



THE AMMONITE



Newsletter of the Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society —JANUARY 2011

FROM THE PRESIDENT, by Ellen Tilley



Happy New Year to all and I hope your Christmas was a merry one. I think our Christmas Dinner at the Elk's Club was fun and the food was good as always. Thanks to everyone that helped with the arrangements and prizes.

Here we are in early January 2011, with our next show coming up toward us, but not quite to the horizon and we are going to be getting into high gear.

We will have a different venue, which will be challenging, but creative minds are seeing a vision and it will be exciting to watch that vision come true.

See you on Friday January 14 at our next meeting. Ellen D. Tilley

Treasurer' Report for November 2010



Nov 12, 2010

The club deposited \$122.00 and paid bills totaling \$213.16, for a balance of \$12,666.32. We have 56 families and 53 singles as paid members.



Secretaries Notes, November 2010

Meeting began at 7:30pm with minutes of last meeting approved by Becky and seconded by Hazel

Ellen Tilly then gave a wonderful presentation on Gems.

Treasures report approved by Dave R. and seconded by Carl.

Show report- Meeting scheduled for Tues 11/16/10 at Paula's house lots of good ideas and programs to discuss.

Blue Ribbon report- Please look at the following website www.sharetrails.org

Rocky MT, Federation- Wilderness billed passed was put through with another bill. Please research on The internet to find out what this means to us bring any info that is good to discuss to the next meeting.

We have looked into insurance for the field trips during the show the cost is \$400-\$500.00 for liability Rita will look to see if our insurance with The RMFS will cover this cost.

Annette is sold out do not ask anymore.

Remember we still have a large saw belonging to the club it is kept at Carl Klutz's house and you can call to make arrangements with him to use it to cut slabs. Call Carl at 605-484-9939.





Memories of this year's Christmas Party 2010

To Everyone: May you have a Blessed New Year. May you have Joy and Happiness and Lots of Good things happen your way. Happy Rock Hunting!!!

December Birthstone



As cool and inviting as a blue lake on a blistering summer day, **December's birthstone** is derived from the Sanskrit word "tapas," meaning fire. This is because Blue Topaz was considered by ancient civilizations to have cooling properties. Not only was it believed to cool boiling water when thrown into the pot, but to calm hot tempers as well! This gemstone was credited with many other healing powers, among them the ability to cure insanity, asthma, weak vision and insomnia. The Blue Topaz was even thought to have magical properties in its ability to make its wearer invisible in a threatening situation.

Blue Topaz is the hardest of the silicate minerals. While pure Topaz is colorless, minor changes of elements within the stone result in a variety of other colors, such as blue, pale green, red, yellow and pink.

The blue hue is created when Topaz is heated, whether the heat source is natural or engineered by man. The three shades of Blue Topaz are Sky, Swiss and London Blue. The latter is the deepest blue and is often used as a less expensive substitute for Sapphire.

Topaz is found primarily in Brazil, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Mexico, Pakistan, China, and the United States.

A gift of Blue Topaz is symbolic of love and fidelity. Luckily, this cool blue gemstone has no legendary power to put out the burning flame of love!

Alternate Birthstone

An alternate birthstone for December is the Turquoise. So named because it was initially brought to Europe by way of Turkey, this stone is one of the first gems to be used in jewelry. Turquoise was considered by ancients to be a sacred stone, protective against all manners of evil and ill health. This beautiful gemstone is mined in Iran and the southwestern United States. A gift of Turquoise represents friendship and luck.

CLUB CALENDAR – Below is our calendar for the year. Although 2010 is now filled, you can always sign up for Door Prizes and Programs for 2011. Sign up at club meetings, or contact Ellen T. 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.

MONTH	REFRESHMENTS	DOOR PRIZES	PROGRAM
JANUARY	Mike and Karen J	Dale J	Shawn Wilson Wire Wrap
FEBRUARY	Stan and Paula H		John Goes In Center Silver Smith
MARCH			
APRIL			
MAY			
JUNE			30 th SHOW-Last minute review
JULY			
AUGUST	Summer Meal	Summer Meal	Summer Meal
SEPTEMBER			
OCTOBER			
NOVEMBER			
DECEMBER	Holiday Dinner	Holiday Dinner	Holiday Dinner

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

President:	Ellen T. 21653 Piedmont Meadow Road , Piedmont, SD 57769.....	787-4659
Vice President:	Mike J. 5884 Legacy Lane, Rapid City, SD 57703.....	685-4847
Secretary:	Paula H. 533 Enchantment Road, Rapid City, SD 57701.....	484-3754
Treasurer:	Rita H. 2569 Ambush Ranch Rd., Rapid City, SD 57703.....	348-3916
BRC SD Rep:	Martin O., 245 E. St. Charles St, Rapid City, SD 57701.....	721-7770
BHRMUC Rep:	Ellen T., 21653 Piedmont Meadows Rd., Piedmont, SD 57769.....	787-4659
RMFS SD Dir.:	Dale J., 14974 Back Country Trail, Rapid City, SD 57703.....	393-2011
Field Trip Chairs:	Gene W. 2415 Judy Avenue. Rapid City, SD 57701.....	399-2670
1 yr. Board Member:	Dale J. 14974 Back Country Trail, Rapid City, SD 57703.....	393-2011
2 yr. Board Member:	Mickey S. 201 Patton St., Rapid City, SD 57701.....	791-1953
3 yr. Board Member:	Stan H. 533 Enchantment Road, Rapid City, SD 57701.....	484-1591
Newsletter Editors:	Hazel W & Paula H. P.O. Box 3620 Rapid City, SD 57709	399-2670
Historian	Annette R., 2701 Mystic Mt. Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702.....	348-8948
Librarian:	Steven E., P.O. Box 1123, Rapid City, SD 57709.....	791-2473
Webmaster:	Steven E., P.O. Box 1123, Rapid City, SD 57709.....	791-2473

Remember we have a new club address. This is to be used for all correspondence.

**Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society
PO Box 3620, Rapid City, SD 57709-3620**

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

Dues: Family - \$15, Single - \$10, Payable by cash, check, or money order. Senior Citizens - free (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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Material in this newsletter may be used if proper credit is given.
Material for this newsletter must be given to the editor by the
25th of the month preceding that issue.

