



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).

New Meeting Times: Juniors meet at 6:15 p.m.
Adults meet at 7:00 p.m.

Next meetings: **October 19, 2023**
 November 16, 2023
 December 3, 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, October 5, 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

Jayne Beer, 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.

2024 Show

The Show Committee has set the theme for the 2024 Show. It is "Nebraska's Geological Treasures."

If you have any ideas for the advertising postcard or if you have photos that could be incorporated in the design, please send them to Sharon before October 1, at lgmc.editor@outlook.com (the sooner, the better!).

There is an uptick in COVID cases.

You may wish to wear a mask at the meetings.

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>).

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



Sunday Fun-Day Auctions are back!

Go to 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.

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/223555904325876>

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Jamie Brezina – Sedimentary Agates of the United States

This presentation covers most known sedimentary agates and their locations in the United States and includes information about agate formation.

Jamie grew up in Omaha, was an active member of the Nebraska Mineral and Gem Club; and has attended the Omaha and Lincoln Gem and Mineral Shows for over 20 years. He recently relocated to Rapid City, South Dakota.

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF

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DEADLINE:
 Last Sunday of the month.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Brett Jurgens



Welcome back. And I mean that in many ways. I welcome you back from our summer break, and I look forward to our meeting and getting back into the rhythm of meetings and gatherings.

Welcome back if you've taken a break and haven't been to a meeting in a while. We have great programs lined up, and great conversation to go along with it. I have found at work that there are only so many people you can talk rocks with at great length.

And welcome back if you've never been to a meeting before. I urge you to attend a meeting or event and see what you think. I have a good feeling that if you have an interest in rocks, you will feel at home with us, and that you've belonged here for a long time.

We had thirteen members attend the field trip to the Crawford Rock Swap over Labor Day weekend. If you visited the north loop of the city park, you would have seen the LGMC wall: Wooley; Jim and Sharon; Eddie; and Jayne, Corey, and Ja-Zeil; all with tables and booths set up next to each other. I did not set up to sell, but spent my days collecting, buying, swapping stories, and cooking. Many pancakes and hot cups of coffee were consumed by both club members and anyone who happened to walk by.

For me, the Crawford Swap is a vacation with close friends. And rocks. I can't forget the rocks. There are so many varied dealers that you never know what will show up. Some vendors may only set up a four foot table, bringing enough rock to sell to offset the cost of the trip. And some are setting up a dozen tables with enough material to be a show dealer. This year I lucked out on finding some petrified wood and limbs. I will have some displayed at the meeting on Thursday, the 21st. Please bring your summer "finds", purchased or found, for a little show and tell.

Clyde Ogg has a wonderful program lined up. Nebraska's own Jamie Brezina (now located in Rapid City) will be giving a live Zoom presentation. I am looking forward to it.

One thing discussed at the recent board meeting was refreshments at the meetings. Once upon a time, we had people sign up to be the hospitality host for the month. An issue with that was if that person forgot or were unable to attend the meeting. Typically, we do fairly well with plenty of refreshments. We are actually becoming known for this at our winter and summer swaps, along with Crawford. Please continue to bring refreshments for the meetings. My stomach thanks you. Also a kind reminder to bring nut free items, because at least one member has nut allergies.

Saturday, September 30th and Sunday, October 1st are the dates for the Omaha Rock Show. We've had good participation between the two clubs with volunteers the past few years and they are in need of help. I will have a sign up sheet at the show, and will be posting it to the Facebook page as well. Please help if you are able; it takes a lot to put on a show.

FIELD TRIP TO BARTELS MUSEUM

By Sharon Marburger (information and pictures from Clyde Ogg and Donitte Stiles)

The field trip to the Bartels Museum at Concordia College in Seward, Nebraska was on Sunday, August 27, 2023. Clyde and Barb Ogg, with their grandson, and Mike and Donitte Stiles were the only club members to attend. (Jim and I planned to attend but we totally spaced it off.)

Those attending were treated to a guided tour by Marv Plamann, who provided stories and interesting information about the collection. It is reported that they had a fantastic time.



LGMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

by Sharon Marburger, Acting Secretary

Thursday, June 8, 2023 at the Lyman Residence

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m. by President Brett Jurgens.

Roll Call

President:	Brett Jurgens	Present
1st Vice Pres.:	Corey Beer	Present
2nd Vice Pres.:	Jayne Beer	Present
Treasurer:	Vera Lyman	Present
Secretary:	Jeff Kubitz	Absent
Board:	Charles Wooldridge	Present
	Sharon Marburger	Present
	James Marburger	Present
	Ed Ridge	Present
Guests:	Mike & Donitte Stiles	present

The minutes of the May meeting were distributed. Eddie moved to accept the minutes, second by Jim. Motion carried.

The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed. Wooly moved to accept the report, second by Corey. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Research on purchasing a new projector is ongoing. Brett and Clyde need more time to review the options.

Jim and Brett are still trying to narrow down the best fluorescent light options for our situation. Research has shown that the cost is likely to be higher than anticipated. Vera moved to add another \$2000 to the original amount approved, allowing a total of up to \$5000 for the new lights. Second by Wooly. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued on how to install a small air conditioner in the fluorescent display portion of the trailer. Many ideas were shared.

A review of upcoming events revealed the Swap in June, Rock Party at the Marburgers’ in July, and a field trip to Bartels Museum at Concordia College in August.

BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

DRILLING SMALL ITEMS

Small pieces need to be held securely while drilling to prevent them from spinning if the drill catches. Having sliced my fingers occasionally in my younger days, I avoid band-aids now by using flat-jaw pliers or a ring clamp. Pliers also save you if the piece gets hot. Put a little tape over the plier jaws if needed to avoid scratches.



LGMC will be hosting the 2025 Midwest Federation Convention in 2025. Sharon will lead the charge on forms, accommodations, meals, and advertising. The Show theme will be “American Petrified Woods.”

There was a report on the traveling driveway rock sales. It seemed to be fairly successful.

Jayne will resume the Sunday Funday online auctions when there is interest.

Application for new members Josh and son, Alex, was presented. Sharon moved to accept membership, second by Vera. Motion carried. Dues have been paid and a club event was attended.

The 2024 Show Theme is “Nebraska’s Geological Treasures.”

Jim is handling Swap advertising, pushing on Facebook. Jayne has everything else in order. Still need a food vendor for Saturday. We will have hamburgers and “dogs” for Saturday supper, with Wooly bringing cole slaw; Donitte bringing brownies; and Brett providing potato salad, pasta salad, and cheese dip. Brett will make Sunday morning waffles for anyone who wants them, and coffee will be available. Vera and Gene will collect entrance fee. Setup will begin at noon on Friday. If a food vendor is not found, we will serve grilled hotdogs to the public.

The Beers will move the remaining equipment from the Auld Pavilion before the Swap.

The Camp Creek Threshers will host an event on July 15 and 16. Brett would like to borrow the fluorescent lights for a display. Approved.

Motion to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. by Jim, second by Wooly. Adjourned.

JUNIORS

by Brett Jurgens, Junior Leader

Hello Juniors.

Summer break has ended and school has resumed. I hope you all had a fantastic summer. As I mentioned in past months my summer has probably been the busiest summer I have ever had. The plus side to that was that I was able to fit in a lot of rock hounding.



Our first meeting back is on Thursday, September 21st at 6:15p.m. For our initial meeting, please bring summer finds for show and tell. These can be rocks or fossils that you found, bought or traded for, or recently rediscovered in your collection (I did this recently and it was like Christmas!). I will bring my ultraviolet (UV) light in case you would like to check something for fluorescence. And be prepared to take home a fluorescent specimen for your collection.

Looking forward to seeing everyone.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2023, Bethany Park Shelter House
by Jeff Kubitz, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Brett Jurgens. There were 37 members and three guests in attendance.

Minutes were published in the Pick & Shovel. Motion by Gene Mulinex to accept the minutes as published, Jim Atkins second. Motion passed.

The Treasurers Report read by Sharon Marburger. Clyde Ogg moved to accept the report, second by Donitte Stiles. Motion passed.

Announcements:

The Crawford Rock Swap is September 1 through 4. It was mentioned by Wooly and Gene that Crawford has lots of agates. Clyde Ogg asked if the club was going to have a field trip to Crawford. Brett said he would write something up for a Crawford field trip. He would like to have lots of members attend.

Wooly stated Jackie had a get well card for Karen Messenger that we could all sign.

There will be a Rock Party at Wooly's house Sunday, May 21. There will be brats on the grill and sides brought by members.

Brett, Jayne, and Corey presented at McPhee school tonight, at the school's request.

Jayne mentioned the Memorial Day Driveway Sale to be held from Thursday, May 25 through Sunday, May 28. Driveway Sellers are in Hickman, Omaha, Elkhorn, and Lincoln. Jayne will have a list and map available. Allan Gossman said it was already on the Facebook Page.

Jayne said the Summer Swap flyers are available. Plans are being finalized. She found a food vendor for Sunday and

is looking for one for Saturday. The tables and the Porta Potties are lined up.

Old Business:

The Rock Party at Jayne's shop and the Robbers Cave tour were a success. Brett and Wooly and others expressed interest in doing another tour. This was also expressed by those that couldn't make it for the last tour.

The Club is still looking for fluorescent lights and a good projector.

New Business:

Sharon announced the Midwest Federation 2025 Show will be hosted by our club. The last time we hosted was in 2013. In addition to our regular show, we will need to plan field trips, a banquet dinner, and a meeting room to fit up to 50 people. Also needed are an American Flag, a speaker, coffee and donuts. We need to have two auctions. One on Saturday will be for our club and the one on Sunday will be for the Midwest Federation Endowment Fund. We will have a box lunch on Saturday at noon and Editor Breakfast, along with a Friday night Meet and Greet. Jim Marburger will check into Competitive Display cases for this show. Lots to plan for.

Kim Nielson announced the Wyoming Rock shows in June and July, and Rapid City, South Dakota is having a four day Federation show in August. Brad Nielson said he will be at the Council Bluffs Iowa Rock and Mystic Show on August 1st through 3rd.

Jim Marburger moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Donnite Stiles. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m. to Eric Fritsch's presentation about Pyrite.

MORE BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

DRILLING A STONE

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force. The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup.

Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$6.

Chuck the core drill in a drill press, Dremel or Foredom and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.

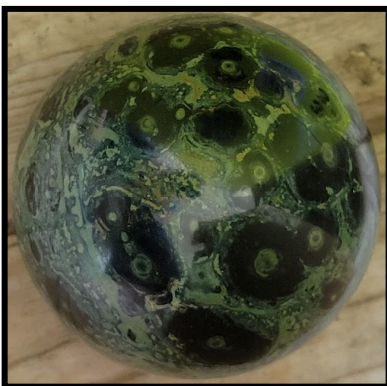


CRAWFORD ROCK SWAP

By Sharon Marburger

Labor Day Weekend found Jim and me driving to Crawford, Nebraska for the annual Rock Swap/Show, which was also LGMC's President's Field Trip. We had beautiful weather, although a tad warm.

There were lots of vendors selling lots of things. I only got to three vendors because we spent most of our time out in the field. I was able to purchase a new sphere for my collection, and a really cool slab of stromatolite.



Kambaba Jasper (rhyolite)
from Madagascar

Brett, Jim, and I went out on Saturday and Sunday to hunt for Nebraska Blue Agate. We found some nice pieces, but the majority of what we collected were white chalcedony mixed with some red and orange. It was a lot of fun. The temperature out in the fields ranged between 85° and 101°. The wind blew quite stiffly, so the temps didn't seem so bad. The intensity of the sun was a different story. We had our towels that we soaked in ice chest water, then wrapped them around our necks. Ahhhh.



Agate Lake (photo by Norm Boettcher)

Gene Mulinex was there, skunking us all. During one of the outings provided by the local club, Gene found a Fairburn Agate! I'm sorry I didn't get a picture to share here. Maybe Gene will bring it to the September meeting to show everyone.

Brett provided meals to us and others who happened by. Breakfast consisted of pancakes and sausage or bacon. Wooly cooked eggs to go with our pancakes one morning. Wooly kept an urn of free coffee to anyone who wanted it. Our evening meals were brats and dogs or a version of Polish Casserole (with cabbage and kielbasa). You know that none of our members go hungry at our functions!

I believe all of the LGMC participants had a good time, at least until the storm blew in Sunday night. And I mean BLEW IN! A big gust of wind upset Jayne's and Corey's tents, toppling them and breaking some of the merchandise.

Fortunately, everyone in the vicinity ran over to help and they got the goods thrown into the van before the rain hit.

The annual swap at Crawford is a lot of fun; buying, selling, and collecting. Consider attending next year.



A few items for sale by JimsPastTime



Hidden Gems by The Jewelry Connection



Eddie's booth



Wooly's

2024 MID-WINTER SWAP COMMITTEE

Chairmen: Jayne Beer, Sharon Marburger
 Club Booth/Silent Auction James & Sharon Marburger
 Finance & Swapper Bucks Sales: Vera Lyman
 Floor Chairman: Jayne Beer
 Insurance Vera Lyman
 Publicity & Promotion: Jayne Beer, Jim Marburger
 Web Master: Sharon Marburger
 Youth Activities: Brett Jurgens

2024 SHOW COMMITTEE

Theme: Nebraska's Geological Treasures

Chairman: Jayne Beer
 Dealers & Demonstrators: Vera Lyman
 Displays:
 Event Center Liaison Vera Lyman
 Finance/Ticket Sales: Jim Atkins
 Floor Chairman: Corey Beer, Jayne Beer
 Fluorescent Booth:
 Forms Sharon Marburger
 Indoor Rock Pile: Sharon Marburger
 LGMC Club Booth:
 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
 Youth Activities: Brett Jurgens

2024 SUMMER SWAP COMMITTEE

Chairmen: Corey Beer, Jayne Beer
 Vendors: Corey Beer, Sharon Marburger
 Finance & Ticket Sales: Vera Lyman, Gene Mulinex
 Floor Chairmen: Corey Beer, Jayne Beer
 Insurance Vera Lyman, James Marburger
 LGMC Rock Pile: 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:

Jayne Beer, Ed Dvorak, 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:**Membership Record:**

Edward Ridge

MWF Liaison:

Vera Lyman

Programs:

Clyde Ogg (Wooly & Brett assisting)

Property:

James Marburger

Recognition/Awards:

Vera Lyman, Sharon Marburger

Refreshments:

Vera Lyman

Show - 2024:

Jayne Beer

Swap (Mid-Winter) 2024:

Jayne Beer & Sharon Marburger

Swap (Summer) 2024:

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

Lapidary Classes

(Stone Cutting)

Regular student

Pay \$75 for 5 3-hour classes

You get first choice at the session you choose.

If you cannot be there, let me know by noon on Friday and you won't be charged for the class (this is how drop in openings happen). If you don't call and don't show up, you will be charged as if you were there.

Drop in student

Pay \$15 for 3 hours

This is only when openings are available.

I will post on Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club Facebook page when there are openings.

Hidden Gems

by The Jewelry Connection

3227 S 13th
Lincoln Ne

Class Times

Saturday 10 am - 1 pm

Saturday 2 pm - 5 pm

Sunday 1 pm - 4 pm

Jayne Beer - Jeweler
402-890-3307

Corey Beer - Lapidary
402-890-9155

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

Tuesdays

Session 1: Jan 10—Feb 28

Session 2: Mar 7—Apr 25

Session 3: May 2—Jun 20

Session 4: Jun 27—Aug 15

Session 5: Aug 22—Oct 10

Session 6: Oct 17—Dec 5

Wednesdays

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

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