



THE AMMONITE



Newsletter of The Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society – JAN 2010

FROM THE PRESIDENT by Deb R



The agenda for the January meeting is as follows:

- Welcome
- Approve November minutes
- Treasurer's report
- RMF & Blue Ribbon update
- Field Trip information
- Website update
- **Old Business:** Dues are past due!
- Sign-up for door prizes, refreshments & programs
- Club inventories (what people retain on behalf of the club) have not been received
- Copy of the new By-Laws for everyone
- **New Business:** Show discussion
- **Program** - Ammonites, by Neal L

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas!

Deb-

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**As promised here is our list of Show Officers for 2010:  
This will be our 30th anniversary which is the Pearl.**



- Chairperson** – Jamie B
- Co-Chairperson** - Linda S and Dale J
- Youth Activities Director** – Ellen T
- Silent Auction Director** - Linda S and Mickey S
- Publicity Director** – Deb R, Mickey S, and Gregg G
- Dealer Coordinator** - Don R
- Volunteer Coordinator** - Jan G



**CLUB CALENDAR** – Below is our calendar for the year. As you can see, we still have a few openings for Door Prizes and Programs for 2010. Sign up at the January meeting, or contact Deb with your chosen month(s) and item(s). Contact Mike J, our Vice President, if you have an idea for a program or would like to present one. We are all a very enthusiastic audience and would love to learn what you have to share. Jamie B has also offered to present programs on just about any topic you want – let him know your suggestions.

| MONTH     | REFRESHMENTS    | DOOR PRIZES     | PROGRAM                                  |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|
| JANUARY   | Paul & Jan G    | Paul & Jan G    | Ammonites by Neal L                      |
| FEBRUARY  | Don & Annette R | Don & Annette R | Intarsiq-Roger V                         |
| MARCH     | Deb R           | Mickey S        | Dinosaurs of SD-Jamie B                  |
| APRIL     | Mills           | Martin O        |                                          |
| MAY       | Cathy A         | Joebgen         |                                          |
| JUNE      | Becky B         |                 | 30 <sup>th</sup> SHOW-Last minute review |
| JULY      | Rita & Lyle H   |                 |                                          |
| AUGUST    | Summer Meal     | Summer Meal     | Summer Meal                              |
| SEPTEMBER | Hazel           |                 |                                          |
| OCTOBER   | Calvin L        |                 |                                          |
| NOVEMBER  | Cliff N         |                 |                                          |
| DECEMBER  | Holiday Dinner  | Holiday Dinner  | Holiday Dinner                           |

Unless you recently joined WDG&MS, your **dues are due**. Payment was due at the past November meeting. You can mail your check to our Treasurer, Rita H. (Those who are not current in their membership dues by the end of the year will not receive future Ammonites).

**Wire Wrapping** should be starting again soon. Contact Paula H at 716-3656 if you would like to join the group.

**Webmaster** – Steve E. Don't forget to check out our new website at [www.wdgms.org](http://www.wdgms.org).

**Guidebook to Geology of the Black Hills, SD** was written by Lufkin, Redden, Lisenbee and Loomis. Deb received a copy from John Lufkin for our club to review. **Coming soon....**Steve S will be doing a book review and we will have a little write up on it. Purchase price and contact information will be available with the book.

**IMPORTANT!!!!** If you have any **club materials or equipment**, please make a list of the items that you hold, and submit it to President Deb R. We are trying to compile a comprehensive list of who has things and where they are located.

Stan and Paula H, the new **Field Trip Chairs**, would like to know where members want to go in 2010. Give them your ideas for outside trips and ones we can take inside when the weather requires it.

**BY-LAWS**, hot off the press, will be available to all members at an upcoming meeting. This is our November 2009 version, freshly revised and very spiffy, if I do say so myself! Great job everyone involved with this task!

**PLEASE THROW AWAY ANY OLD COPIES YOU HAVE AT HOME.....**





The Vargas Collection is a large gem and mineral collection at The University of Texas at Austin. The entire collection has been photographed and put online for view - see the press release and link here:

<http://www.jsg.utexas.edu/news/rels/121709.html>

The photography of this display is truly beautiful and well worth a visit to this site. Thank you to Dennis Trombatore, Walter Geology Library, The University of Texas at Austin for this great link.

## Collecting Rocks

I think that there will never be  
An ignoramous just like me.  
Who roams the hills throughout the day  
To pick up rocks that do not pay.  
For there's one thing I've been told,  
I take the rocks and leave the gold.  
O'er deserts wild or mountains blue  
I search for rocks of varied hue.  
A hundred pounds or more I pack  
With blistered feet and aching back;  
And after this is said and done  
I cannot name a single one.  
I pick up rocks where ere' I go;  
The reason why I do not know.  
For rocks are found by fools like me  
Where God intended them to be.

*Reprinted from The Ammonite, January 1997,  
by Rhea J., now a snowbird at Quartzsite.*



**O**n December 11<sup>th</sup>, our Annual Christmas Party gathering did not disappoint. It is always so nice to see our friends in a nice relaxed atmosphere right before the holiday hooplah!



Steve and I want to wish you and your families Happy Holidays, and we'll see you all next year!



### Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society 2009-2010 Officers and Chairpersons (area code 605)

|                            |                                                                  |          |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>President:</b>          | Deb R., 430 E. Idaho St., Rapid City, SD 57701.....              | 343-7850 |
| <b>Vice President:</b>     | Mike J., 5884 Legacy Ln., Rapid City, SD 57703.....              | 716-9886 |
| <b>Secretary:</b>          | Paula H., 533 Enchantment Rd., Rapid City, SD 57701.....         | 484-3754 |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>          | Rita H., 2569 Ambush Ranch Rd., Rapid City, SD 57703.....        | 348-3916 |
| <b>BRC SD Rep:</b>         | Donald R., 2701 Mystic Mt. Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702.....        | 348-8948 |
| <b>BHRMUC Rep:</b>         | Donald R., 2701 Mystic Mt. Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702.....        | 348-8948 |
| <b>RMFS SD Dir.:</b>       | Donald R., 2701 Mystic Mt. Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702.....        | 348-8948 |
| <b>Field Trip Chairs:</b>  | Paula & Stan H., 533 Enchantment Rd., Rapid City, SD 57701.....  | 484-1591 |
| <b>1 yr. Board Member:</b> | Ellen T., 21653 Piedmont Meadows Rd., Piedmont, SD 57769.....    | 787-4659 |
| <b>2 yr. Board Member:</b> | Dale J., 14974 Back Country Trail, Rapid City, SD 57703.....     | 393-2011 |
| <b>3 yr. Board Member:</b> | Mickey S., 201 Patton St., Rapid City, SD 57701.....             | 791-1953 |
| <b>Newsletter Editor:</b>  | Steve & Linda S., 11809 Eastridge Hill Dr., Black Hawk, SD 57718 | 716-4047 |
| <b>Historian</b>           | Donald R., 2701 Mystic Mt. Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702.....        | 348-8948 |
| <b>Librarian:</b>          | Steven E., P.O. Box 1123, Rapid City, SD 57709.....              | 484-5712 |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>          | Steven E., P.O. Box 1123, Rapid City, SD 57709.....              | 484-5712 |

Please contact us with new and old ideas that you would like to see here in print. We have really enjoyed looking through some of the waaayy back issues and love what they were doing then with The Ammonite. If you have an article you think would be of interest to others send it to us.

**Club Address:** 2701 Mystic Mt. Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702

**Meetings:** Second Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Minneluzahan Senior Center, 315 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Rapid City

**Dues:** Family - \$15, Single - \$10, Payable by cash, check, or money order. Senior Citizens free membership(does not include bulletin)

The purpose of our club is to promote interest and education in geology, mineralogy, paleontology, archaeology, and lapidary, to sponsor and provide means of coordination the work efforts of groups and individuals interested in these science fields.

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Official Publication of the  
Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society

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**Material in this newsletter may be used if proper credit is given.  
Material for this newsletter must be given to the editor by the  
25<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding that issue.**

