



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.

Current club by-laws can be found at [www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/About/General Information](http://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/About/General%20Information).

GENERAL MEETINGS

Third Thursday of the Month, except for January (3rd Sunday), December (1st Sunday), and summer break (June, July, August). Bethany Park Shelter House, 65th & Vine

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

Next meeting: September 18, 2025

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, September 4, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
Vera Lyman's Residence

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

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

1st Vice-President: Jayne Beer, 402.890.3307, JBeer60070@aol.com

2nd Vice-President: Clyde Ogg, 402.326.8682, clydeogg55@gmail.com

Treasurer: Vera Lyman, 402.464.6089

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

Board Member: Corey Beer, 402.466.6628

Board Member: Jeff Kubitz, 402.540.9395, jkubitz@neb.rr.com

Board Member: Mike Stiles, 402.890.1760, mcstiles72@outlook.com

Board Member: Charles Wooldridge, 402.975.0416, charles.wooldridgeii@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLUB FUN

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 21 & 22, 2025 - Summer Gem Fest
 June 28, 2025 - Field Trip to Fairbury area
 July 26, 2025 - Rock Party at Hidden Gems
 Labor Day Weekend - President's Field Trip to Crawford, NE

FAIRBURY AREA FIELD TRIP

June 28, 2025, Leaving Bethany Park no later than 9 a.m.

- Must be a club member to attend.
- Must sign up in advance. Contact Wooly at charles.wooldridgeii@gmail.com or call 402.975.0416. You may also sign up at Gem Fest.
- Meet at Bethany Park East Parking Lot to car pool (car pooling strongly urged)
- Arrive at Casey's in Fairbury by 10:30 a.m. for travel break and meeting up with others.
- Agenda is Dinosaur Tracks, Rose Creek Quarry to collect selenite and ghost shrimp, Road cut for iron concretions and selenite, County road to collect fossils in limestone, then supper at the Pioneers Inn restaurant in Gilead.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Jayne Beer
Donna Farlow
Annette Ford
Ellie 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.

July Rock Party at Hidden Gems

**3227 S. 13th Street
Indian Village Shopping Center**

**Saturday, July 26, 2025
5:00 p.m.**

"Favorite Summertime Dishes"

It will probably be quite warm in the shop, so dress appropriately. Bring your projects to work on. There will be no charge to use the club lapidary equipment during this event.

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>).

PICK & SHOVEL STAFF

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 Sharon Marburger;
 402.429.3323

DEADLINE:
 Last Sunday of the month.

Follow us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/223555904325876>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Brett Jurgens, President

Hello LGMC.

Although recent low temps say otherwise, summer has arrived. During June, July, and August, we do not have regular monthly meetings, but don't think LGMC isn't active during the summer. Our annual Summer Gem Fest is just around the corner on June 21 and 22. Come join us at the Beer Family Farm for a weekend of what our club does best - rocks and food. We currently have 29 vendors signed up, with plenty of room for more outside spaces. The food truck from World Plates will be selling their delicious food during lunchtime on both days. And don't forget our club and vendor grill out potluck on Saturday at 6:00 p.m. The club will provide hotdogs, baked beans, potato salad, and macaroni salad. We ask members bring other sides or deserts. Refrigeration space is limited so please coordinate with me if you are bringing something. The Saturday night meal is a fantastic way to meet other rock enthusiasts and to cap off a great day. I usually cook up breakfast on Sunday morning if you are early enough. I have not yet decided on either pancakes or waffles.

We need some volunteers on both days to help at the admission gate. Vera has been a trooper the last four years but we need to give her some relief. Please reach out to me if you are able to help.

On June 28, Wooly is leading club members on the field trip he took Midwest Federation members on during the show. Federation members raved about it.

Saturday, July 19 and Sunday, July 20 is the Camp Creek Threshers annual show. I have been given use of a building there and club members have manned it during the show the last two years. Last year we had just over 1,000 people come through the building over the weekend. We have a touch table, gem dig, fluorescent display, tumbler table, and displays. Kids and parents were thrilled to have a change of pace at the antique farm equipment show. I am looking for volunteers to help this year. Helping out gets you free admission to the show and there are 80 acres of other features and displays.

Jayne has offered Hidden Gems for a Rock Party on July 29 at 5:00 p.m.. The theme will be "Favorite Summertime Dishes". Jayne says to dress cool as it will probably be hot in the store.

The Crawford Rock Swap is the weekend before Labor Day. Officially it starts on Friday, August 29, running until Monday, September 1. In reality, the swap is pretty much in full swing on Thursday (many even set up on Wednesday) and most dealers depart on Sunday. The Crawford Club offers morning field trips on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Crawford is a seven hour drive from Lincoln. For many years, club members encouraged me to go. I would quietly think to myself, why would I drive seven hours to the middle of nowhere??? After visiting the area at the end of a Blue Forest trip in 2019, I vowed to never miss a Crawford Swap again. So far, I have not. I encourage members to make the trek. Last year we had over 22 members and family members attend. If you have any questions feel free to ask.

JUNIORS

by Brett Jurgens, Junior Leader

Hello Juniors.

Summer break has finally arrived! I hope you have all been able to enjoy sleeping in a day or two before your busy summer schedules kicked in.

The club does not meet for our regular meetings during the summer. Those will resume in September. But the club remains very busy during the summer with multiple activities. Please read my presidents message for the complete list.

I would like to encourage all of you to attend our Gem Fest coming up on June 21 and 22. This is a great opportunity to meet other rock hounds and see different material that we don't always see. Several of the dealers I have spoken with say it is their favorite event. I am pretty partial to it myself. On Saturday the 21st, we have a grill out for club members and vendors. It would be great to see all there. And bring your families.

Wooly is heading up a field trip for Saturday, June 28. This should be a great trip, and definitely a trip where you will find fossils and rocks from several different locations. Not a trip to miss.

July 19 and 20 is the Camp Creek Threshers show. We have displays and activities that are geared towards sharing our hobby with kids and their families attending the antique farm equipment show. It would be great to have some junior members volunteer at the show and help promote our club! Volunteering gets you free admission into the CCT show, and there are a lot of other activities throughout the 80 acre show grounds.

We are trying to finalize one, possibly two more field trips this summer. These will be in later July or August. Look at next month's issue of the Pick and Shovel for more info. I'll see you this summer!



As we can see, the club is still active in the summer. We are also still wanting to add a local field trip or two that are not yet finalized. I hope to see you at Gem Fest!

MAY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 1, 2025 at Vera Lyman’s Residence
by Sharon Marburger, 2025 Secretary

Roll Call

President:	Brett Jurgens	Present
1st Vice Pres.:	Jayne Beer	Present
2nd Vice Pres.:	Clyde Ogg	Excused
Treasurer:	Vera Lyman	Present
Secretary:	Sharon Marburger	Present
Board:	Charles Wooldridge	Absent
	Mike Stiles	Present
	Jeff Kubitz	Present
	Corey Beer	Present

Visitors: Ed Ridge, James Atkins, Jim Marburger, and Donitte Stiles.

The minutes were distributed. Jayne moved to accept the minutes, second by Mike. Passed.

The Treasurer’s report was distributed. Sharon moved to accept the report, second by Jayne. Passed

OLD BUSINESS:

(Show) James Atkins requested to share his perspective of how the gate works at the Show. He believes we should continue using the Square for admissions. Two teams of two could be utilized; one person on each team input the information into the Square (including cash admissions so we get an accurate count of attendees) and run charge cards while the second person on each team handles the cash. Brett also mentioned that a new member is a frontline manager

(cash registers) of a retail outlet and is interested in helping to streamline gate admissions.

No other old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sharon is resigning the Chair position of the club Rock Pile. She will place notice in the P&S, asking for someone to volunteer for the position.

Brett is asking Wooly, Jim, and maybe Nick or Nykky to provide information and lead field trips over the summer. The information will be presented at the general meeting.

There has been discrepancy among the various events as to what is considered “junior”. Sharon moved, and Mike seconded, that all events consider young people 15 years and under to be a junior. Motion passed.

GEM FEST:

Gem Fest is being held the third weekend in June, and is coming along nicely. Jayne has reserved and paid for porta potties and tables; the food vendor has been confirmed. Sharon moved with a second by Mike, that Jayne purchase 20 signs like those used at the Mid-Winter Swap. Motion passed. The Facebook Event was made. Sharon moved, and Mike seconded, that \$150 be used for bumping Facebook advertising. Motion passed. Brett reminded us that there will be a potluck bar-b-que Saturday evening.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m. on a motion by Corey, second by Jeff.



BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

Quick Close-ups

Often when trying to get a close-up photo with your iPhone or Android, you can’t magnify it enough or end up with a fuzzy, out-of-focus image. Next time try using your loupe over the camera lens. It works quickly and easily.

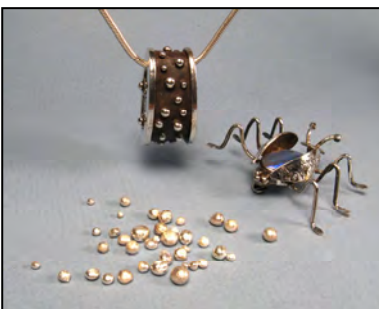


Little Balls

I often use little balls of silver and gold as accent pieces on my designs. They can be made as needed from pieces of scrap. Cut the scrap into little pieces, put them on a solder pad and melt them with a torch. Then throw the balls into a small cup of pickle.

If you need to make all the balls the same size, you need the same amount of metal to melt each time. The best way to do that is to clip equal lengths of wire.

But there’s an easier way to get a good supply of balls. Some casting grain comes in near perfect ball form. Just grab your tweezers and pick out the ones you need. Or if you need larger quantities of balls, pour the casting grain out onto a baking pan, tilt the pan a bit, and let all the round ones roll to the bottom. Bag the good ones, and pour the



rest back into your bag for casting. Balls can be sorted into different sizes using multiple screens.

See More of my Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making Series: <http://amazon.com/dp/B0BQ8YVLTJ>

MAY GENERAL MEETING

May 15, 2025 at Bethany Park Shelter House
By Sharon Marburger, 2025 Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Brett at 7:05 p.m. New members Andrea and Tiffany, as well as guest Robin, were introduced.

The minutes of the April meeting were published in the Pick & Shovel. Gene Mulinix moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Mike Stiles. Motion carried.

The Treasurer’s report summary was given by Sharon. Jim Marburger moved to accept the summary, second by Donitte Stiles. Motion carried. According to the Show Report, the club made a nice amount of money to be used for education and the good of the club.

OLD BUSINESS:

Gem Fest is coming June 21 and 22. All the prep work has been taken care of. The barn is full of vendors and 11 outside vendors have reserved spaces. There are still many outside spaces available. There will be a cookout on Saturday evening which is also a potluck. Limited refrigeration is available; see Brett or Jayne for more information. (If planning to take perishables, be sure to keep them cool, even if in an ice chest.)

Wooly and Jackie will host the May Rock Party on the 18th. Brats will be provided.

NEW BUSINESS:

Wooly will lead a field trip to the Fairbury area (this is the same trip as the Midwest Federation took) on June 28, 2025. See the Facebook post.

Jim Marburger will lead a field trip to the South Fork of the Big Nemaha River. Date has not yet been determined. Watch the club’s Facebook feed.

We are looking at possible field trips to Ash Fall and Mt. Ida, Arkansas, dates to be determined.

The President’s Field Trip will again be to Crawford over Labor Day weekend. The local club leads field trips three days.

Sharon is resigning as chair of the club rock pile. New member Andrea has volunteered to take over the duties after Gem Fest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next General Meeting will be September 18.

Jayne will be holding a driveway sale of rocks, plants, and household items/clothing over Memorial Day weekend.

Eddie will hold a driveway sale on May 31.

Jim moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m., second by Wooly. Meeting adjourned to Show & Tell.



Arvid shows off his antique watch collection



Gene with his Fairburn agate collection and copper



Mike & Donitte with their treasures



Sheryl displays her silversmithing work (done with Jayne’s help)



Norm B. shows off his finds



Brett and Barb lead the juniors’ lesson

SAFE HANDLING OF RADIOACTIVE MINERALS

By Eric Fritzsch



I recently read the article “Here be Dragons - the Care and Feeding of Radioactive Mineral Species” by Alysson Rowan (2017) available for free at: <https://www.academia.edu/31501150/Here-be-Dragons-The-Care-and-Feeding-of-Radioactive-Mineral-Species-Feb-2017>. The Society of Mineralogical Museum Professionals (SMMP) also put out a guide several years back and there are other articles out there on this subject.

Here be Dragons is a good guide to dealing with radioactive mineral specimens. What many people might not also realize is that other collectible materials, like dinosaur bone, is sometimes highly radioactive.

When I was in high school, I attended the Rochester Mineralogical Symposium, which was founded by Bill Pinch and others. Bill was an avid collector of radioactive minerals, and the symposium featured many talks on radioactive species and localities. The famed dealer, Gilbert Gauthier, even came to Rochester a few times with his wonderful suites of uranium minerals from Zaire. I was enthralled, and built a fairly descent collection of these odd-ball species.

When it comes to radioactive minerals (usually minerals which contain essential uranium or thorium), **the only way to avoid all harm is to avoid them completely**. Many collectors simply refuse to collect radioactive minerals. There are also some weird individuals on the internet drawn to the danger of these specimens and apparently nothing else. For collectors like me, it requires a cautious balance of safety to have and to hold these minerals.

Radiation is all around us and even your morning banana or coffee have some small amount of radioactivity. Natural radiation destroys cells and whereas bananas have very little naturally radioactive potassium in them, they generally don't create havoc to our bodies. On the microscopic scale, you might have a few cells die or be altered from this radiation over a lifetime. Bananas are not considered dangerous and are, in fact, very healthy for you, so I don't suggest giving up bananas. However, there may be a few people in the entire world's population that develop cancer from bananas. Establishing that link is next to impossible as one has thousands of interactions with radiation. Even sunlight is akin to gamma-rays and people do get skin cancer from exposure to sunlight. You just can't avoid natural radiation.

The radiation in minerals can be a bit more concentrated. My secondary uranium minerals from Zaire definitely make a Geiger counter scream. Uraninite from Ontario is off the charts. Why keep them and how to handle them are legitimate questions.

I collect them because they are natural minerals and often important ores. They are part of our natural and national history (uranium ore from Zaire was used to build the first nuclear bombs). Some are spectacularly colored oranges, reds, greens, and yellows.

Now comes the handling part. If you are not comfortable

with radioactive minerals you shouldn't have them. You can often find other collectors to take them rather than throwing them away in the trash.

If you decide you want to keep them, you should always exercise good hygiene practices. I recommend the following for any rock, mineral, or fossil because there are often other hazards such as heavy metals, dusts, or off-gases that pose hazards.

- Wash your hands after handling specimens. Some people suggest wearing gloves when handling.
- Do not eat or drink around minerals (to avoid accidental contamination).
- Do not ingest them (eat, lick, or otherwise put them in your mouth). This goes for agates, too.
- Smoking enhances the risk of contamination.
- Avoid creating dust or breaking. Work in a clean environment. Overhandling is another potential dust maker.
- Keep the minerals away from pets and children.
- Limit exposure time.
- Store in a box. Safe handling includes picking up the specimen by a box, rather than the specimen.
- Dispose of potentially radioactive waste properly.
- Rowen recommends closed containers which can be locked. She also recommends keeping specimens small, working/storing at a distance, shielding for concentrated storage, ventilating radon gas from cabinets, and other practices.

Possession of radioactive minerals is permitted in the United States. Refining them or trying to enhance them is prohibited. Radioactive minerals can no longer be sold on Ebay following a deranged French student who purchased them to create a “dirty bomb.” You can buy and sell them at rock shows, on the internet, etc., just not on Ebay (there are still listings but the dealers are often cautious not to mention the radioactive part in the description).

There are a lot of other minerals which may contain small amounts of uranium or thorium you may not immediately recognize as potentially radioactive. Zircon, many rare earth minerals, and niobium-tantalum oxides like betafite or columbite may contain serious amounts of uranium or thorium substituting for other elements. Green fluorescing chalcedony or moss agate fluoresce this color due to small amounts of uranium (uranium glass in effect).

For the most part, my collection, including most of my radioactive specimens, is stored in 14-gauge steel metal cabinets. This prevents most radiation from escaping the cabinet. A Geiger counter helps in understanding or

(Continued on page 7)

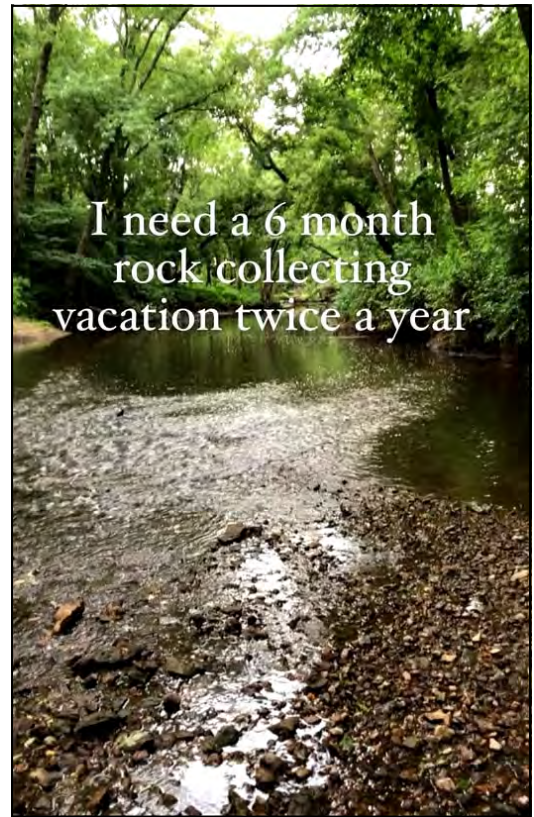
SAFE HANDLING OF RADIOACTIVE MINERALS - CONTINUED

(Continued from page 6)

visualizing this unseen hazard. As a final reminder, if you don't feel safe or are uncomfortable with radioactive minerals don't collect them.



Zircon (slightly radioactive) from Astore Valley, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan



This poster was borrowed from the Woodlarking blog.

WOE IS ME

By Sharon Marburger

I walk along the gravel bed
A small voice goes unheard,
"I am Laker" says the voice
But I don't hear a word.

Big man Corey walks behind
His ears attuned to quiet,
What is that sound? He looks around,
He will not walk right by it.

He bends and picks up treasured Laker
He laughs and taps my shoulder.
You just walked over this precious stone,
Were you looking for a boulder?

I turn and look at what I missed,
I sigh my rueful sigh,
I can't see Lakers in the wild,
Brown jasper grabs my eye.

If you see someone being interrupted
in a conversation, acknowledge them,
don't let them be pushed to the side.
If you see someone lagging behind,
walk beside them. If someone is being
ignored, take the step to include them.
Always remind people of their worth.
It hurts when it feels like you're
being forgotten. That small gesture
can mean a lot.

rosebeaches

Word Porn

CLUB ROCK PILE

By Sharon Marburger

The Club Rock Pile, formerly the Silent Auction, has a new chairman and home. New member, Andrea, has stepped forward to take on this position.

The Rock Pile/Silent Auction is put to use at the show in April, Gem Fest in June, and could be put out at the Mid-Winter Swap in January.

The rolling rack built by Jim and me to hold the inventory goes with the job. Until other arrangements are made, the Beers have offered to house the inventory in the barn at the farm.

A big thanks to Andrea and to the Beers! Long live the Rock Pile/Silent Auction!!

JUST WORKING ON THE WEEKEND

By Jim Marburger

I was working this past weekend in my rock room cutting slabs. First on the list was finishing up what was in the rock saw for slabs. When the saw is running, I can do other tasks in the shop such as changing tumblers, cabochon cutting / polishing, dopping, cleaning, or just watching the saw work. But this day I had a request to rough out a preform for Sharon to make her first sphere with the machine that Brett Jurgens had loaned to her. Oh! What is that noise the saw is making? Yes, it was thumping bad. Well, that set screw in the pulley must be loose. The motor pulley was tight so it must be the arbor pulley. I had to remove the belt guard to access the pulley. The set screw was tight. There is the problem; not the pulley but the belt itself had decided to come apart.



With local stores closed, it would require a trip into town that I did not want to make, which meant I had to look around the shop to maybe find something to use or fit the saw. Under the bench, there was a short section of "ACCU-LINK" vibration free link belt. This is a v-belt that has little sections that can be taken apart and reconnected to make a belt of any length. These belts can be found at Harbor Freight, SKU 43771, and can be used to replace a half inch wide belt. They come in 5-foot lengths. So, in about 15 minutes I was able to



make a belt. This type of belt will run smoothly and will need to be tightened after

being run for a while because all the links will wear a bit and the belt will be longer. After the first tightening, it will run for a long time.

So here I am back up and running. The belt guard will be reattached after a couple days of running to allow the belt to wear and stretch to its running length. Now onto cutting the sphere preforms that will require 24 saw cuts (8 cuts on three sides).



Continued by Sharon Marburger

Once Jim got the cuts made to the chunk of petrified wood I would use for my first homemade sphere, I started at the Genie grinding wheel to smooth out the sharp edges of the cuts. So far, we have invested about 7 hours making the sphere preform. I spent another couple of hours grinding down rough edges - this all before I got to the sphere machine!

At the sphere machine, we started with 60/90 grit in the hopper that automatically augers a set amount of grit onto the stone. The grit, along with drips of water, will allow the machine to take out all flat spots and ridges from our sphere. We spent a good 8 hours on this step.



Once the sphere was nice and smooth and round, we washed up the grinding heads and cleaned the grit hopper, then switched to 220 grit. This grit removes any scratches made by the saw blade and the 60/90 grit. As with tumbling, it is important to clean up the courser grit before using a finer one. Cross-contamination will leave you with scratches.



We spent about two hours on the 220 grit before switching to 600 grit. Again, we scrubbed everything up before using this final grit, which ran for about an hour.

At this point, the sphere was looking good. I took it over to the cloth polishing wheels and shined it up using ZAM. We had now logged about 20 hours into our petrified wood sphere. It was fun and educational, and I got a not too bad looking sphere out of it, too!



One of our rockhounding "rules" is to leave the collection area cleaner than when we arrived. This is true with borrowed equipment, too. Not only did we spiff it up, we replaced hinges and added hash marks to the base to enable us to align the grinding heads evenly. We were going to replace bearings in the motors, too, but we could not break the factory seal on the motors. Maybe another time.

From Mini Miners Monthly, Volume 17, No. 5, May 2025

GARNETS

By Noah DeSantis

Do you know what Garnets are? They are groups of minerals found in metamorphic rocks, alluvial deposits and igneous rocks. Garnets are also found in mineral sand dunes and volcanic rock. Garnets are a family of minerals that come in many colors like red, orange, brown, yellow, green, and even colorless. There are more than twenty categories (species) but only five of those are commonly known as gems. The five species known as gems are Almandite, Pyrope, Grossularite, Andradite, and Spessartine.

Do you know how Garnets are formed? They are formed through a process called metamorphism, which is where rocks are changed by heat and pressure. This happens where high pressure and heat break down chemical bonds, making new minerals like garnet. Garnets can be located in the U.S., Australia, Russia, Namibia, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, India, Kenya, China, and South Africa. There is no actual record of where the very first garnet was found. This is because of the many different species and locations of garnets, made it hard to track where and when the first one could have been found.

The word “garnet” comes from the Latin word “granatus,” and it means “pomegranate.” This is because it was thought that a garnet looked like a pomegranate’s seed. There are many things that make garnet species similar to each other, as well as very different from each other. Many of those things fall into both categories (similarities and differences).

Some of the things that make garnet species similar to each other are; their formation, chemical makeup, physical properties and crystal structure. They all have oxygen, silicon and other elements like calcium, aluminum and other metals that impact color. Basically, their different chemical make-ups and their common crystal structure, afford a wide variety of garnets, but all classified as garnets.

Oddly, the differences in the groups of garnets can also be what makes them the same, like chemical composition. Other differences are clarity and cracks, hardness and color. Garnets come in many different colors like red, yellow, orange, brown, green, even blue or colorless.

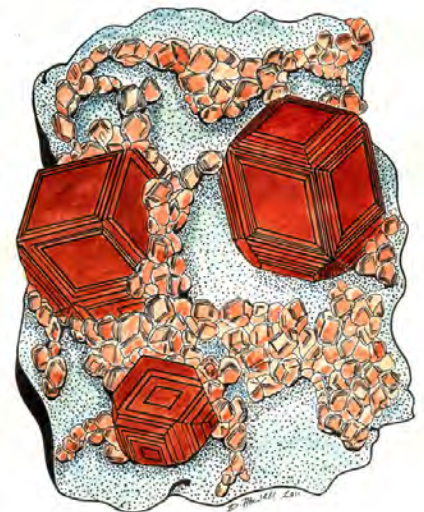
Do you my friend, want to know a little bit of fun facts about the Garnet? It is the birthstone for the month of January. Also, through the years, the Garnet has been a symbol of passion and love. During the Middle Ages, the Garnet was thought to be able to heal, keep away bad dreams and fix depression.

The Garnet Is cleaned with soapy warm water and a soft toothbrush. Do not use cleaning chemicals, especially if your garnet has tiny cracks. Store them away from other tougher rocks so they do not get scratched.

Garnets are made up of different species of minerals that are grouped by their chemical formation, influencing the color and clarity that they end up with. Making sure you know about these important mineral details, helps you to understand the value of the different types of garnets.

Hessonite garnet on matrix from Canada.

Ink and watercolor mineral art by Darryl Powell.



Allan & Tammy Jeanneret



Rough Rock, Slabs, Specimens, Gemstones,
Jewelry, Rock Paintings

By Appointment Only
402.873.6515 / 402.209.0747
306 O St, Union, Nebraska
tjeanneret@hughes.net

Watch for **AerieRock** online rock auctions at
jbauctions.hibid.com
AerieRock.com
AerieArtwork on etsy
AerieRock on Facebook
We buy collections and estates

Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club proudly brings you the 5th annual

SUMMER GEM FESTIVAL

June 21 & 22, 2025

Saturday 9 am – 6 pm / Sunday 10 am – 4 pm

Held at the **Beer Family Farm**

18701 Ashland Road, Ashland NE 68003

Admission: \$3.00 each / Kids 15 & under FREE

Help the Lincoln Food Bank replenish their shelves.

Bring canned food for the Food Bank.

*Our Festival is open to the public for both selling and buying
Everyone is welcome!*

BUY
SELL
TRADE

Jewelry

Family
Friendly

FOSSILS

Rocks
&
Minerals

Club Rock Pile

Lapidary Supplies
&
Equipment

If you are interested in being a vendor, go to
<https://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/happenings/otherevents>
for more information and to fill out the Advanced Reservation form.

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB
P.O. BOX 5342
Lincoln, NE 68505-0342

Contact Jayne Beer @ 402-890-3307 or
Sharon Marburger @ 402-429-3323 / lgmc.editor@outlook.com

2026 MID-WINTER SWAP COMMITTEE

Chairman:
 Advanced Reservations: Sharon Marburger
 Club Booth/Rock Pile Andrea Kolodziejczyk
 Finance & Admissions: Vera Lyman, Sharon Marburger
 Floor Chairman:
 Insurance Vera Lyman, Jim Marburger
 Publicity & Promotion: Jayne Beer, Jim Marburger
 Web Master: Sharon Marburger
 Youth Activities: Brett Jurgens

2026 SHOW COMMITTEE

Theme:.....
 Chairman: Jayne Beer/Brett Jurgens
 Dealers & Demonstrators: Vera Lyman
 Displays: Brett Jurgens
 Event Center Liaison Vera Lyman
 Finance/Ticket Sales:
 Floor Chairman:
 Fluorescent Booth: Clyde Ogg
 Forms Sharon Marburger
 LGMC Club Booth:
 Outside Rock Pile Charles Wooldridge
 Plants: Ed Ridge
 Publicity & Promotion: Jim Marburger
 Raffle Gene Mulinix
 Ribbons & Recognitions: Sharon Marburger
 Rock Pile/Silent Auction Andrea Kolodziejczyk
 Security: Vera Lyman
 Show Flyer & Printed Program Sharon Marburger
 Website Sharon Marburger
 Youth Activities: Brett Jurgens

2025 LONG RANGE PLANNING & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Jayne Beer, Chairman
 1 year: Sharon Marburger & Clyde Ogg
 2 years: Vera Lyman & Jim Marburger
 3 years: Jayne Beer & Brett Jurgens

2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jayne Beer, Chairman
 1 year: Jayne Beer & Brett Jurgens
 2 years: Charles Wooldridge & Donitte Stiles
 3 years: Vera Lyman & Ed Ridge

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

STANDING COMMITTEES

Audio/Visual:
 Clyde Ogg
Audit:
 Jayne Beer, James Marburger, Clyde Ogg
Christmas Party:
 Edward Ridge
Club Rock Pile:
 Andrea Kolodziejczyk
Door Prizes:
 Corey Beer, Brett Jurgens, Charles Wooldridge
Facebook:
 James Marburger, Jayne Beer, Brett Jurgens
Field Trips:
 James Marburger
Historian:
 Sharon Marburger
Membership Record:
 Edward Ridge
Mid-Winter Swap
 Jayne Beer
MWF Liaison:
 Vera Lyman
Programs:
 Clyde Ogg
Property:
 James Marburger
Recognition/Awards:
 Vera Lyman, Sharon Marburger
Refreshments:
 Vera Lyman
Show - 2025:
 Charles Wooldridge
Summer Gem Fest:
 Jayne 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

Hidden Gems by The Jewelry Connection Ltd.

Indian Village Shopping Ctr.

3227 S. 13th St., Lincoln (next to LAUNDROMAT)

Corey Beer - Lapidary
402.890.9155

Jayne Beer - Jeweler
402.890.3307

2025 Schedule

Lapidary Classes

(Stone Cutting)

\$100 for 5 3-hour classes

Sundays 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Choice of session:

- Session 1: Jan 26 - Mar 2
- Session 2: Mar 9 - April 20
- Session 3: Apr 27 - Jun 1
- Session 4: Jun 29 - Aug 3
- Session 5: Aug 10 - Sep 14
- Session 6: Sep 21 - Oct 26
- Session 7: Nov 2 - Dec 7

Silversmithing Classes

Tuition: \$160 plus \$30 supply deposit

Choice of Tuesday or Wednesday

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Tuesdays

- Session 1: Jan 21 - Feb 18
- Session 2: Feb 25 - Apr 15
- Session 3: Apr 22 - Jun 10
- Session 4: Jun 24 - Aug 12
- Session 5: Aug 19 - Oct 7
- Session 6: Oct 14 - Dec 2

Wednesdays

- Session 1: Jan 22 - Feb 19
- Session 2: Feb 26 - Apr 16
- Session 3: Apr 23 - Jun 11
- Session 4: Jun 25 - Aug 13
- Session 5: Aug 20 - Oct 8
- Session 6: Oct 15 - Dec 3

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