



THE AMMONITE

Affiliated with RMFMS & AFMS

Next meeting:

6:00 p.m.

July 11, 2024

Minneluzahan Senior Citizen Center

Rapid City, SD 57701

It is always rock hunting time!

The Purpose of our Non-Profit Club is to promote interest and education in geology, mineralogy, paleontology, archaeology and lapidary, to sponsor and promote the coordination of work efforts between groups and individuals





The Ammonite Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society

2023-24 Officers

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CLUB Website: www.WDGMS.org

CLUB Facebook: Western Dakota Gem and Society/groups

CLUB Email: westdakota.rocks@gmail.com

Meetings: Second Thursday of each Month (except August) at 6:00 PM (times can change)

At: Minneluzahan Senior Citizen Center, 315 North 4th Street, Rapid City, SD 57701

ANY SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER SHOULD BE IN BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH

Any questions about the material found in the Ammonite please contact the editor:

Deborah Vick, 265 Stumer Rd Apt 7, Rapid City, Sd 57701

If you change your address, email address or have a problem receiving a newsletter:

Please Contact the Treasure at westdakota.rocks@gmail.com

Dues: \$15.00 per person - \$20 per family with children under 18 years – Includes 12 newsletters by e-mail. If you chose to receive the newsletter by mail, there is an additional \$10.00 fee. Dues cover the RMFMS insurance and an electronic copy of the newsletter.

Send dues to Treasurer, PO Box 1954, Rapid City, SD 57709-1954

June Minutes

The Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society regular member meeting was called to order by President Kelli Wold at 6:00 p.m. on June 13, 2024

The meeting was attended by 24+ members and 2 ½ guests: Casey Babineaux, Rob Wills & his 7 year old son Solomon, and Will, the Dorland's 6 year old grandson.

Kelli thanked John & Larisa Bailey for bringing the snacks tonight!

Debbie Vick motioned to approve the May minutes as published in the Ammonite. Rod Woodcock seconded. Motion passed.

Jason Hammer motioned to approve the Treasurer's report. Rita Hanson seconded. Motion passed. Treasurer Leslie also reported that storage fees for the trailer have increased \$2.33 a month, or \$396.00 yearly. Checks were also written to Pete Lysenko and Leslie Lysenko to reimburse show supplies.

Old Business:

* Show: Next show meeting June 16, 3 p.m. at RCPL. Kelli thanked everyone who came and helped recover case liners. The fluorescent display case was put together with black felt liners and the new light plugged in and it is good to go. All vendor spots are filled (33 total) and all 12 display case spaces are filled.

We will need volunteers to help set up, work at the show, take down and also for the Club/Vendor potluck Friday night.

* Posters were handed out at the Hermosa Swap last weekend – people are looking forward to the show. Posters will be ready in about a week to put in shop windows.

* Kelli and Leslie had an interview this morning with Anya Mueller for the ConnectCenter1 program. She will edit the filming into 2 parts: one about the show she will set up to show a week or 2 before the end of July to help promote the show; and one about the Club will run and re-run throughout the year.

* Don brought the T-shirts! If you have paid get your shirt after the meeting.

New business

* Jan Goheen has a seashell collection she would like to sell. If you are interested give her a call at 605-646-8336.

* Jim Gray, with Sublette County Wyoming rock club will be attending the RMFMS convention in October in Oklahoma City, OK. He offered to be the delegate for our Club. If okay with Club we'll sign the proxy & mail to the RMFMS person in charge. Pete Lysenko motioned to have Jim Gray be the Proxy for us at the convention. Debbie Vick seconded. Motion passed.

* Field trip this Sat. to Weta. Kelli passed out directions and would like an early start as it will take about 1 ½ hours to get there. When she went a couple weeks ago the mosquitos were bad. Also be aware there is cactus and ruts in the road. Make sure you have enough gas! We

will meet at Menard's at 7:30 a.m., parking at the 'garden center end'.

Debbie Vick motioned to adjourn. Leslie Lysenko seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

No June Board Meeting

June 2nd Show Meeting Minutes

Show meeting held June 2, 2024 2:30 p.m. at Rapid City Library and attended by 8 members.

Deb Bailey has priced some signs for the show areas (kids area, silent auction, information/club table & fluorescent space. She will get the floor layout enlarged and mounted on 30" x 42" poster board. She will also make signs for the vendor tables like last year. Deb will also contact LeRoy about the children's area. Kelli was OK'd to purchase 168 small dinosaurs for \$16.98.

She reminded everyone that as well as the 41st annual show it is also the 50th anniversary of the Club. Leslie will see if she can find out more.

Silent Auction square charges were discussed and it was decided to charge 10.5% for credit card usage. This will cover state and local taxes, the 2.6% square fees plus \$0.10 per transaction.

All vendor spaces are filled, with 1 vendor still to send in money and contract. BH Institute/Neil Larson signing of book RexAppeal II will be from 1 – 4 on Saturday.

Display case for fluorescent display was set up yesterday and black flannel linings were inserted and worked fine. Pete is going to remove the epoxied fluorescent rocks off the boards. He will also find black panels to hang on the canopy. 11 display cases have been reserved. Case forms will be turned over to Rod.

The food vendor will provide coffee and donuts for breakfasts, and simple lunch items like hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies, pop, water, etc. Debbie will keep in touch with him re: menu items.

Potluck and badges: Leslie will order name tags with lanyards (150 for \$25) and send out request for names on badges. At the same time we'll remind of potluck and ask for RSVP so we have an idea of how many will attend. We'll also try to set up a sign-up chart like Myesa did last year on Google.

Other matters:

- * it takes 1 ½ hours to get to Weta so will have to leave early. Plus mosquitoes!
- * will discuss RMFMS proxy at meeting
- * hopefully will have t-shirts at meeting on 13th

Next show meeting June 16 at library.

June 19th Show Meeting Minutes

Show meeting held June 16, 2024 3:15 pm. at Rapid City Library and attended by 4 members.

10 vendors have signed up to date for the Potluck. Leslie would like someone else to organize and track the Potluck attendees and food. Debbie, Kelli, Debra, Pete & Leslie are doing a lot already and maybe a club member could help. Debbie will send an email asking for volunteers.

Pete has removed the epoxied fluorescent rocks from the boards with acetone. The black panels to darken the space are \$70. He would like to price PVC piping to support the panels. All agreed he should do that.

Leslie received the badges and lanyards, and the inserts came today. Some vendors have replied but lots more to come. She's working on the badges.

The poster-size vendor layouts and 45 sheets were picked up from Copy Country. The total was \$95.90. The cost of the posters (5) was \$2.25 per square foot.

Leslie and Kelli went over the cash needed for the show. The change should be ordered at least 10 days before being picked up from the bank.

Debbie discussed how many programs to order. Last year she ordered 500 11x17" sheets – 2 programs on each sheet, so there were 1,000 programs. That was too many, so this year she'll order 300 11x17" sheets so we'll have 600 programs.

Debbie would like to visit the venue Thursday night to make sure the tables and chairs are all in place. She will check with Ashley at the Fairgrounds to see if that's possible. We'd all like to go with!

Other matters:

No field trip in July – too much going on.

Probably no picnic in August - \$75.00 to rent the pavilion and we'll have just had the show potluck 2 weeks before.

Events for the upcoming months:

July 11th – general meeting – Guest speaker Frank Garcia

No July field trip

July 26th show set up

July 27 & 28th show and break down

August 8th – general meeting and show recap

Aug 10th- field trip TBD

September 12th general meeting

September 14th – field trip TBD

October 10th general meeting - officer elections

October 12th – field trip TBD

November 14th – general meeting, Hell Creek Paleontological Society

President's message

Thank you to everyone that attended the June meeting. We had several new guesses. The speaker was Katie Lamie from the South Dakota State Historical Society, Archaeology Research Center. Katie gave us a lot of information “What should I do if I think I find something archaeological” We are still needing volunteers for the Gem show. If you could spare even an hour of your time would be helpful. There will be a potluck for all the volunteers and vendors on Friday night. We are also needing volunteers to bring a dish for the potluck. To make this a successful event we will need everyone’s help.

If you are interested in buying a WDG&MS tee shirt let Debra Bailey know.

There will be no field trip in July due to the show.

Hope to see everyone at the July meeting!

Our Show Update

The show is only a few weeks away. In fact as of June 20th it is **36 days** away! Vendor spots are now completely full. The food vendor has been hired. All that is left is YOU! In order to make this show work is with volunteers! Please sign up even if it is for an hour or two.

Also if you are planning on attending the potluck Friday night after set-up please bring something for everyone to enjoy.

This article has been reprinted with permission
from the Rocky Mountain Federation's June Newsletter.

Estate Planning for the Rockhound

or Tips for the Unwanted Collection

by *Reivan Zeleznik*

(From The Vug Examiner 1/92 via The GEMROCK 5/2024)

Although most of the members of our rockhound fraternity collect specimens, books, and other items of interest in the hobby, I also guess that most seldom plan for that part of the future which no longer includes us. As a group we have probably made few, if any, plans for the disposition of our collections after our death. And more often than not the hobby (or sideline business) is a quite personal matter which holds little ongoing interest for spouses or heirs. Witness so many rockhounds who participate in hobby related activities such as meetings, field trips, and shows with no or little participation by other family members.

And so, the disposition of acquired specimens, supplies, and equipment for rockhound collectors should become as much a part of estate planning as is insurance or a will. On the assumption that hobbyists choose to enjoy their acquisitions for life, the breakup of these collections will then occur after death and will most often be in the hands of people who have the poorest understanding of their value or significance.

Our non-collector heirs should be aware that prices for our complete collection may be significantly different than for the collection offered piecemeal or by lot. The collection is often bought and put together at retail prices and will not reflect its sale at wholesale prices.

Selling a collection during a time of emotional or financial distress probably will tend to alter prices inappropriately. The emotional wrenching to part with prized pieces may cause heirs to be unrealistically high in their selling position. On the other hand, they may inappropriately sacrifice pieces out of ignorance or inexperience, which are quite deserving of better compensation. Guidance is needed to suggest whether disposing of the whole collection, bundling by lots, or the complete unbundling and sale by individual items is most appropriate.

Heirs need to be aware that the resale value will not reflect the time and energy we used to build the collection. Many satisfying collections are built with care and study and have little intrinsic value. Others may have a significant value especially if the specimens are old, can be connected to important historic events or are from sites which are no longer open for collecting. To best recapture these hidden assets, overtures need to be made to specific target markets -- a skill and knowledge not possessed by the non-collector.

Prices paid for a specimen may bring a premium when sold decades later, or, conversely, may have fallen. Mineral prices are quite fickle and reflect more than just the annual rise in

inflation. More than many people realize, they are sensitive to changes in geo-politics and world economics as well as to changes in fashion, mining, discovery, and productivity.

Therefore, as part of our estate planning, we should leave specific written instructions to our heirs regarding the disposition of our collection. Things that are helpful and might be included are:

- Names, addresses, phone numbers of trusted friends who could help appraise and dispose of the collection. These people should have been contacted so they are aware of what may be asked of them.
- Names and addresses of organizations which might have an interest – such as mineral clubs, museums and schools. Some clubs may, for example, have a committee set up to assist the family of a recently departed member.
- Names and addresses of dealers with whom you've dealt and are confident. Some may be interested in repurchasing materials albeit at the wholesale price and not the retail price.
- Names of relatives and friends who may want the whole or portions of the collection. Are there youngsters, neighbors, or friends who have shown an interest?
- An inventory of items in the collection which might include its date of acquisition and cost, how and/or from whom it was acquired, and a recent valuation. A computer file program will allow relatively easy reappraisals on an annual basis. This is also a good basis for insurance claims for theft or disaster which may arise.
- Special instructions for the disposal of specific items.

Discuss these items from time to time with your heirs and leave your instructions in an easy-to-access location with any important papers. In any case, the best and most important source of assessment and value of your collection is you.

[Thanks to Liz Thomas, who contributed this article. It was really brought home by her recently attending a very emotional sale of a club member's rock collection after his passing.]

Upcoming Area Shows

Most of this information was obtained from www.rockandmineralshows.com. Please check the website for other shows across the country and in Canada.

Rock-A-Rama - 07/20/2024

Start Date: 07/20/2024

End Date: 07/21/2024

Venue: Sierra Vista Mall

Address: 2200 Mercado Loop

Sierra Vista Mall

Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100075524934080>

White Mountain Gem and Mineral Show - 07/26/2024

Start Date: 07/26/2024

End Date: 07/28/2024

Hours: Fri/Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun 10:00-4:00

Venue: Elks Lodge

Address: 805 E Whipple St

Elks Lodge

Show Low, AZ 85929

Website: <http://www.whitemountain-azrockclub.org/>

Festival in the Park - 07/19/2024

Start Date: 07/19/2024

End Date: 07/21/2024

Hours: Fri 4:00-8:00 Sat 9:00-7:00 Sun 10:00-4:00

Venue: Spearfish City Park

Address: 119 S Canyon St

Spearfish City Park

Spearfish, SD 57783

Website: <https://www.matthewsopera.com/festival-in-the-park/>

OUR SHOW!!!

Rapid City Gem & Mineral Show - 07/27/2024

Start Date: 07/27/2024

End Date: 07/28/2024

Hours: Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun 9:00-3:00

Venue: Central States Fairgrounds - Nerdy Nuts Building

Address: 800 San Francisco St

Central States Fairgrounds - Nerdy Nuts Building

Rapid City, SD 57701

Website: <http://wdgms.org/>

Gem and Mineral Show - 07/27/2024

Start Date: 07/27/2024

End Date: 07/27/2024

Hours: 10:00 - 5:00

Venue: Bethany Reformed Church

Address: 702 W 7th St

Bethany Reformed Church

Canton, SD 57013-2021

Website: <http://segams.org/index.html>

Tulsa Rock Gem Mineral & Jewelry Show - 07/13/2024

Start Date: 07/13/2024

End Date: 07/14/2024

Hours: Sat 9:00-6:00 Sun 10:00-5:00

Venue: Exchange Center at Expo Square

Address: 4145 E 21st St

Exchange Center at Expo Square

Tulsa, OK 74114

Website: <http://www.tulsarockandmineralsociety.org/>

Moose Lake Agate Days - 07/13/2024

Start Date: 07/13/2024

End Date: 07/14/2024

Hours: Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun 9:00-3:00

Venue: Riverside Arena

Address: 20 Earl Ellens Drive

Riverside Arena

Moose Lake, MN 55767

Now for a lighter side of life as a Rock-hound

I have shared these in the past. I am reprinting them for the 'newbies'.

The severe sunburn acquired on your last vacation was a one inch wide strip of skin at the gap between the tail of your shirt and the top of your pants.

Your kids bring you a "pretty stone" they've found, and you contrive to steal it. And you know you've done it. Don't lie.

When you lick a dirty rock to show off the wonderful colors, without stopping to realize that you are the only rock hound in the group.

The USGS calls to tell you they've discovered a gravitational anomaly center on your house and to ask if you might know the reason why.