



# PICK & SHOVEL

P.O. Box 5342, Lincoln, Nebraska 68505-0342, [www.lincolngemmineralclub.org](http://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org)

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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2014 Meetings and Activities

#### Board

- Wed., Sep 3 (Gere Library)
- Wed., Oct 1 (Gere Library)
- Wed., Nov 5 (Gere Library)
- Wed., Dec. 3 (Gere Library)

#### General

- Thurs., Sep 18
- Thurs., Oct 16
- Thurs., Nov 20
- Sun., Dec 7

#### Activities

- July 13 - Grinding Party**
- Rock Party - July 26**
- Rock Party - August 23

Regular monthly meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Bethany Park Shelter House. Youth activities begin at 6:00 p.m. Summer activities will be announced as they are planned.

#### General Meeting

Summer Break  
Check "Activities"  
at the left to find summer fun!

#### Mineral Monkeys

Summer Break  
Check "Activities"  
at the left to find summer fun!

## REGIONAL SHOWS

### JULY 9 - 13, 2014

**2014 AFMS/RMFMS  
Convention and Show**

**Rocks and Gems of the Indian Territory**

Convention Location  
[Hilton Garden Inn](#)  
4518 East Skelly Drive  
Tulsa, OK 74135-3225  
(918) 878-7777

Show Location  
Tulsa Fair Grounds  
4145 E 21st Street  
Tulsa, OK 74114-2108

### JULY

**19-20 MOOSE LAKE, MN.** Carlton County Gem & Mineral Club's Show "Agate Days"; Moose Lake High School; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Contact: Gary & Jennifer Pitoscia, 218.724.1894, pitosciajg@charter.net; or Gene & Carol Risdon, 218.879.3968, carolannrisdon@gmail.com.

### AUGUST

**15-17 ST. LOUIS, MO.** Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Club's Annual Show; Machinist Hall Auditorium, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd., Bridgeton; Fri. 3-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Contact: Willis Smith, 314-521-8896 or Robert Morse, 636-462-4423.

**Support other clubs by  
attending their shows.  
Let Sharon Marburger  
know about the other  
club shows you attend.**



July Birthdays:  
Charlie Messenger  
Susy McMahan  
Kelly Beer  
Sharon Marburger

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ed Dvorak, President

The 4th of July is over and I hope everyone enjoyed themselves (and with no mishaps).

The field trip to Ashfall State Park and the gravel pit went quite well. It was nice to revisit Ashfall and see the new barn they put up.

There was a very nice piece of wood found by one of our new Mineral Monkeys, the young girl was very happy and Cory B. wasn't. HA! HA!

Everyone there found something to take home, including some memories.

Thank you Jim M. for the work you did arranging this trip.

For those of you who will be attending the Terry, Montana field trip, I will also be there, along with many other club members. I believe we are in for a GREAT time.

'Til then, everyone "Be happy and stay safe."



**Grinding Party**  
**Sunday, July 13, 1 - 4 p.m.**  
**Pioneers Park Nature Center**  
**Chet Ager Building**  
**Setup at noon.**

**Please come early to help move  
tables from another building.**  
**Picnic in the Park to follow at 4:30 p.m.**  
**Potluck.**

**Additional July Rock Party this year!**

**See page 3 for details.**

## REFRESHMENTS

### **Sep 18:**

Carrie Burkhart & Sharon  
Marburger

### **Oct 16:**

Sara Burden & Sharon Marburger

### **Nov 20:**

Carolyn Ashmore & Vera Lyman

### **December 7:**

Christmas Party

### **January 2015**

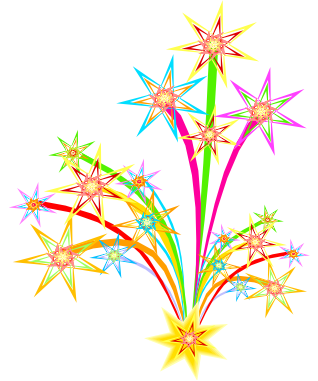
Everyone brings snacks for Swap  
Anniversary Cake



# July Rock Party

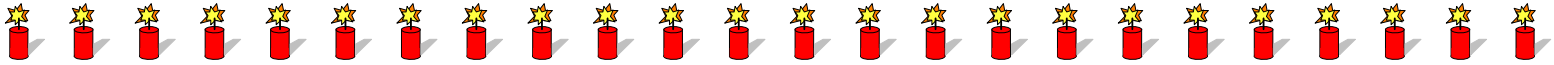
**Bring Your Own Grinder  
July 26  
All Day Event**

**Bruce Sturges' Home in Omaha  
Potluck lunch with BBQ grill available**



Contact Bruce at [bruce@tftgeo.com](mailto:bruce@tftgeo.com) or call 402.680.4051 to let him know you will be attending. He needs to know what type/size of machine you are bringing (if any). If you have a few pieces of rough you want to grind but have no machine, you have an interest in what cutting is all about, or you just want to talk about rocks/minerals/gemstones, this is the place to be!

Bruce has to limit the number to 20, so let him know you will be there. He will give you directions to his place when you contact him. Plan to have a great time visiting with Omaha club members and meeting new people.



## GEODE FEST 2014

by Mark Awakuni-Swetland

The Tenth-Annual Geode Fest will be held September 26, 27, and 28 in Hamilton, Illinois. Guided trips will depart the Chaney Creek Boat Access, located on Highway 96 North. The hunts will be held as scheduled, rain or shine. Portable restrooms will be available at the registration area, but not at the collecting areas.

A \$20.00 registration fee per person, or a \$30.00 family fee, entitles you to two (2) hunts per day on Friday and Saturday, and one (1) hunt on Sunday morning. Some of these guided hunts are on private property, not normally open to the general public for geode hunting at any other time. An additional fee of \$20.00 per 5-gallon bucket of geodes kept will be assessed. The St. Francisville site fees are a flat rate of \$.55/pound for anything you decide to keep.

The first guided hunt of each day leaves the Chaney Creek Access Area parking lot just north of Hamilton at 8 a.m. and returns at 12 noon. The second trip of the day leaves at 1 p.m. and returns at 5 p.m. Please arrive at the parking lot one hour prior to departure time to check in, find the group leader, and leave at the appointed times.

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*(Continued on page 5)*

## FIELD TRIPS TO LINCOLN CURIOS

by Nancy Akins (all photos provided by Nancy Akins)

On Tuesday, June 17, “The Children’s Place,” with Kathy Frizzel, leader, enjoyed a field trip to Lincoln Curios Rock Shop.

The children enjoyed trying to fit geodes back together, looking through agate slices, marveling at the petrified wood that was as tall as they were, watching pumice float, discussing how arrowheads and spears were made from obsidian, and splitting shale to look for trilobites, not to mention the good old “volcano” and the FREE ROCK. We touched briefly on metamorphic, sedimentary & igneous rocks, wrote with a rock (graphite & chalk), and tried to scratch talc with our fingernails.



A group of K through 5th graders from the Northeast Family Center enjoyed a sunny afternoon field trip at Lincoln Curios Rock Shop on June 25. They all had a turn a fitting the geodes back together, scratch & sniff sulphur and guessing what it smelled like (fireworks), always-popular magnets and lodestone, taking turns adding baking soda to the volcano and investigating the crystals that have formed on the volcano from its past eruptions, and getting crystals and other specimens with the “Claw Machine.” It is a nearby facility so the group then enjoyed a walk back to their center carry their treasures and watching the ground closely.

## PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT

by Nancy Akins

On May 2, Prescott School & the community association held an all-day event to improve their playground. In their plans is a glass bottom sand pit with a saber tooth cat fossil beneath the glass (unbreakable) and rock and mineral displays that can withstand lots of hands on.

I spent the day there, along with guests from Morrill Hall and Consulting Geologist, Marvin P. Carlson, Ph.D., helping to identify different rocks.

The children had a large table full of rocks and they enjoyed digging for them and bringing them over to the display to see if they could identify them. The adults from the neighborhood stopped by in between classes, or stayed with the classes to investigate all of the specimens that were available. It was a big day full of activities for everyone. (See pictures on page 5.)



**PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT - CONT'D**



**GEODE FEST 2014 - CONT'D**

*(Continued from page 3)*

You are responsible for your own transportation to and from the collecting sites, your own 5-gallon buckets, proper clothing, collecting tools, water, sunscreen, bug spray, etc. Tour guides will lead you to the sites and be available during the hunts.

There will be daily prizes awarded for the "Prettiest", "Most Unusual", "Largest", "Smallest", "Oddest", "Rarest", "Ugliest" and a couple other categories. The prizes will be given away at 5:30 p.m. each day at the Chaney Creek Access Area. We will have a separate 12-and-under-division so the kids aren't competing with adults for the awards.

Go to [http://geodefest.org/Home\\_Page.php](http://geodefest.org/Home_Page.php) for further information, registration form, and release form. And have a great time!!



**J J & L Rocks & Minerals**

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36 years**

## FIELD TRIP TO ASHFALL AND GRAVEL PIT

by Sharon Marburger

Jim and I headed out toward Ashfall State Historic Park after work on Friday, June 20. It was a beautiful afternoon, although very humid and partly cloudy with a moderate risk for thunderstorms. We planned to drive as far as Madison, Nebraska, where we would spend the night camping at the county fairgrounds.

When we arrived at Madison to set up our campsite, not another soul was in the campground. We had been told that a very large party was expected, and that campsites would be limited. Hmmmm. Oh well, since no one was there, we had our pick of the choicest sites!

Right around dusk, there was a loud knocking at the door. I turned around and saw a face at the window! I nearly had a heart attack!! Fortunately, it was not a serial killer; only the fairgrounds maintenance man. He asked if I knew about the coming storms, to which I responded, "We have a weather radio." He nodded and said he was closing the fairgrounds gates, but not locking them since we were there. I thanked him and he left. Soon thereafter, all the storms that had been going to the north and south of us, suddenly decided that Madison was where they wanted to be. Thunder, lightning, wind, oh my! I was very nervous and was seriously thinking about cuddling up next to the fairground offices, but I was too chicken to make my way through the wild lightning to get there.

It stormed off and on all night, not giving either Jim or me a very good sleep. However, we survived it all, and were able to continue our trip. On our way out of town, we spotted a location sporting lots of river rock. We spent about 45 minutes looking and collecting, then proceeded on to Ashfall, with a promise to ourselves that we would stop at this location on the return trip.

We drove to Verdigre, Nebraska where we set up camp again. We were surprised once more at the lack of campers, since we were told this campground would be heavily populated with bicyclists. We had the entire campground to ourselves!

We arrived at Ashfall around 11 a.m. and were very impressed with the number of visitors at the center. We soon realized that most of the visitors were part of a classic car touring event that stopped to view the spectacular images of excavated rhinos.

It was a gorgeous day with a nice breeze blowing, perfect for being outside, not to mention collecting specimens. Jim and I relaxed while waiting for everyone else to arrive at the prescribed gathering time of noon. I visited with the "gatekeeper," then settled on the ground by one



of the signs to study the rock landscaping. I found a few interesting pieces, which I photographed, because it is illegal to collect on the State Park grounds. Although it doesn't look like much in the photo, it was a very interesting concretion ball; gray with a bright yellow pattern. The agate supporting the ball was okay, too.

Soon, Ed Dvorak arrived, followed by the Beers and the Kempers. Unfortunately, none of the Fort Dodge, Iowa members were able to make it. As I understood it, there was some illness and some broken bones.

We toured the park, amazed at what the archaeologists had uncovered. There is not much to say except, "Wow!" (See pictures on page 7.)

After a couple of hours roaming through the Rhino Barn and other areas of the park, we regrouped and headed towards Verdigre, where we had obtained permission to collect at one of the many gravel pits in the area.

photos by Jim & Sharon Marburger



*(Continued on page 7)*

## FIELD TRIP TO ASHFALL AND GRAVEL PIT - CONT'D

(Continued from page 6)



Our collecting was restricted to this one pile, which produced several very nice specimens. Some of the more spritely club members were able to climb to

the top of the pile, while some of us older folks stayed toward the bottom. I have pictorial proof that LGMC does, indeed, have Mineral Monkeys as members!

(Continued on page 8)



### Silversmithing classes

The Jewelry Connection Ltd.  
Indian Village Shopping Ctr.  
13th & Arapahoe, Lincoln

Tuesdays

August 12, 2014

thru

September 30, 2014

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

Tuition: \$120 plus \$30 supply deposit

Contact:

Jayne Beer 402-890-3307

Judith Bay 402-423-7058

or e-mail

[jbeer60070@aol.com](mailto:jbeer60070@aol.com)

## FIELD TRIP TO ASHFALL AND GRAVEL PIT - CONT'D

(Continued from page 7)



Mineral Monkeys Vienne and Julienne at the top of the pile, while the old timers, including Corey, hunt lower on the pile.

One very nice specimen of petrified wood was discovered by one of the Mineral Monkeys. (Sorry, girls. I still don't know who is who.)



There was a lot of laughter and poking fun at poor me because I found it easier to belly crawl up the pile, and I was a lot closer to the rocks so they couldn't escape my eagle eye!

The afternoon wore on with fun and laughter, and the discovery of more rocks. That brought on a multitude of questions for which we sometimes had answers.

Finally, it was announced that certain club members needed to get down the road in order to get home at a decent hour, and others had more stops on their agendas.

Jim and I headed back to the Verdigre campground where I sorted rocks, washed them off, and packaged them in Ziploc bags with their appropriate labels.

It was a lovely and quiet evening, and after the busy, fun-filled day, Jim and I headed for the land of Nod at an early hour. The lack of sleep the night before also contributed to this.

The next morning brought us a gentle rain while we broke camp. We peacefully headed toward home, with a stop again at Madison, to hunt for more rocks. We spent about an hour collecting, then started for home again. The day ended up being lovely, once we drove out of the rain.

As always, we miss you and are saddened at your absence when you cannot participate in our field trips. You missed another good one, folks.

It was unfortunate that this field trip coincided with the June Rock Party. That party was cancelled at the last minute, but not in time for those planning to attend the party to make other plans to join the field trip. These things happen. Hopefully, we can avoid such conflicts in the future.



## 13 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LYME DISEASE

By Katherine Dempsey, Runner's World  
Published on Yahoo! Shine, Mon, Jun 30, 2014  
Excerpted & edited by Sharon Marburger

Sunburns and bug bites--two major pains of summertime fun. Whether you're out camping, at the beach, or working out in the sun this summer, it's important to spot the symptoms of one of the fastest growing infectious diseases in the U.S. Lyme disease is often misunderstood, and when left untreated, can lead to some dangerous complications. Below, we set the record straight on 5 Lyme disease myths, and instead offer up 8 key ways to identify, treat, and cope with the dreaded tick bite.

**MYTH #1: Lyme always presents itself with a bull's-eye rash.** According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 30 percent of people infected with Lyme disease don't get a rash. Whether or not someone develops a rash likely depends on differences within individual immune systems, says Thomas Mather, Ph.D., Director of the University of Rhode Island's Center for Vector-Borne Disease and TickEncounter Resource Center. And if a rash does appear, it doesn't always take a bull's-eye shape. Some research has shown that it more commonly appears as a red, raised region.

**MYTH #2: Trails are the only places where you are vulnerable to tick bites.** You could find a tick in your backyard, on suburban park paths, or on the side of a road. Ticks feed on deer, and a higher white-tailed deer population in North America allows ticks to thrive and has resulted in more tick reproduction, Mather says. And as suburban communities spread into deer and mice habitats, the risk increases.

**MYTH #3: If you've been bitten by a tick, you'll get Lyme.** Only blacklegged ticks and western blacklegged ticks transmit Lyme (lone star ticks and American dog ticks do not). And even if one bites you, it must first be infected with the bacteria, Mather says. Blacklegged ticks are more aggressive in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, upper Midwest, and on the Pacific coast. What's more, Mather estimates that the tick must be attached for one to two-and-a-half days to give you the disease. If you spot it and remove it promptly, you'll likely avoid infection.

**MYTH #4: If you get Lyme, you'll suffer from long-term, chronic symptoms.** Not necessarily. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that

10 to 20 percent of Lyme patients deal with symptoms that persist beyond six months. Identifying symptoms and getting treatment quickly is the best way to lower the chance you'll experience chronic issues. Mather, a marathon runner, tested positive for Lyme in 2002, but soon after beginning antibiotic treatment he finished a 10-mile race at 6:30-per-mile pace.

**MYTH #5: You can get Lyme from your four-legged running buddy.** Not exactly. If your dog contracts Lyme, you can't catch it from him, just like you can't catch it from a spouse or a running partner. But your dog could carry a tick into your house, where it may roam on the floor or on a couch--and then attach to you.

### Here's what to do if you've been bitten by a tick

**Remove It:** Use pointy tweezers to grasp the tick as close as possible to your skin's surface. Pull upward with steady pressure and avoid twisting or jerking it, which could cause some of the parts to break off in the skin.

**Keep It:** Tick expert Thomas Mather recommends placing the tick in a Ziploc bag and writing down the date of removal so you can show your doctor if you develop Lyme symptoms. You can also send your tick to a lab to get it tested; [tickencounter.org](http://tickencounter.org) lists options.

**Sanitize:** After removal, disinfect the bite area and wash your hands with soap and water.

**Identify It:** Different kinds of ticks carry different pathogens, so you'll want to figure out the species that bit you. Mather's TickEncounter Resource Center supplies photos to help you determine the type of tick and how long it might have been attached (ticks grow larger the longer they're attached). Mather encourages you to take a photo of the tick and submit it to his resource center, which monitors tick activity.

**Seek Medical Attention:** If you remove an adult blacklegged tick that was attached to your skin for two days or more, you have a high risk of contracting Lyme disease, says Mather. He recommends asking your doctor for a dose of the antibiotic doxycycline as a proactive measure. If a blacklegged tick was

*(Continued on page 10)*

## LYME DISEASE - CONT'D

(Continued from page 9)

attached for less than a day, your risk of being infected is lower. But Mather still recommends saving the tick in case you begin feeling ill later. And of course, if you start to develop Lyme symptoms, see your doctor.

### Ticked Off!: Avoid the Bite.

Tick expert Thomas Mather offers suggestions on how to protect yourself outdoors.

**Wear Repellent:** If you live in a high-risk area, Mather advises spraying your shoes and clothing with clothing-specific repellents containing permethrin. A coating of permethrin is effective for a month on your shoes and through 70 washings on your clothes. Mather prefers permethrin over DEET, which loses effectiveness after 30 minutes.

**Stay Centered:** If you're on trails or a park paths, stick to the center and away from the edges, where ticks tend to lurk. Ticks lie low in tall grasses (they're not hanging out in trees waiting to hop onto you).

**Do Tick Checks:** Strip off your clothing and check your body for ticks as soon as you can after being outdoors. Ticks might land on your foot or ankle and migrate up. Pay particular attention to these areas: underarms, around the ears, inside the belly button, back of the knees, head, groin, waistline. Look for any freckles (ticks are that small) that seem unusual.

## ROCKHOUND'S TOOLS

This list is excerpted from <http://www.rocksforkids.com/RFK/Rockhounding%20Tools.htm>

Choose from the following items, depending on what type of collecting you are doing.

- ◆ Long sleeves and long pants protect you from the sun and things that can scratch you.
- ◆ Sunscreen & bug repellent.
- ◆ A sun hat to protect your face and a bandana to protect your neck, hard hat.
- ◆ Sturdy shoes, hiking shoes, steel-toed boots, or old running shoes.
- ◆ Walking stick.
- ◆ Safety glasses, ear protectors, face mask.
- ◆ Rubberized, gardening, or leather gloves.
- ◆ Safety vest (for visibility).
- ◆ Knee pads.
- ◆ Rock chisel, hammer, pointed screwdriver, geologist's pick, small shovel, whisk (small broom). A tool belt will hold some small tools and leave your hands free.
- ◆ Bucket, bag, or backpack to carry specimens in. Use Ziploc bags to sort and label smaller items.
- ◆ Doing things with buddies makes things fun as well as safer since they can help you in an emergency.
- ◆ Having a sling allows 4 people to help carry large rocks.

Find more ideas at the website shown above.

## FAIRBURN, SOUTH DAKOTA

Thanks to The Rear Trunk (Omaha) for this tidbit!

If you haven't heard, the City of Fairburn S.D. (population 85!) is hosting its 1st annual Fairburn Agate Festival on the 19th and 20th of July. Contact Dave Ross at 605.430.4741 or [rjulia2@rap.midco.net](mailto:rjulia2@rap.midco.net) or Greg Darlow at 605.381.4030 or [greg.darlow@yahoo.com](mailto:greg.darlow@yahoo.com). <https://www.facebook.com/events/1483393551872272/>

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Historian	Sharon Marburger
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MWF Liaison	Vera Lyman
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Property	James Marburger
Refreshments / Door Prizes	
Roadside Clean-up	James Marburger
Scholarship	Vera Lyman
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Swap—2015	Jayne Beer
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3 years:	Edward Ridge Robert Cropp

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3 years:	Robert Gritmit Sharon Marburger

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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.

Subscription to the Pick & Shovel is \$15.00 per year for mailed copy.

Membership dues for the Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club are as follows:

- Adults (age 16 and over) - \$15 per year or \$25 per couple (within the same household)
- Juniors - \$2 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 before being approved for membership.

**2015 SHOW COMMITTEE**

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Event Center Liaison:	Vera Lyman
Finance & Ticket Sales:	Jim Atkins, Vera Lyman
Floor Chairman:	Dvorak/Wooldridge
Forms	Sharon Marburger
LGMC Club Booth:	Bob Gritmit
Nebraska Gem Dig:	Charles Wooldridge
Plants:	Ed Ridge
Printed Program:	Sharon Marburger
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Youth Activities:	Carolyn Ashmore Susy McMahan

**If there is something you would like to do for the Show or to help with planning of the Show, let Ed Dvorak know.**



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 Or e-mail newsletters to:  
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# PICK & SHOVEL

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