask Monarch Minerals if they would be able to fill the space on a one-time basis. Sharon will e-mail the contract to them. If Monarch Minerals cannot make it, Custom Gems will be contacted.

Vera stated the contract with the Lancaster Event Center is ready, signed, and done.

James said Show postcards will be ordered. Sharon said the website is updated.

It was decided to ask Eric Fritsch to have a fixed location at the Show, perhaps the Club Booth, for mineral identification.

Sharon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Second by Corey. Meeting Adjourned.

LGMC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

December 4, 2022 at Bethany Park Shelter House

By Jeff Kubitz, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 5:54 p.m. by President Jayne Beer.

We had 24 members in attendance.

November Meeting Minutes read by Jayne. Motion to accept minutes by Jim, second by Vera. Motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report was read by Vera Lyman. Sharon moved to accept the Treasurer's report as read, second by Sheryl Olson. Motion Passed.

Old Business:

Jayne announced that The Jewelry Connection's new location is very close to opening. The official shop name is "Hidden Gems by The Jewelry Connection". Open House hours will be 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. on December 9. Jim and Sharon Marburger have been a huge help painting and helping get the new place ready to open.

New Business:

Jim and Sharon will host a Rock Party at their home on Saturday, December 17.

Show Business:

One dealer, Francina Marie Designs, can't make it to the show and has asked that we use Custom Gems to replace her. Since there is a dealer waiting list, we asked Monarch Minerals to take her place for one year only. Monarch Minerals has been sent a contract, but we haven't heard back from them yet. Brett Jurgens said that he heard they sound excited to come to our show. Vera stated the other 13 dealers have sent in their contracts and everything is ready to go at the Event Center.

The Mid-Winter Swap will be from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on January 28 at Bethany Park Shelter House. A short meeting and pizza supper will follow. The pizza will cost around \$8:00 per person. The Swap will accept swappers on a first come, first served basis. A Silent Auction/Club Booth will be held, also. Table space will be rented by Vera and Sharon. If too many swappers, ½ tables may be offered. Swapper Bucks are used because the City doesn't allow cash sales on the property. Dealers can accept credit cards, however, they must pay 10% of the credit card sales to the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club.

Vera Lyman moved to adjourn at 6:15 p.m., second by Sharon.

At this time, Brett Jurgens, on behalf of Wooly, presented Jayne Beer the President Award. James Marburger presented Jayne Beer with the Rockhound of the Year award. for 2022. Sharon Marburger presented Vera Lyman a Distinguished Service Award for her many years of excellent service to the club.

Rock Bingo followed, with Sharon calling the Bingo numbers since Santa Wooly was out of the country. Many prizes were donated by the membership and a lot of winners went home happy!

NEW YEAR'S EVE GATHERING AT HIDDEN GEMS BY THE JEWELRY CONNECTION.

by Jayne Beer and Sharon Marburger (photo by Jayne Beer)

It was only a few days before New Year's Eve that Jayne decided it would be fun to have a few people around at the shop on New Year's Eve since that is where she planned to be anyway. So she, with the help of Sharon, notified club members via email and Facebook that anyone could join in for games or rock grinding.

We had a good turnout of club members, plus Jayne's daughter, Kelly, joined us with a group of her friends, making the evening a little more lively than expected.

It was exciting to see Paul Pribil and children, Arthur and Joy, attending a rock party. Joy was able to polish a Montezuma agate geode with Corey's help. Ja-zeil also worked on some cabochons. He does fantastic work; better than a lot of adults.

Jayne made potato soup and a couple of other crockpot foods. Attendees brought in meat, cheese, crackers, sweets, and other yummys. We snacked the evening away!

Corey provided a tour of the shop and lapidary equipment to some local people who dropped by. They were excited to see what was in the new shop.

Brian started a puzzle and several people helped to place some pieces. Jayne, Eddie, Judith, Sharon, and Theresa played a game of Deer in the Headlights, a card game where luck totally determines the winner. Sharon is proud to say that she was the definite loser of the game! After that, we added Ja-zeil and played a card game called Play Nine. That required some strategy, but also included luck. We lost Ja-zeil to cabbing after the first hand. We believe he played the one hand to teach the rest of us how to play. Jayne ended up winning that game.

The bulk of the partygoers left around 11 p.m. They either left to attend other parties or to drive home before all the crazy drivers left their parties.

A good time was had by all. Brian, Corey, and Jayne were the only ones left at the shop to mark the event of moving into 2023 and to celebrate the club presidency change from Jayne to Brett. We look forward to seeing what Brett has in store for our club and doing what we can to help implement any new ideas. Let's all get active in our club!



Jim, Kenny, Sharon, & Ja-zeil

TIDBITS FROM WOOLY

by Charles “Wooly” Wooldridge

In December, Jackie and I spent a few days in Jaipur, India where I spent one whole day gemstone shopping. Jaipur is the capital and largest city in the Northwestern State of Rajasthan. It is a beautiful city often called the “Pink City” because many of the buildings are painted pink.

Jaipur became a hub for gem cutting and jewelry manufacturing in the 1700s. It remains a major center for gemstones. The rough material is sent there from all over the world and finished materials are delivered worldwide. There is a gem market, the Johari Bazaar, where rows of small shops sell all sorts of beautiful gems and jewelry. I avoided this area and instead focused on the three wholesale distributors I had researched. Soon I discovered a ritual that occurred in all three places. First, I would be taken upstairs, seated at a desk and asked what I was interested in. After giving some idea of my interests, they would show me what they thought I wanted. I would look through various parcels of gems and set aside what I wanted. This might take several hours as each had lots of beautiful material to inspect. After sorting out what I wanted, the owner would call for a cup of coffee or chai and we would socialize. Only after this would we haggle on price. This occurred at each dealer. I was able to get good prices on nice stones. I wanted to buy much more but I only had so much room in luggage. They had direct shipping through DHL or Fed-Ex, but shipping would cost more than the gems.

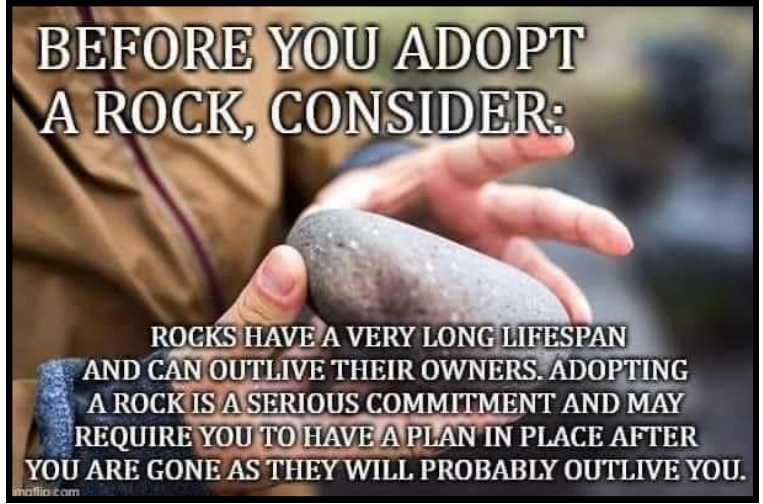
India is not for the faint of heart, and I don’t think I will return...except I’d love to go back to Jaipur with a lot of money!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



SAGE ADVICE

Seen on the Internet:



Elephant decorated for a wedding



One of the shops



Shopkeeper figuring the bill

THE STEAMBOAT TOURMALINE -- ONE OF THE FINEST TOURMALINE SPECIMENS EVER; MINED BY A NEBRASKAN

by Eric Fritzsch

In the Smithsonian, you can see some of the finest minerals ever collected and one of the really outstanding specimens is a pair of mint green capped tourmalines with a pink or red base. This specimen is known as the "Steamboat Tourmaline", as it resembles two exhaust towers of tourmaline on a quartz crystal boat.

Most of the tourmaline was sold to the Imperial Chinese Government for a large sum of money, especially in those days: almost \$3,000,000. Some of this tourmaline was carved into snuff bottles, figurines, and other items. I've seen many of these 20th century pink snuff bottles in museums and they likely originated in Frank's mine. Frank knew the Steamboat Tourmaline was special and eventually sold it to Washington Roebling (engineer who built Brooklyn Bridge, although many believe his wife deserves more of the credit). Roebling's son eventually donated his father's collection of 16,000 minerals to the Smithsonian, where it is on display today.

What many don't realize is that this mineral was collected by a native Nebraskan: Frank Barlow Schuyler (1872-~1927). Frank was born in Falls City, Nebraska. Frank was a machinist but apparently had an appetite for mining. Together with D. G. Harrington, they discovered a tourmaline bearing granitic pegmatite on Pala Chief Mountain in San Diego County, California in 1903 which they named the Tourmaline King Mine.

Four years after mining the deposit, at a depth of approximately 60 feet below ground surface, Frank opened a large 30 feet long by 10 feet wide pocket containing hundreds, if not thousands, of tourmaline crystals. The pocket produced almost 8 tons of tourmaline, including the Steamboat Tourmaline.

In 1915, at the Panama Pacific International Exposition, Frank sold tourmalines from his mine with a "wear a tourmaline for luck" marketing campaign. He was certainly lucky and sold his mine in 1916. The new owner of the mine never produced much tourmaline and it closed in 1922.



NEBRASKAN WOMEN IN THE MICROMOUNT HALL OF FAME

by Eric Fritzsch

A micromount is a mineral that is small and best appreciated under a microscope. A micromounter is someone who collects micromounts, often mounted (attached) in small plastic boxes about 2 x 2 x 2 cm. Many minerals only occur as microscopic crystals and micromounts can be very beautiful and intriguing.

Two women who were native Nebraskans went on to be honored in the Micromount Hall of Fame. The Micromount Hall of Fame was established in 1975 by the Baltimore Mineral Society. Only about 100 people are in the Micromount Hall of Fame and it is about 90% male.

Violet "Vi" Winifred Clark Frazier was born in Spaulding, Nebraska in 1913. The daughter of a farmer, Vi became interested in minerals after taking several courses on mineralogy and geology in college. Vi built a collection of more than 5,500 micromounts, many self-collected, and started the Northern California Mineralogical Association out of her home in 1973.

Ruth Cole Wertz was born in Stanton, Nebraska in 1907 and was a teacher. She collected minerals, mostly thumbnails, until she was introduced to micromounting after attending the Baltimore Mineral Symposium in the 1960s. She became a founding member of the MNCA (Micromineralogist of the National Capitol Area).

Both women were introduced to the Micromounters Hall of Fame in 1993 and 2002 respectively. They were influential micromounters on opposite sides of the country, however, they grew up in the center -- Nebraska.

https://www.baltimoremineralsociety.org/.../vi_frazier.pdf

<https://mineralogicalrecord.com/biographie.../frazierviolet/>

https://www.baltimoremineralsociety.org/.../ruth_wertz.pdf

<https://mineralogicalrecord.com/biographi.../wertzruth-cole/>

A GEODE

by George "Chic" Cihacek (former member)
Published in Rockhound Rhymes

A solid rock I know about,
Its make-up doesn't faze me.
A hollow one is something else.
Its structure does amaze me.

Is it a hole within a rock?
This fact I often ponder.
Or is it rock around a hole?
I'll never cease to wonder.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB'S 42nd Annual Mid-Winter Rock Swap

Saturday, January 28, 2023

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



!Free Admission!

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

Bethany Park Enclosed Shelter

64th and Vine Streets

**Family
Friendly**

Jewelry

Fossils

**Club
Sales**

**Buy
Sell
Trade**

**Lapidary
Supplies
&
Equipment**

**Rocks
&
Minerals**

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

Cash Sales Only!

**All sales must be completed using SWAPPER DOLLARS.
SWAPPER DOLLARS, which include a 10% surcharge to
offset rental of the facility, are available at the door.**

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB

Box 5342

Lincoln, NE 68505-0342

Contact: Sharon Marburger, 402.429.3323



JUNIORS

by Brett Jurgens, Junior Leader

Hello juniors. I hope everyone had a fantastic holiday!

I can remember looking forward to the holiday break from school. I wish my job worked that way. I typically get so busy with work during the holidays that January often feels like a break.

And what better way to relax than with a ROCK SWAP! We haven't had the Mid-Winter Rock Swap for the last two years so I am excited for its return. I hope to see as many of you as possible at the swap on Saturday January 28th. The Swap is open from 1 p.m.-5 p.m., with a pizza party and club meeting afterwards (save some money from the swap to pay for pizza!).

The junior meeting will be real quick. I'd like to see what everyone picked up from the swap and, hopefully, I will have found something for specimens. One thing we will need to discuss are the options we now have for our junior meetings. With Jayne and Corey's new business space, and the lapidary equipment on site there, we have the option of holding our junior meetings there. The 5:30 p.m. start time at the shelter is an issue for most of us; the Beers' shop allows flexibility with meeting time and days. I need feedback from juniors' parents regarding when would work best. We will try to accommodate the majority.

Our big annual show is less than three months away. In the near future, I will be reaching out to find volunteers to help at the junior booth during the show. I will have a sign up list so we can make sure to have volunteers during the entire show. We had great turn turnout for volunteers last year and had a blast. Let's repeat it!

See you soon



QUARTZ IN EASTERN NEBRASKA

by Eric Fritsch

In a previous write up on Facebook, we talked about how the source of much of the surface rock in Nebraska is the Rocky Mountains. Another force, the glaciers, also brought down a lot of rock. Rivers often move and push rock. Combined with weathering, many of the minerals are broken down into clays.

Do all rocks and minerals weather to clay? There are some minerals that are very resistant to weathering. Quartz is one of these minerals, and much of what is hunted by local collectors are these resistant pieces. Quartz does break down in sand, but it doesn't generally weather into clays. It is tough and can take a beating.

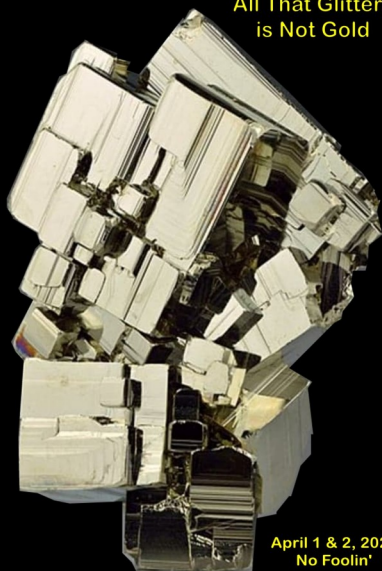
Most local field collectors seek out quartz and its many varieties: petrified wood, chalcedony, agate, jasper, flint, etc. Its hardness, diaphaneity (clearness, ability to pass light), luster, color, patterns, and other features make quartz and its cryptocrystalline (not well-formed internal order of silica and oxygen) varieties desirable.

The best places to collect quartz are often in riverbeds, where clay is removed, and quartz pebbles and cobbles are concentrated. There is always the possibility to find other materials in riverbeds, so the field collector should be on the look out for what is different.

You probably wouldn't be very likely to find quartz crystals like one does in Arkansas. This is because as the rock is transported from either the Rockies or via glaciers from Canada, the prismatic shape of the quartz is likely to be abraded. It doesn't mean it isn't possible, and I've seen several rocks with small crystalline quartz, but it is likely glacially transported and partially protected by the encasing rock. Some of that sand brought over by rivers from Colorado may have once been fine quartz crystals, but most of it was likely grains in granite.

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club's 63rd Annual Show

All That Glitters
is Not Gold



April 1 & 2, 2023
No Foolin'

START PLANNING FOR THE 63RD ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW!

- Volunteer to help set up and cover tables, and set up cases on March 31
- Volunteer to work a booth or be a rover, helping where needed
- Go through your collection to find specimens for a display case (or two!)
- Bring some Nebraska-found rocks for the outside rock pile
- Offer to help Brett with the Juniors Booth
- Ask Wooly about helping with the Club Booth
- Volunteer to help with selling tickets for the large pyrite being raffled
- Don't forget to help on Sunday, April 2 with tear down of the Show

FOR SALE

Frantom Cabbing Machine; 10 inch Slab Saw, and Craftsman Horizontal Lap.
Cabbing machine has two 1½ by 8 inch silicon carbide grinding wheels; one 3 by 8 inch expandable drum; step pulley to adjust speed; plumbed for water. This unit is able to be converted to diamond wheels.
The saw comes with a vice and has gravity feed.
The horizontal lap is shown in the bottom right picture.
The set comes with three motors and miscellaneous accessories.
It has been well-cared for and protected from the weather.
\$800 for everything. Contact Vera Lyman. 402.464.6089.

Glenn Lyman cut many beautiful stones with this setup.

This is a paid ad.



2023 MID-WINTER SWAP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Sharon Marburger
 Club Booth Sharon Marburger
 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
 Forms Sharon 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

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 or club event 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 or you are a member wanting to use the club equipment (contact info in ad below).

Silversmithing Classes

The Jewelry Connection Ltd.
Indian Village Shopping Ctr.
3227 S. 13th St., Lincoln (next to LaundrOmat)
Tuesday & Wednesday Evenings
7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.
Tuition: \$150 plus \$30 supply deposit

<u>Tuesdays</u>	<u>Wednesdays</u>
Session 1: Jan 10—Feb 28	Session 1: Jan 11—Mar 1
Session 2: Mar 7—Apr 25	Session 2: Mar 8—Apr 26
Session 3: May 2—Jun 20	Session 3: May 3—Jun 21
Session 4: Jun 27—Aug 15	Session 4: Jun 28—Aug 16
Session 5: Aug 22—Oct 10	Session 5: Aug 23—Oct 11
Session 6: Oct 17—Dec 5	Session 6: Oct 18—Dec 6

Contact: Jayne Beer 402-890-3307 or look up “Hidden Gems by the Jewelry Connection LTD” in Facebook and send message