



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.

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: January 18, 2026**  
**Following Mid-Winter Swap**

## 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:**  
**Monday, January 5, 2026 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, mcstiles72@outlook.com

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLUB FUN

## DATES TO REMEMBER

December 14 - Rock Party at Marburgers' (3:00 p.m.)  
January 18, 2026 - Mid-Winter Swap & General Meeting  
February 19, 2026 - General Meeting

Membership Dues for 2026 are due by January 31, 2026. See Treasurer Vera Lyman to pay with cash or check, or mail check to P.O. Box 5342, Lincoln, NE 68505. Your promptness is appreciated.

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.



## December Rock Party

### Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 p.m.

### at the Marburgers in Hickman

Shredded pork roast for sandwiches or burritos. Bring your accompanying sides. Bring your projects to work on. Two genies and two 10-inch saws available for use. There will be a "Lucky Bucket" to select specimens. Also, Sharon makes a "Christmas Ball" to win prizes. Attend to have a great time!

**Great food, great people, great rocks equal a GREAT time!**

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mike Stiles  
Jim Atkins  
Janette Van Butsel  
Sheryl Olson  
Oliver Kully  
Tiffany Edwards



## PICK & SHOVEL STAFF

**PUBLISHER:**  
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**CIRCULATION:**  
Vera Lyman and Donitte Stiles;  
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.

Well, we had been beating the odds with the warm weather, but apparently that has caught up with us. This morning I decided to wait until the real-feel temperature climbed to zero to venture out. Now is the perfect time to stay inside and work on lapidary projects.

With the new year coming, I'd like to once again get some New Year's resolutions within the club. Two years ago I resolved to end polish a petrified limb a day. I fell a bit short at the eve of the year but still ended up with over 300 newly polished limbs. Over the course of the year I really improved my technique and end result. I am wanting to continue that improvement and have the same goal for next year. Is anyone else willing to make a rock related resolution?

Last week, a club from Louisiana that I followed online made a simple post that their club had dissolved due to lack of people willing to take leadership roles. This also happened locally when the Nebraska Archaeological Society dissolved last December due to no one willing to take on leadership positions. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to run for office this year. It is definitely a time commitment, but one necessary to keep the club going. Not only do I want to see our club continue, I would love to see it thrive.

Please don't forget about the Rock Party this month at the Marburgers' home on Sunday, December 14, starting at 3:00 p.m. The early start time is due to the shortened length of daylight this time of year.

The Mid-Winter Swap is set for Sunday, January 18. All of our vendor spaces have been reserved and there is currently a waitlist. Please help spread word so we can bump up attendance. Don't forget to stay afterwards for a pasta dinner provided by the club for members and vendors. There will also be a very short meeting.

Our show is less than four months away now. I have already begun the list of people reserving display cases for the show. Please let me know if you would like to have a display. As always, I would like to have collections of all levels. Our show has become known for its quantity and quality of displays so let's keep that reputation going. I have also started a volunteer list for the show so please let me know where you would like to help out.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all!

**JUNIORS**

by Brett Jurgens, Junior Leader

Hello Juniors.

It was great to see some of you at the Rock Party at Hidden Gems. For those of you who completed polishing a stone, you earned the lapidary badge. Congratulations!

Our next event is the Christmas Party on December 7th. Only those receiving the newsletter via email will get this newsletter before the Christmas Party. We won't have a lesson but will have a lot of fun with Rock Bingo and the optional gift exchange. You may bring a wrapped hobby-related item of \$10 or less in order to select a wrapped gift. Also, be sure to bring your specimen box as we will have a Christmas surprise to add to your collection.

Jim and Sharon Marburger are hosting the December Rock Party on Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 p.m. There is guaranteed to be lots of food and Sharon often has some fun games and activities lined up. Juniors in attendance will get a specimen to add to their collection.

The Mid-Winter Swap is fast approaching. Please make plans to attend on Sunday, January 18th. Juniors in attendance will receive a credit at the Club's Rock Pile. Immediately after the swap we will have a pasta supper for club members and vendors. Afterwards we will have a quick business meeting; no junior lesson but I will have a specimen for those in attendance.

Our annual show is less than four months away. At the next few meetings I will be asking for both juniors and parents to sign up to help volunteer at the show. It is a lot of work putting on a show and we need everyone to chip in. Remember, you get credit for working at the Show.

I hope you all have a great holiday season and hope to see you at our club gatherings.

**2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Elections are over and the 2026 Board of Directors has been chosen.

President: Brett Jurgens  
 1st Vice: Jayne Beer  
 2nd Vice: Clyde Ogg  
 Treasurer: Vera Lyman  
 Secretary: Sharon Marburger  
 Board:

Corey Beer  
 Sarah Nichols  
 Mike Stiles  
 Charles Wooldridge



## NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

November 20, 2025 at Bethany Park Shelter House  
By Sharon Marburger, 2025 Secretary (photos by John Moss)

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Second Vice President Clyde Ogg.

The minutes of the October meeting were published in the Pick & Shovel. Jim Marburger moved to accept the minutes as printed, second by Vera Lyman. Motion carried.

Vera did not present a Treasurer's Report but announced that we have money in our accounts.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The November Rock Party and club work night will be held at Hidden Gems Rock Shop on Saturday, November 22. Comfort foods and soups will be the fare.

The December Rock Party will be held at the Marburgers' in Hickman on Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 p.m. Food theme to be determined.

The Club Christmas Party will be held Sunday, December 7 at Bethany Park Shelter House, starting at 5:00 p.m. The club will provide fried chicken and beverage.

### OLD BUSINESS:

All members were encouraged to greet new people attending meetings.

The Board will plan and design a member business card to provide to those who want one.

The Omaha Show was two weeks ago. Several Lincoln members volunteered there.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Arvid Olsen would like to have time set aside at meetings for specimen identification. Juniors in particular would be encouraged to bring items.

### MID-WINTER SWAP:

Preparations for the Swap are finalized. All vendor slots are filled and there is a waiting list for last minute cancellations.

### SHOW:

The Show postcard has been finalized and will be ordered around the first of December. As always, volunteers will be needed at the Show. See Brett for sign-up sheets.

### ELECTIONS:

Clyde read the slate and asked three times for further nominations from the floor. Having received none, Jim Marburger moved to close nominations, second by Mike Stiles. Ballot sheets were distributed and voting commenced. Gene Mulinex and Norm Boettcher collected the ballot for counting.

We broke for snacks and viewing Show & Tell items while the ballots were counted.

Clyde called the meeting back to order to announce election results. They are:

President: Brett Jurgens  
1st Vice: Jayne Beer  
2nd Vice: Clyde Ogg  
Treasurer: Vera Lyman  
Secretary: Sharon Marburger  
Board:

Corey Beer  
Sarah Nichols  
Mike Stiles  
Charles Wooldridge

Vera moved to destroy the ballots, second by Sharon Marburger. Vera will see they are shredded.

Sharon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m., second by Donitte. Meeting adjourned.

## NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 6, 2025 at Vera Lyman's Residence  
by Donitte Stiles, Filling in for Secretary

### Roll Call

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

Visitors: Ed Ridge and Donitte Stiles.

The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by President Brett Jurgens.

Sharon forwarded the minutes from the last meeting to be read by individuals via phone messaging. Clyde moved to accept the minutes, second by Jeff. Motion carried.

Vera distributed the Treasurer's Report. Clyde moved to accept the report, second by Corey. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Clyde had no update on the welcome letter and membership application card. More will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Elections are coming up at the November 20 general meeting. Nominations will be open prior to voting in addition to the current slate. Sharon will bring ballots to Bethany on the 20th.

Wooly reported that the October Rock Party had good food, good weather, good time, and fun.

*(Continued on page 5)*

**NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES - CONTINUED**

*(Continued from page 4)*

Jayne is hosting this month's Rock Party at Hidden Gems on the 22nd. The food theme is "comfort foods".

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Vera secured the Sandhills Global Event Center with the signed contract and deposit for the 2026 Show.

Discussion for advertising for the Mid-Winter Swap was brought up by Jayne asking to purchase a post card like we do for the April Show. Wooly made the motion to allocate up to \$150 for such information cards with additional information on the back. Jeff seconded and the motion passed. Jayne will design the card and, with board approval, will order for members to circulate.

**MID-WINTER SWAP:**

Brett has a food truck set up. They will use the kitchen inside the venue for serving.

The Membership display will be set up in the hallway, along with the club rock pile this coming year.

The club will provide a pasta and salad meal after the swap for vendors and members. Members could bring desserts that don't need refrigeration. The club meeting will follow.

**SHOW:**

Brett said he and Jayne are working on the 2026 show budget to present at the next board meeting.

Post cards are finalized and Jim will order around December 1.

Vera will be mailing out the dealer contracts that need to be back by January 1. Since they are being mailed out so late, the usual December 1 deadline has been extended. Show demo contracts will be mailed out later as deadline will be February 1 for those.

Wooly moved for meeting to be adjourned at 7:30 p.m., second by Jeff. Motion carried.

**Wednesday, November 12, 2026 Picture of the Day at rockseekers.com.**

"This is a Namibian Shattuckite sphere handmade by Corey Beer from *lakerslapidary*. Absolutely beautiful and very impressive craftsmanship!"



**DONATIONS TO JUNIORS**

By Donitte Stiles

LGMC juniors are recipients of a double rock collection donation. One collection is from a past junior in the club 40 years ago, Aaron Hames, who currently lives in Hong Kong.

Jan Wright introduced Aaron into the youth club when he was about 8 years old back in the 1980s. His mother, Irene Hames, contacted the Board to see if someone would be interested in a part of Aaron's rock collection, including fossils. Mike and I met up with Irene late in October at their last small storage unit. We truly enjoyed our short visit while she loaded up the last of Aaron's Lincoln life, moving it to Chicago. She had also taken part of his collection back to Chicago with her to donate to a youth school group there.



The second collection was donated by Mike's friend, Mark Neiswanger. Mark's uncle passed away, leaving a small rock collection, and the family was looking for a new home for it. Mark knew we loved rocks and brought the collection to us as Mike told him we could donate it to the youth group.

Thereafter, Brett picked up these two small collections from us for the use and benefit of the juniors.

As members of the LGMC, we want to thank those involved who passed on their family rocks and stories.

**CHASE PROGRESS**

By Eric Fritsch

I happened to see this quote the other day, "Don't chase perfection - chase progress. Perfection will slow you down" (Michelle Meyer-Shipp in Forbes Magazine). I think this quote applies well to collecting.

As I've mentioned before, collecting is a verb, it requires action. If you are a rock or mineral collector it means you are actively engaging in acquisition, learning, and development. Too many collectors have fear when it comes to acquiring specimens. They hold back, hoping they'll come across that perfect specimen and their collection will somehow just grow on its own. Collections don't grow on their own, they require attention and acquisition.

Perfection is a dream and as the late Rock Currier use to say, "The best to be found are still in the ground. The best that has been found have been ground." This means that the best azurite ever found is likely part of the copper wiring running through your house and there are likely better ones still under the earth. Mining companies' blast through rock without any attention to mineral specimens and only a very small percentage of the earth's crust has been exploited for minerals. There are likely many great finds still waiting.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## CHASE PROGRESS - CONTINUED

(Continued from page 5)

Progress is a much better goal. As this article will come out at the end of the year, it's time to start thinking about the past year and looking forward to the next year. What did you accomplish with your collection this year and what do you hope to accomplish with it next year?

Progress doesn't have to be forward; it can also be backwards. If you're in your golden years, it can be selling your collection or from your collection. It's a pathway that is designed by the collection owner. If your collection is static (you didn't add or remove any specimens this year), did you at least interact with it? Did you research anything about your collection? This is all chasing progress. Verb your collection!

I've written before about applying the Deming Cycle to collecting. In a Deming Cycle, one is always seeking continual improvement. That fits in line with the concept of chasing progress.

Progress has gotten a bad reputation lately, especially when politicians attack each other with the adjective form: progressive. Yet no seed flowers without progression, no child grows without progression, and we can't stop the progression of time. I recommend you engage your collection and progress it.

### JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS!

Diamond Dan Publications is thrilled to announce a new resource for mineral collectors:

“Mineral Collection Catalog” is now available  
Hard Cover Books, 5.5 x 8.5 inches  
Four different cover styles



Each book contains 125 2-page entries for the specimens in your mineral collection.

Record each specimen name, catalog number, date collected, price paid/self-collected/traded for, previous owner(s), size/shape/color, other information, and more!

Only \$17.95; Available on Amazon.com  
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Perfect Holiday Gift for seasoned and new collectors!

Order one of each style. Great stocking-stuffer for your young mineral enthusiast.

Happy Holidays!  
Diamond Dan  
aka Darryl

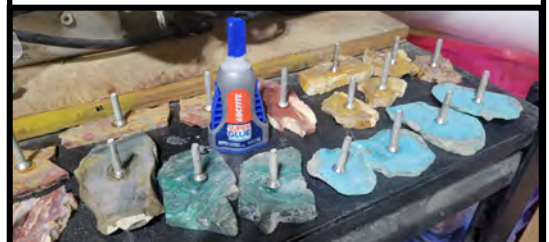
### SAVING DOLLARS DOPPING

By Jim Marburger

In the past, I was a dop wax user on all my cabochon work. I have moved to using super glue and machine screws that fit in a handle as my primary dopping system.

Loctite Super Gel Glue (available at Amazon and other local stores) has a great cap that does seem to keep air out of glue (air is the cause of most glues to dry out in the tube). The Loctite has two pressure pads to control the flow and a special nozzle that makes placement of the glue very easy. After about 50 dops, I noticed squeezing the “last drop” out the tube seemed to be done.

After going through three tubes, my curiosity got to the point of asking if these were really out of glue. So, I took apart one of the empty tubes and discovered their system of pinching out the glue. The internal tube was pinched flat except at the top of the glue container. That area looked like it had a good amount of useable glue in it. By pinching the internal tube, I was able to dop an additional 25 cabochons. WOW! I now know I was throwing dollars of glue away.



### NOVEMBER ROCK PARTY & CLUB WORK NIGHT

By Sharon Marburger (photos by author and John Moss)

The Beer Family hosted the November Rock Party at their rock shop, Hidden Gems by The Jewelry Connection, on Saturday the 22nd. Attendees started arriving a bit before 5:00 p.m., bringing loads of yummy food.

The fare included several kinds of soup, bread & rolls, chips, sweet potato casserole, and a multitude of desserts. This was not everything, but there was so much my brain couldn't hold it all.

Quite a few members tried their hands at the lapidary machines. Some people were sneaky enough to avoid having their pictures taken.

The expansion at Hidden Gems worked out quite nicely for hosting this event. There was lots of room for everyone without having to squeeze past people to get where you wanted to be. Thank you to the Beers for hosting this party!



Jayne shows off her newly acquired silversmithing workbench



A few people checking out the food.



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We buy collections and estates

NOVEMBER ROCK PARTY & CLUB WORK NIGHT - CONTINUED



Corey demonstrates how to use the grinding wheel



Sterling tries it out with Dad's (Will) assistance



Phil working on what looks to be petrified wood



Gene is grinding away!



Eddie checking his progress



Mike working with Donitte looking on

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Great New Year!



## A SIMPLE MINERAL

By Eric Fritsch



I had a little delay in cataloging my collection this year. I was able to attend several shows and acquire many specimens, but my computer printer wasn't working, and was unable to catalog them. I was about to throw away my printer but when I disconnected the printer cable, I noticed the cable had been severed. A \$3.48 fix and I'm back in business.

In cataloging the backlog, I found myself entering specimens that cost several hundred dollars, but also some that cost as little as \$2. It was one of those \$2 specimens that really intrigued me the other day.

At the Colorado Springs show, I purchased a sillimanite from Steve Willman for \$2. Sillimanite (or as my wife likes to call it "Silly Man" ite) is an aluminum nesosilicate ( $\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_5)$  or  $\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)\text{O}$ ).

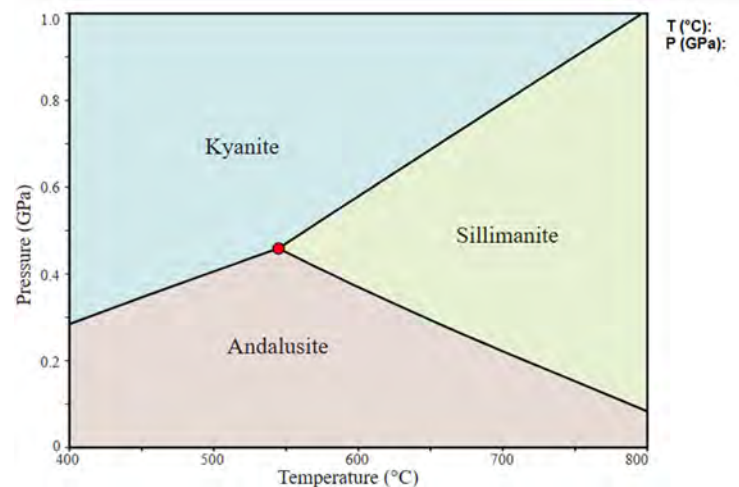
The specimen is fairly simple and comes from the mine(s) at MalMBERGET, Norrbotten County, Sweden. It comes from the far north Sweden, above the Arctic Circle. The town of 5,000 residents, mostly working for or in support of the mine, was moved in 2020/2021 to allow for advancement of the mine. MalMBERGET has been mined since 1741 for iron. Any a SAAB or Volvo owe their frame, body, and steel components to MalMBERGET.

This specimen is found in a whiteish rock with semi-parallel white laths of the mineral sillimanite. It's not super attractive. Sillimanite is a fairly common mineral in metamorphic rocks and is part of the kyanite-andalusite-sillimanite polymorphic series (all three have the same chemical formula but have different crystallographic systems like how pyrite and marcasite or diamond and graphite are different).

Why did this specimen draw my attention? First, it was a good example of the mineral which doesn't form outstanding display specimens like blue kyanite frozen in glassy quartz. Second, it was cheap. It's very plentiful at the deposit as it is a rock forming mineral, but at the mine it is not associated with ore so it is likely tossed aside or not even mined. Of the approximately 1.5 million photographs of minerals on Mindat, no one has yet photographed a sillimanite from MalMBERGET. There are only 237 photographs of sillimanite on the website, yet it is reported from over 1,000 localities. Talk about unloved.

The specimen is also telling me something about the environment and how this rock formed. It tells me the original rock was likely a pelagic shale. Kyanite-andalusite-sillimanite form at very specific temperatures and pressures derived from pelagic rock. Pelagic rock is aluminum and silica rich rock, like the mud found on the bottom of the ocean. When it solidifies, it becomes shale. As heat and pressure are applied to shale it becomes slate, phyllite, schist, and other metamorphic rocks. The orientation of the sillimanite laths (crystals) tell me that the main direction of stress was orthogonal to the orientation of the crystals. Geological reports tell me that the MalMBERGET Deposit formed 1.9 billion years ago.

It takes temperatures of at least 570 °C and pressures of at least 0.1 GPa to turn that shale into sillimanite. It is likely the temperatures are hotter and pressures greater and these conditions have to be maintained for a period of time to allow for good crystal growth. This diagram below is made by scientist in a lab who combine alumina and silica in a device and heat and squeeze it at various pressures and temperatures to make kyanite, andalusite or sillimanite and record which mineral is made at each condition. At about 575°C and 0.45 GPa (red dot, often called the triple point) it is theoretically possible to create all three minerals simultaneously. I can't think of anywhere in nature where this has happened but there are several examples of at least 2 of these minerals are formed. Another example that is sometimes found is where the mineral starts to form but conditions change and the mineral retrogrades back to a lower mineral. In the Black Hills, we'd often find andalusite crystals that retrograde metamorphose back to muscovite.



Sillimanite is named for American Chemist and Mineralogist, Benjamin Silliman (1779-1864). He was trained as a lawyer who studied geology and had an extensive mineral collection. The president of Yale was impressed by him and appointed him professor of chemistry, even though he had never taken a chemistry class.

Dr Silliman developed the modern method for carbonating water, without which I wouldn't have my morning Diet Coke. He was an ardent abolitionist, in a time when it wasn't popular. He started the American Journal of Science, an important scientific journal still published today. Silliman would lecture about mineralogy to a general population across the country which was widely received. People, not just mineral collectors, would show up in droves to hear mineralogy lectures in the 1800s. His son-in-law and former student James Dwight Dana became the father of modern American mineralogy.

So much information, history, science, and curiosity in a little 5 x 5 x 2 cm sample. This is one of the things I love about mineralogy. It's not always about pretty rocks.



LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB'S  
**45th Annual Mid-Winter Rock Swap**



**Lincoln Firefighters Reception Hall**  
**241 Victory Lane, Lincoln**  
**(off Sun Valley Blvd)**

**Sunday, January 18, 2026**  
**11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Adults \$3.00; 15 and under FREE**

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

**Swapper Booths: All booths have been reserved but you can add  
 your name to the waiting list in the event of cancellations**  
**[www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/happenings](http://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/happenings)**

LINCOLN GEM & MINERAL CLUB  
 Box 5342

Lincoln, NE 68505-0342

Contact: Sharon Marburger, 402.429.3323 or Jayne Beer, 402.890.3307

**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: ..... Vera Lyman, Brett Jurgens  
 Floor Chairman: ..... Clyde Ogg  
 Fluorescent Booth: ..... Clyde Ogg  
 Forms ..... Sharon Marburger  
 LGMC Club Booth: ..... Barb & Clyde Ogg  
 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:**  
 Donitte Stiles  
**Show - 2026:**  
 Jayne Beer, Brett Jurgens  
**Summer Gem Fest:**  
 Jayne Beer  
**Website:**  
 Sharon Marburger  
**Youth Activities:**  
 Barb Ogg & 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

### 2026 Schedule

#### Lapidary Classes

(Stone Cutting)

**\$100 for 5 3-hour classes**

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

Choice of session:

Open Shop to Jan 11 (\$20 per use)

Session 1: Feb 8 - Mar 15

Session 2: Mar 22 - May 3

Session 3: May 17 - Jul 5

Session 4: Jul 12 - Aug 16

Session 5: Aug 23 - Oct 11

Session 6: Oct 18 - Nov 22

Open Shop Nov 29 & Dec 6 (\$20 per use)

#### Silversmithing Classes

**Tuition: \$160 plus \$30 supply deposit**

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

Choice of Tuesday or Wednesday session  
(8 classes):

Session 1: Tues, Jan 13 - Wed, Mar 18

Session 2: Tues, Mar 24 - Wed, May 20

Session 3: Tues, Jun 2 - Wed, Jul 29

Session 4: Tues, Aug 4 - Wed, Oct 7

Session 5: Tues, Oct 13 - Wed, Dec 2

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