



# 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**  
Program: Bob Diffendall – Black Hills Geology and  
Natural History

## 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 2, 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

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:** Jayne Beer, 402.890.3307, JBeer60070@aol.com

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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, mcestiles72@outlook.com

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLUB FUN

## DATES TO REMEMBER

September 18 - General Meeting  
October 8-12 - Field Trip to Mt. Ida, Arkansas (Contact Wooly for details or to express interest in attending, 402.975.0416)

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Alicia & Joshua Birmingham  
Brett Walker and children Canyon & Turquoise

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>).

## 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.

## 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SLATE (CONFIRMED)

President: Brett Jurgens  
1st Vice: \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Vice: Clyde Ogg  
Treasurer: Vera Lyman  
Secretary: Sharon Marburger  
Board: Mike Stiles  
Charles Wooldridge  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

These people have agreed to run for the Board. Some people were on vacation and not available to confirm their desire to be on the Board. Be ready to offer your nominations at the September 18 meeting.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

**Alex Brown Kramer**  
**Rowdy Cropp**  
**Dick Farlow**  
**Jeff Kubitz**  
**Robin Leuty**  
**Nykky Lytle**  
**Jim Schmidt**  
**John Worley**



## PICK & SHOVEL STAFF

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402.464.6089  
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.

Eighteen pounds of bacon, eight pounds of sausage, and who knows how many pancakes and Crawford 2025 is a wrap. It was a great show, with over fifteen club members and family attending.

Besides LGMC members, the Crawford Swap was well attended by both dealers and the public. Ninety-eight vendors from 17 states showcased their goods, and there was a wide variety. I was happy with the selection of petrified wood and limbs available. There were multiple outings by club members to collect in the national grasslands north of Crawford.

I look forward to the return of monthly meetings starting Thursday, September 18. As always we will have a quick business meeting, followed by a fantastic program by Bob Diffendall on Black Hills Geology and Natural History. I also want to see your summer finds and projects; please bring them to set out and let others see.

We have selected a show theme for our 2026 show - "Discover Chalcedony". Start thinking about what you would like to display at our show.

During our general meeting in the 18th we will discuss nominations for board members and officers for 2026. We have a tentative slate posted in this newsletter and we will be looking to add to that slate. Members are eligible to run for a board position if they have been a member of the club for one year. Officer candidates must have sat on the board for at least one year. Please consider running for a position, or volunteering for a committee position. It takes a lot to run the club and we need "all hands on deck".

I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting, and look forward to seeing your summer finds.



**JUNIORS**

by Brett Jurgens, Junior Leader

Hello Juniors. I hope your transition from summer to back to school went smoothly.

This summer was one of the busiest I have ever encountered. I look forward to seeing you all on Thursday the 18th at 6:15 p.m.

I know many of you went on one or both of the field trips we had this summer. I want to see what you found! Bring some of your summer finds, whether you found it yourself or acquired for a quick show and tell. This will be part of our work on the "Collecting" badge. Make sure to bring your specimen kit as Barb and I will have something for you to add to your collection.

We will also talk about some ideas of having some junior meetings outside of our regular monthly meeting times to further work on badges.

I look forward to seeing you all at our meeting.



A portion of the Crawford Swap (photo by Kay Jurgens)



Checking out some of the wares at Crawford (photo by Kay Jurgens)



Jayne and Corey enjoying their time at the Underwood Family Museum (photo by Kay Jurgens)

**MAY GENERAL MEETING (PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED IN JUNE NEWSLETTER)**

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

**JUNE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

June 5, 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 | Present |
|                 | Mike Stiles        | Present |
|                 | Jeff Kubitz        | Present |
|                 | Corey Beer         | Present |

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:44 p.m. by President Brett Jurgens.

Sharon read the minutes of the last meeting. Wooly moved to accept the minutes as read, second by Jeff. Motion carried.

Vera distributed the Treasurer’s Report. Sharon moved to accept the report with two typo corrections, second by Jeff. Motion carried. Sharon stated that the Gem Fest pre-registration booth rents had not yet been transferred to the bank account from PayPal. That will be done immediately following Gem Fest.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Wooly gave the particulars of the Fairbury area field trip. Meet at the east parking lot of Bethany Park in order to car pool. Arrive at Casey’s in Fairbury at 10:30 a.m. for travel break. The group will visit the dinosaur tracks, Rose Creek quarry, a road cut, and a road where fossils in limestone abound. Then on the Gilead for supper at the Pioneers Inn.

Wooly is planning a trip to Mt. Ida, Arkansas in early October. More details later.

Jim M. will lead a trip to Miles Ranch on the Nemaha River. Details in future P&S.

Brett would like to have a trip to Odell, Nebraska to collect Odell Diamonds. Details later.

New member Andrea K. has agreed to take over the Club Rock Pile.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Camp Creek Threshers’ annual show will be July 19 and 20. Contact Brett for volunteer information. Need tumble polished stones to hand out to kids.

Sharon reminded Jayne that the Nominating Committee should be thinking of a slate for elections in November.

Jayne has offered Hidden Gems as the location for the next Rock Party, July 26 at 5:00 p.m.

**GEM FEST:**

Everything is ready to go for Gem Fest. As of this date, 29 vendors have signed up for booths.

Jayne clarified the budget for Gem Fest. Facebook ads will be pushed since the majority of people asked how they found out about the 2025 show answered that it was via Facebook.

Reminder that there will be a grill out following Gem Fest on Saturday.

Brett will design a “Passport” sheet to be given to kids. They will go around to designated spots at the event to get their paper stamped. A prize will be given to those who successfully achieve the goal.

**SHOW**

Recap of numbers for the 2025 show. Brett and Jayne will co-chair the 2026 show, per motion by Wooly and second by Vera. Motion carried. The theme has not yet been selected. We will use the post cards again this year as part of the advertising.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m. on a motion by Wooly, second by Mike. Motion carried.

**Allan & Tammy Jeanneret**



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We buy collections and estates

## RIVER FIELD TRIP GETS MIRED IN SAND BUT ENDS ON FIRM LAND

By Sarah Nichols, Club Member (photos by Sarah unless otherwise indicated)

On Saturday, August 9, thirteen LGMC members and prospective members met at 10 a.m. at the Pawnee City Casey's for a brief chat before caravanning 21 miles east to Miles Ranch on the South Fork of the Big Nemaha River for a day of rock hunting. Two other prospective members met up with the group at its destination.



Participants were club members Jim and Sharon Marburger; Blake Marlar; Patrick, Gracie, and Chloe O'Brien; Clyde and Barb Ogg; Sarah Nichols; Ed Ridge; and Cindy Rohrbaugh, as well as club prospects Jose Carillo and his daughter Ember (plus a third visitor named Griffin, last name unknown).

Talk at the rendezvous point before the group set out to its destination centered on reviewing the storm that had hit Lincoln and Omaha early that morning. Perhaps half the group had witnessed some of the storm's worst damage, while the other half (those members south of the metro area) had missed it.

However, no one present was to miss out entirely that day on excitement. Later, everyone on this field trip would face an unplanned challenge together and ultimately head home with a story to tell - and maybe also some interesting rocks and fossils for their collection.

After leaving Pawnee City, the group of eight vehicles pulled off farm road 637 Ave. about 10:30 a.m. just before the bridge across the Big Nemaha, onto a track leading about a quarter of a mile to a sand bar on the river, where the group parked and got out of their vehicles to explore. The sand bar, a fantastic spot for rock hunting, would turn out to be treacherous for smaller vehicles and anything without 4WD, although this would not become obvious until the afternoon.



Farm track to river

Through the late morning, field trip participants walked both sides of the river (which was shallow enough to cross without getting your clothes wet if you wore shorts) looking for and collecting cherts and jaspers, fossils, and other rocks or minerals including several agates or other varieties of chalcedony, which were rarer but nevertheless present in the area.

Shortly after noon, Cindy was the first to discover that her car was stuck in the sand. After the rest of the group returned to the parking area - all of them having seen Cindy, Sharon

and Jim digging out sand from around the tires of Cindy's Buick sedan - everyone present spent the next one to two hours working together to push, dig, and try to create traction on the sand with materials at hand.

Ready tools and materials included a pair of fencing pliers, one small snow shovel, two halves of a kayak paddle, car floor mats, tree branches, and flat rocks to serve as paving stones.

One vehicle, an AWD small SUV, escaped in reverse with a concerted push from multiple group members.

No effort, however, proved sufficient to free the rest of the stuck vehicles. Before long it was clear that not only Cindy's car but at least three others were stuck tight in the sand.



Photo by S. Marburger

As this realization sank in, group members took a break to eat the lunches and drink the water they had packed obediently at the recommendation of Sharon and Jim. People chatted quietly, offering each other water and words of encouragement.

Poor Subaru

Eventually, the group, noting the location had cell service if not tire traction, supported a plan for Cindy to call for a tow, which could rescue any cars that were stuck. Around 2 p.m. Cindy confirmed that a tow was on its way and was able to text a pin of the location to the group's anticipated rescuer.

While waiting, group members rested or returned to the river to hunt for rocks. It was during this wait that club member Sarah Nichols found a decent-sized agate, probably a Lake Superior.

The awaited tow arrived at 3 p.m., in the form of a 4WD Jeep with enough tow power to pull Cindy's, Ed's, Blake's, and Jim's and Sharon's cars safely out of the sand, a task that took about an hour to complete. Three larger vehicles, all large and probably 4WD, were able to drive off the sand bar without assistance.

By 4 p.m., all vehicles were safely off the river and back on farm road 637, where field trip participants thanked the tow drivers (and their dog) and then separated to begin the drive home.

Even if it looks like you can drive in and not get stuck, maybe get out of your vehicle and walk it, to make sure of how solid the surface is.



(Continued on page 7)

**RIVER FIELD TRIP - CONTINUED**

*(Continued from page 6)*

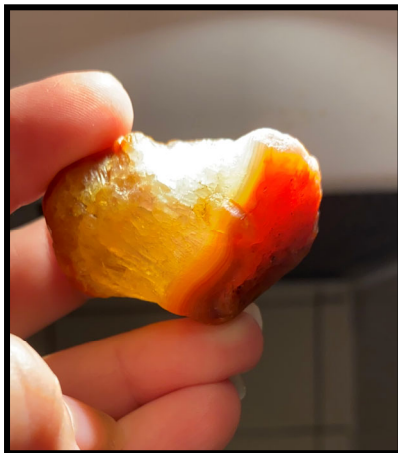
The tow driver remarked that it was not the first time people have needed a rescue from the sand bar, although the stuck victims are more commonly young people out celebrating the weekend with adult beverages.

Participants report that, despite the difficulty, they had a wonderful time and would do it again. The water was beautiful and the rocks interesting and plentiful; also, with cell service present, rescue was only a call away. If there is a next time, and participants hope there will be, the club will recommend participants drive 4WD only—or park at the road and walk in.

As for this year’s sand trouble, one participant called the entire incident the best hands-on team bonding exercise she had ever experienced.



Sarah’s bucket of finds



Nice agate found by Sarah

# Francina Maria Designs Special Showing

at

CUSTOM GEMS ROCK  
AND JEWELRY STORE  
8487 FREDERICKS STREET  
OMAHA, NE

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Thru

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Hours are

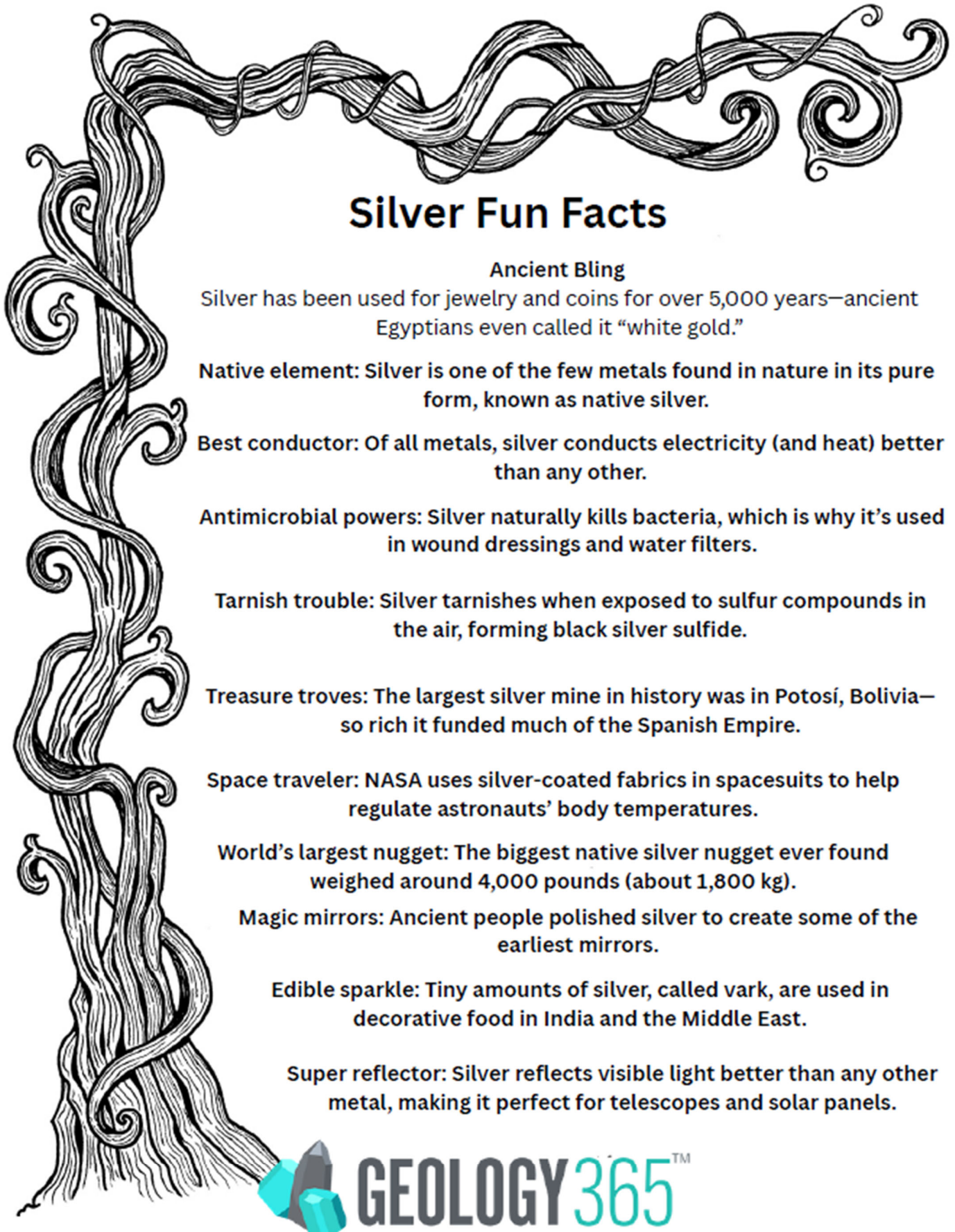
Monday thru Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FRANCINA MARIA WILL BE SHOWING  
HER UNIQUE DESIGNS, JEWELRY  
PARTS, AND BEADS



Brett and Corey checking out the petrified wood rounds and limb casts on display in the Underwood Family Museum (photo by Kay Jurgens)



## Silver Fun Facts

### Ancient Bling

Silver has been used for jewelry and coins for over 5,000 years—ancient Egyptians even called it “white gold.”

**Native element:** Silver is one of the few metals found in nature in its pure form, known as native silver.

**Best conductor:** Of all metals, silver conducts electricity (and heat) better than any other.

**Antimicrobial powers:** Silver naturally kills bacteria, which is why it’s used in wound dressings and water filters.

**Tarnish trouble:** Silver tarnishes when exposed to sulfur compounds in the air, forming black silver sulfide.

**Treasure troves:** The largest silver mine in history was in Potosí, Bolivia—so rich it funded much of the Spanish Empire.

**Space traveler:** NASA uses silver-coated fabrics in spacesuits to help regulate astronauts’ body temperatures.

**World’s largest nugget:** The biggest native silver nugget ever found weighed around 4,000 pounds (about 1,800 kg).

**Magic mirrors:** Ancient people polished silver to create some of the earliest mirrors.

**Edible sparkle:** Tiny amounts of silver, called vark, are used in decorative food in India and the Middle East.

**Super reflector:** Silver reflects visible light better than any other metal, making it perfect for telescopes and solar panels.

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**BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH**

**TESTING FOR SILVER**

Often you need to identify some of those unknown “silvery” pieces of metal in the bottom of the toolbox or some piece of old jewelry that is not hallmarked. Is it silver or is it something else?

Of course, if you need to know exactly what you have, it’s best to send your metals off for refining. But inexpensive silver testing solutions can be used to help distinguish higher silver content alloys from alloys that have the same appearance but with little to no silver content, like German Silver or Nickel.

I purchased a half-ounce bottle of JSP Silver Testing Solution #GT41. It’s not a rigorous analytic test, but it lets you know if you’re on the right track. And it’s inexpensive. Mine was only \$3.

With a fresh solution you have an instant reaction after applying it to the metal being tested. The procedure is simple - apply a small drop and watch for a color change. Note that the acid will leave a slight mark, so choose a spot that is out of the way or will be easy to polish.

If you suspect the object is silver plated, you should file a little notch somewhere inconspicuous to expose what metal is below the surface. Otherwise, all you test will be the surface plating.

Here’s the reaction I got when testing various materials:

|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Fine silver           | Red/Orange                |
| Sterling silver       | Brick Red                 |
| 80% silver 20% copper | Dark red changing to gray |
| Brass                 | Yellow changing to blue   |
| Nickel                | Gray-green                |
| Copper                | Yellow changing to blue   |
| Steel                 | Black                     |
| Stainless Steel       | No color change           |

Caution - If you do any of this testing, know that you are handling a reasonably strong acid. The GT41 label says it includes nitric acid and potassium dichromate.

- ◆ Wear safety glasses.
- ◆ Do not get any testing solution on your skin.
- ◆ Use a solution of baking soda and water to neutralize acid.
- ◆ Wash and clean up well when you’re done.

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

**WIRE WRAP WITH NYKKY**

By Sharon Marburger (photos by Jayne Beer and author)

The evening of August 14 found us around the classroom table at Hidden Gems, where those of us in attendance learned how to wire wrap/weave a spectrolite and copper cuff bracelet.

Of the 13 attendees, three had never attended a Nykky class before. They ended up with decent projects, proving that Nykky can teach to anyone.

At this time, the next class date and time have not been revealed to me, nor what the project will entail. Keep your eyes on the club Facebook page for upcoming information.



Three of the finished bracelets



More finished bracelets



Author’s project



Project by one of the new students



## [THE REVEREND ROSELLE T. CROSS \(1844-1924\)](#)

By Eric Fritsch



I was doing a little research at work and ended up going down a rabbit hole. I was writing about the potential for mineral deposits at Fort Carson, near Colorado Springs, and somehow got sidetracked into reading about a famous mineralogist who have lived in Colorado Springs. I figured if these people lived there, they might have collected there. For the record, the military base is protected and it is illegal to collect minerals or other objects from the base. Since the base is guarded and one cannot collect there now, I figured what about people who were there before the land was a military base?

I started putting together a list of mineral collectors, dealers, geologists, and mineralogists who have called Colorado Springs their home. It is a fairly extensive list with the likes of Ed Over, Lazard Cahn, Richard Pearl, to name a few. Even today Keith Proctor, Leonard Heimes, and Joe Dorris reside in the Colorado Springs area.

A name that comes up that draws me the furthest into the rabbit hole is the Reverend Roselle Theodore Cross. He was born in upstate New York, and became a minister at the Congregational Church in Colorado Springs two years after its construction in 1874. It still stands at 20 East Saint Vrain Street. He collected minerals and frequently gave sermons on them. He discovered the Cave of the Winds, which is still a tourist attraction in the Colorado Springs area.

Reverend Cross traveled to the Black Hills to collect minerals, which was probably a rare thing in those days. As a minister, he bounced around the country at parishes in Denver (CO), Minneapolis (MN), Eugene (OR), and even York (NE). The well known author and geologist Richard M. Pearl once wrote an article about How to Look at Minerals-The Advice of Reverend Cross (*Rocks & Minerals*, v. 39, p. 351-352). Reverend Cross wrote:

It would hardly be worth while to gather a collection if no one was to see it but yourself. What are our choice things worth if we cannot share with others our enjoyment of them? All collectors whom I know are glad to show their collections to persons who appreciate them. But oh! what a difference there is in persons who look at them! Some gaze at them as solemnly and silently as they would look at a corpse. One can feel that they are saying to themselves: "What vanity to spend one's time and money on such trifles!" or: "This person must be a little cracked to get so interested in stones." Others take them all in in at one rapid glance and then exclaim, "What pretty stones! Where did you get them all?" Some pick them up and sling them down roughly as though they were nothing but stones. You tremble for your darlings while such persons are around and you close the doors or drawers as soon as you can. You do not care to cast pearls before - people who do not know that they are pearls. Others know just a little about minerals and they tell it all, and more too, as soon as they can. They make remarks that reveal woeful ignorance.

They talk of crystal as though it were some special kind of mineral, and of mineral as though that term meant nothing but ore of some kind. They look very skeptical when you tell them that those sparkling crystals have not been cut and polished by man but grew in that way. They do not know that Nature is chief of lapidaries. Some are dry scientists who talk learnedly far above your level. They can scarcely conceal their contempt for amateurs like yourself, or for specimens that have not a strictly scientific interest. Others admire your beautiful things in a very gushing sort of way, and exclaim loudly over everything that you show them, and would fain make you believe that yours is the most beautiful and wonderful collection they ever saw. They make one tired and nervous. Then there are others who covet your treasures, and seem to turn green with envy, and wonder why they cannot find such things. Others ask if you are not afraid that they will be stolen and what you paid for them, and what they are all worth, and what you are going to do with them, and other impertinent questions. Then there are collectors with plenty of money who wish to buy your half dozen best specimens but have no use for the rest.

Although this observation is 121 years old, it is true as it is today.

So I want to find this book and I read in one source that it is very rare. He kind of styled his writing after Ruskin, who was another popular author and lecturer on minerals of the mid to late 1800s.

I finally located a copy online that I can download and read it cover to cover, all 191 pages. It's written a little differently than we speak or write today but it goes quickly. One of Reverend Ross' favorite collecting places was Pierrepont, New York - a favorite locality of mine as well.

Interestingly enough, Cross published his book "Cross and Gold" while he was serving in York, NE. The publisher is a now-defunct newspaper in York. One of his accounts of collecting in the Black Hills is with Miss Carrie Barbour, who became assistant curator of paleontology at the University of Nebraska State Museum (now Morrill Hall). She was the wife of Erwin Hinky Barbour, former curator of the University of Nebraska State Museum.

Well, I never did see where he wrote about collecting on the Colorado Piedmont where Fort Carson is located. He did do a lot of collecting in the Rocky Mountains and places like Lake George where he found amazonite and smoky quartz. It would be interesting to know if any of Ms. Barbour's specimens are still preserved from her trip to the Black Hills.

Cross kept all of his specimens in a small case he could travel with. (What a nice concept!)

**2026 MID-WINTER SWAP COMMITTEE**

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

**2026 SHOW COMMITTEE**

**Theme:.....Discover Chalcedony**

Chairman: .....Jayne Beer/Brett Jurgens  
Dealers & Demonstrators: ..... Vera Lyman  
Displays: .....Brett Jurgens  
Event Center Liaison ..... Vera Lyman  
Finance/Ticket Sales: .....  
Floor Chairman: .....  
Fluorescent Booth: .....  
Forms ..... Sharon Marburger  
LGMC Club Booth: ..... Clyde & Barb Ogg  
Outside Rock Pile ..... Charles Wooldridge  
Plants: .....Ed Ridge  
Publicity & Promotion: .....Jim Marburger  
Raffle .....  
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