



THE AMMONITE



Newsletter of The Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society – Nov 2009



FROM THE PRESIDENT by Deb R

The Ammonite is extra large this month and contains information important for every member to read. In it you will find the list of new officers, the proposed by-laws for review, general news and information and sadly, news on the passing of a great lady in the gem, mineral and lapidary world – Mrs. June Culp Zeitner. Be sure to read this last issue of 2009 and get caught up on what you might have missed. (The Ammonite is not published in December or August).

Your Officers and Chairs for the 2009-2010 Term are:

President – Deb R
Vice President – Mike J
Secretary – Paula H
Treasurer – Rita H
Librarian – Steve E
Historian – Don R

Club Rep – Don R
Field Trip Chairs – Stan & Paula H
Board Members – 3rd Yr - Mickey S, 2nd Yr - Dale J, 1st Yr – Ellen T
Editors – Steve & Linda S
Webmaster – Steve E

Positions related to the Show, such as Show Chair/Co-Chair and Publicity, have been held over for election until the by-laws have been approved. Hopefully we will have these vital positions filled at the November meeting.

CLUB CALENDAR – It is time once again to sign up for Programs, Door Prizes and Refreshments for 2010. Sign up at the November meeting, or contact Deb R with your chosen month(s) and item(s). Contact Mike J, the new VP, if you have an idea for a Program, or would like to present one. 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
NOVEMBER	Paula H	Rita H	Why Opals are better than Diamonds by Jamie B
DECEMBER	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner at Elks Lodge
JANUARY			Ammonites by Neal Larson
FEBRUARY			
MARCH	Deb R	Mickey S	

Unless you recently joined WDG&MS, your **dues are due**. Pay at the Nov 13th meeting or mail your check to Treasurer Rita H. (Those who are not current in their membership dues by the end of the year will not receive future Ammonites).

The **Holiday Dinner** will be Friday, December 11th at 6:30pm at the Elks Lodge near Jolly Lane. Get with Don R to choose you dinner (Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu) – he needs to submit a headcount for our reservation. As in years past, canned/dry goods food donations will be taken at the dinner and given to Church Response.

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

Webmaster Steve E has found a good possibility for our new club website. Go to www.intuit.com and check out their demo and sample webpages. Let Steve know if you have a sample preference, or if you have experience working with Intuit.

Guidebook to Geology of the Black Hills, SD was written by Lufkin, Redden, Lisenbee and Loomis. I received a copy from John Lufkin for our club to review. I will bring it back in to the November meeting for anyone who was not able to take a peak at it at the October meeting. I found it very informative and enjoyed the colored photographs and maps. If you would like to purchase a copy for \$29.95, plus shipping & handling, you can contact John Lufkin directly at lufk3@comcast.net, or call him at 303-997-7365.

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

~~~~~  
**REVIEW THE PROPOSED BY-LAWS BELOW!** With the exception of the Officer signature page, the proposed updated by-laws are listed here. Review them carefully. Submit any changes you want to see **IN WRITING** to David R, or other by-law committee member at least a few days before the November meeting (Nov 13<sup>th</sup>). This draft, along with any suggested changes, will be voted on at the November meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would still like to have your vote considered, submit your Yea or Nay in writing to the by-law committee before the meeting date. After the updated by-laws are approved, each member will receive a copy and they will be included in each new member's packet.

The by-law committee members are: David R ([davidRomig@rap.midco.net](mailto:davidRomig@rap.midco.net)), Paula H, Cathy A, Linda S and Dale J.

**BY-LAWS OF THE WESTERN DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**

January 1987  
(Revised October 1994)  
(Revised December 1996)  
(Revised November 2009)

**ARTICLE I NAME**

1. The name of this corporation hereafter referred to as the club or society is the Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society.
2. The motto of this club is "Friendship is more precious than diamonds."
3. The club colors shall be Blue and Gold.
4. The club emblem shall be the ammonite, placenticeras.

**ARTICLE II PERIOD OF EXISTENCE**

The period of existence of this club is perpetual, or as long as a group of people agree to work together to perpetuate the goals of the club.

**ARTICLE III PURPOSE & GOALS**

The purpose or purposes for which this corporation is organized is to promote interest and education in geology, mineralogy, paleontology, archaeology, fossils and lapidary. To sponsor and provide means of coordinating to work and efforts of groups and individuals interested in these or related earth science fields.

1. To collect and study gems and minerals.
2. To help members increase their knowledge of gems, fossils, geology and minerals.
3. To provide an opportunity for the exhibition and exchange of specimens.
4. To promote harmonious relations with similar organizations.
5. To respect the laws of the land.

**ARTICLE IV COMPOSITION**

The corporation shall be a membership club. The members being any individual or family who share the interests of the club and wish to become members and agree to abide by the club constitution, by-laws and rules.

**ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP CLASSES**

1. The classes of memberships in the club shall be:
  - A. Single Member, an individual over the age of 16; or younger, with written consent of their parents or guardian, dues are \$10.00 per member per year.
  - B. A Family Membership, a married couple or parent with children under 16; dependent children over 16 must become single members to remain in the club, dues are \$15.00 per family membership per year.
  - C. Honorary Members, may be chosen by the Board of Directors for their contribution in the fields of the club's interests.

2. Single members will have one (1) vote on elections or motions before the club. Family memberships shall have one (1) vote per adult.
3. Dues are payable in advance and are due on the first of November.
4. Dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors and may be raised as necessary in order to pay expenses to keep the club solvent.
5. Members sixty (60) days in arrears in payment of dues shall not be a member in good standing and may not vote or hold office in the club.

#### ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors will be elected by the members and the affairs of this society shall be managed by the Board. The Board shall consist of nine (9) elected members, (the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and three (3) Board Directors) and retiring president.
2. Board meetings shall be open to all members to give input. Only Board Members shall vote at these meetings. All decisions made at such meetings will be announced at the next General Membership meeting, published in the next newsletter and be open to challenge by any member in good standing.
3. The Board of Directors shall settle all disputes involving the club or its members and will have the right to remove any officer or member from the club, with the majority vote of the membership.
4. Each member of the Board of Directors will receive and sign for their copy of the current By-Laws upon taking office or when there is any change to the By-Laws.

#### ARTICLE VII ELECTIONS

1. The Board of Directors will provide a proposed slate of officers at the September general membership meeting and accept any and all floor nominations.
2. Elections will be held at the October meeting. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor prior to this election.
3. The President, Vice President, and Secretary and/or Treasurer will be elected to a one (1) year term and may serve as many consecutive terms as elected.
4. Members of the Board of Directors shall serve the terms to which they are elected. The term of office for Board Directors shall be for three (3) years or until a successor has been elected. Initially, one Board Member shall be elected for a term of one year; one Board Member shall be elected for two years; one Board Member shall be elected for a term of three years.
5. Candidates shall be elected by written ballot.
6. Candidates elected will assume their duties at the first meeting in November.
7. Officers of the club will be members who regularly attend club meetings and support club activities' who have attended at least two-thirds of the club meetings in the previous year unless absent for reasons approved by the Board of Directors.
8. If a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors, an interim member will be appointed to fill out the remainder of the term.

#### ARTICLE VIII OFFICERS DUTIES

1. The duties of the PRESIDENT are:
  - A. The President will preside over Board of Director and club membership meetings.
  - B. The President will hold the tie-breaking vote at all Board of Directors meetings.
  - C. The President will co-sign club checks.
  - D. The President will appoint club members to serve on the following committees: The Editor of the Ammonite; Youth Committee Chairperson; members of the Show Committee; and other committee chairpersons/members as needed.
  - E. The President will provide to the editor of the Ammonite an agenda to be published in the Ammonite prior to each general membership meetings. Any changed to this agenda will be provided verbally to the members at each general membership meeting.
  - F. Greet and introduce all visitors at club meetings and activities.
2. The duties of the VICE PRESIDENT are to:
  - A. Preside over Board of Director and club meetings when the President is absent.
  - B. Co-sign checks if the President in absent.

- C. Assist the President in all matters concerning the club and assume the duties of the President or Secretary if needed.
  - D. Be in charge of programs and introduce any guest speakers.
3. The duties of the SECRETARY are to:
- A. Keep and maintain minutes of the club meetings, Board of Directors meetings and other club activities.
  - B. To count all written ballots and verify the results of all elections held by the club's general membership.
  - C. Keep an updated copy of the club's constitution/articles of incorporation, by-laws and rules and present a copy to each newly elected officer and all new club members.
  - D. Complete all club correspondence as required.
  - E. Act as Treasurer as required.
  - F. The Secretary shall be permitted to keep \$20.00 of club funds for business and expenses.
  - G. [Submit the minutes of the last meeting to the Editor for publication in the following edition.\\*](#)
4. The duties of the TREASURER are to:
- A. Preside over club meetings if the President, Vice President, and Secretary are absent.
  - B. Keep accurate records of all money received and all expenses incurred by the club and be responsible for an accurate account of all club funds.
  - C. Deposit all club money in a bank of the club's choice.
  - D. To ensure there is an 80%/20% split of all Silent Auction sales with 20% of the sales going to the club and 80% going to the seller.
  - E. The Treasurer shall be permitted to keep \$20.00 of club funds for business and expenses.
  - F. Co-sign all club checks, when available.
  - G. To assist the Secretary in counting all written ballots and verify the results of all elections held by the club's general membership.
  - H. [Submit a report of club balances to the Editor for publication in the newsletter.\\*](#)
5. The duties of the LIBRARIAN are to:
- A. Present, and keep updated, a list of all books and materials owned by the club.
  - B. Keep all books and material accessible to club members, and allow limited time usage—ordinarily not more than one month.
  - C. Will publish a list of all materials held by the club in the Ammonite semi-annually.
  - D. Will insure that any member taking any item belonging to the club, shall be responsible for replacing that item if it is not returned or is damage by that member.
6. The duties of the HISTORIAN are to:
- A. To keep a history of the club and maintain a collection of all Ammonite Newsletters.
  - B. The office of Historian and Librarian may be separate or combined or committees for each may be elected.

*\*Added to the by-laws draft from input received after the October club meeting.*

## ARTICLE IX MEETINGS

1. Club meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month.
2. Special club meetings or meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by member petition.
3. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be held quarterly and there must be a quorum of five (5) board members to conduct official business.
4. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be called by the President.
5. Club meetings will be held in an orderly manner and will generally follow these procedures:
  - A. Call to order.
  - B. Introduction of speaker/program.
  - C. Reading of minutes and treasure report.
  - D. Introduction of guests.
  - E. Reports of committees and old or unfinished business.
  - F. Correspondence and new business.
  - G. Adjournment.

## ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

1. Amendments to the constitution may be presented to the club by the Board of Directors or member's written resolution.
2. A two-thirds (2/3rds) majority vote of the club membership is required to change the constitution.
3. The club membership shall be notified when a vote on an amendment to the constitution will occur.
4. Proxy votes will be allowed by authorization from non-attending members.
5. All proxy votes must be sign, dated, and mailed/given to the President prior to all elections.
6. The form for the proxy vote will be published in the Ammonite one (1) month prior to all elections conducted by the club's general membership.
7. Any member proposing a change in the by-laws must submit a written resolution to the membership at a general meeting.
8. Said resolution shall be read and discussed at such meeting.
9. Said resolution shall then be referred to the Board of Directors who will check for any conflicts with the club's Articles of Incorporation and Constitution.
10. The Board of Directors will submit said resolution to the general membership at the next general membership meeting.
11. Said resolution shall then be published in the Ammonite Newsletter for the purpose of making it available to the entire membership.
12. The resolution shall be voted on at the next general membership meeting after publication.
13. The vote on all resolutions will be by written ballot with a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority required to change the by-laws.

#### ARTICLE XI ASSETS OF THE CLUB

1. This club will operate as a non-profit organization and no part of its earnings or property shall go to the benefit of any member or individual.
2. Members may be repaid in full or in part for expenditures incurred to the benefit of the club's interests. But, no expenditure over \$50.00 will be made with the thought of repayment until the action has been approved by a vote of the Board of Directors or the membership. All expenditures under \$50.00 may be approved by the club President, Vice President, and Treasurer. All club expenditures under \$50.00 must be presented to the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.
3. All gifts, grants and/or purchases to or by the club shall be the property of the club membership and will be used to the club's best interest.
4. If for any reason this club should disband, the assets of the club will be used to pay any outstanding debts or obligations. Any remaining assets will be auctioned off and the proceeds will be donated to the Earth Science Studies at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

#### ARTICLE XII SOCIETY FIELD TRIPS

1. The club will elect a Field Trip Chairman. Members will be encouraged to assist in planning field trips.
2. The Field Trip Chairman will attempt to schedule a field trip at least once a month, which will be open to all members in good standing.
3. If guests are invited, the Field Trip Chairman will be notified.
4. All field trips will be announced at the general meeting and explained as far in advance as possible, printed in the club bulletin, to encourage member participation. A telephone/e-mail notification system may be used.

#### ARTICLE XIII CLUB SHOWS

1. A primary object of the club will be to hold an annual show. This show will normally be a two (2) day event.
2. The Show components will be, but not limited to:
  - A. Dealers: Will consist of local, state, and out of state dealers who shall have an opportunity to "set-up" and display/sell their wares.
  - B. Displays: Display cases will be set up to display gems, fossils, and minerals of interest to the attendees of the show. These displays can be from dealers, club members and interested non-associated individuals.
  - C. Silent Auction: The silent auction will be open to both members and non-members. The auction will be the responsibility of the Silent Auction Director.
  - D. Best of Show Award and Door Prizes: There will be a prize for the display that is voted for by the attendees as the best display of the show. This prize can be provided by a sponsor or the club. Door

Prizes will be drawn by the club as decided by the Show Committee. These prizes will be supplied by the club or show sponsors.

3. The Show Committee will consist of the following Chairpersons, Coordinators and Directors:
  - A. Chairperson
  - B. Co-Chairperson
  - C. Youth Activities Director
  - D. Publicity Director
  - E. Silent Auction Director
  - F. Dealer Coordinator
  - G. Volunteer Coordinator
4. The Show Chairman will be elected as soon as possible after the current show, so that committees can be formed and plans made for the next show.
5. The duties of the Show Chairperson are:
  - A. Form subcommittees to be responsible for aspects of the show as soon as possible after the show.
  - B. Call meetings as needed with the Board of Directors to review plans, and expenses related to the budgeted amount.
  - C. Work with the Board of Directors and the President to schedule the show for the next year with chosen venue as soon as possible after the current show, obtaining a contract.
6. The duties of the Show Co-Chairperson are:
  - A. Assist the Chairperson with all their assigned duties.
7. The duties of the Youth Activities Director are:
  - A. Coordinate all of the club's activities geared to youth education at the club show.
  - B. To work with the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology to have knowledgeable student volunteers present to answer questions and give demonstration to the youth.
  - C. To report any additional needs to the Show Chairperson.
8. The duties of Publicity Director are:
  - A. To ensure that the club show is publicized by:
    1. Developing, producing, distributing flyers advertising the date, time and location of the club show.
    2. Developing contacts with the local media to obtain any free publicity for the club show.
    3. Developing contacts with local and national print media advertising the club show.
  - B. To report any additional needs to the Show Chairperson.
9. The duties of the Silent Auction Director are:
  - A. To ensure a large silent auction is held with items coming from club members and non-members.
  - B. To record an accounting of all sales.
  - C. Is responsible for the placement of all items on the auction table during the auction (this may be delegated to one of their volunteers if necessary).
  - D. Is to ensure that owners of products for sale on the tables are not involved in the placement of their items.
  - E. To recruit and supervise volunteers to be present during the silent auction.
  - F. Will determine the number of volunteers needed to conduct the auction.
  - G. To ensure that no non-lapidary related items are allowed at the auction.
  - H. To ensure no foreign made, mass produced or tourist type items allowed at the auction.
  - I. To ensure that no commercially produced jewelry items allowed at the auction.
  - J. To report any additional needs to the Show Chairperson.
10. The duties of the Dealer Coordinator are:
  - A. Develop and maintain contacts with local, state, and out of state vendors/dealers who may be interested in purchasing a table at the club show.
  - B. To inform the Show Chairperson how many tables have been sold at regular intervals prior to the show.
  - C. To answer any and all questions and assist vendors who may have special requirements within reason.
  - D. To report any additional needs to the Show Chairperson.
11. The duties of the Volunteer Coordinator are:
  - A. To recruit and supervise volunteers to fill any jobs not associated with the silent auction.
  - B. To recruit individuals to perform demonstrations at the club show.

- C. To insure there is sufficient table space, electricity, and safety precautions are in place for demonstrators.
- D. To insure there is sufficient table space for the information area for both the School of Mines & Technology volunteers and club membership.
- E. To assist the Silent Auction Director with recruiting volunteers if needed.
- F. To report any additional needs to the Show Chairperson.

**ARTICLE XIV ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION SHOW**

- 1. There will be two (2) delegates to the Rocky Mountain Federation Show, approved by the general membership.
- 2. The delegates to the Rocky Mountain Federation Show may be paid up to \$100.00 each for show expenses.

**CLUB RULES**

- 1. The club will not be held responsible for any loss or accident at any club meeting or activity.
- 2. All members and guests will respect private property; will leave all gates as found and will leave all property in the same or better condition as they found it.
- 3. Prohibited areas will not be entered and permission will be obtained before entered private property.
- 4. All members and guests will abide by the constitution, by-laws and rules.
- 5. Members and guests of the club will not willfully destroy any gem, mineral, fossil or other related material.
- 6. Any usual or rare artifact or fossil will be left where found if it cannot be collected without damage and the finding and exact location referred to a competent and qualified individual or institution.
- 7. Any member taking any item belonging to the club shall be responsible for replacing that item if it is not returned.

**DELEGATE REPORT for 2009 RMFMS Show and Convention in Roswell, New Mexico**

Submitted By: Ginger & Tom F

**October 2:** The South Dakota gem and mineral case was set up on in the conference room. A case was provided for us as per request. Other cases were being filled by private individuals for judging either their collections or their creations. Venders also set up their wares at this time. An auction will be in progress Saturday and Sunday to support scholarships. There were two scholarships given out for this year and two to be given out for next year. We supported the program and found some nice treasures at the same time.

**October 3:** “Breakfast with the Editors”.

The editors breakfast is traditionally held to give out awards and trophies for communication. Each year both newsletter editors and members send in articles for judging. Contest rules are listed on the RMFMS site. There is a new category called “webmaster”. Not all categories were entered this year. There were no entries, this year, from our club.

October 3: The RMFMS delegates meeting started at 1:17 p.m. at the host hotel, the Sally Port Inn. The RMFMS president, Stan Novak, was not in attendance due to medical problems. The vice president, Yonis Lone Eagle presided for the meeting.

The invocation was said, memorial tributes made, and the pledge of allegiance said. There were 29 clubs present, enough for a quorum. Howie Whiting presented a motion to suspend the rules and vote on the op to “pass the hat”. Motion passed to suspend the rules. Motion passed to pass the hat to the vice president so that he would have full power of the president during the course of this meeting Reports: Not all of the committees were represented. These are the reports that were given: Treasurers: The number of clubs in the federation is down, but the individual membership is up – 8098 members. Proposed budget: \$18,625. Historical: The historian needs more information. The meetings minutes for each year should be in the historical records. Reports from Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, South Dakota and Utah were given. Some of the reports were in written form and only some of the report discussed. Colorado: The RMFMS original club has disbanded. There is a new RMFMS club begun in its place. Ron Yamiolowshi is the new Colorado representative. Matt Campbell, from Kansas, is retiring from his position. He stated age as the reason. He’s 88 years old. Mineral Technician: He says he never gets a question or a suggestion as to what we would like to see. He requests questions. Programs Manger: Nancy is looking for new programs. We have a very fine library of programs available for loan. Complaints: There were no complaints. Directory: Nancy Hicks gave this report. Please let her know if there is anything we want printed in the directory. Let the newsletter editor have our correct address and make sure our address is correct in the directory.

Long Range Planning: The report is on the table, but not up to date and is to be covered later. He’s disappointed that there are no new RMFMS badges to be made. He’s hoping that next year there will be some new appointments. Program Contest: There are two new programs to be announced at the banquet. Stamps Committee: Discontinued. The collection

of stamps is to be given to a member of the Colorado rock club. There is one new state representative. There have been several orders for patches. Public Land: Howie Whiting stated that everyone needs to be aware of the BLM and Forest Service road travel plans. Plans are being voted on this year and will close many roads. They are using a new tactic in using environmental impact plans to close off roads. Go to their offices and inquire. Look on the Internet to see what is being proposed. Uniform Rules: Giving out trophies at the banquet tonight. OP Treasurer: There was an excess of money, \$2625.00, allocated for insurance. Motion to give this money to reserve. Motion passed. All Ops passed.

Dr. Mike Nelson was elected club rock hound of the year. Motion passed to eliminate the RMFMS 50/50 split. New business: None. Election of Officers: Nominees introduced. 2010 RMFMS convention: Durango, Colorado or Wichita Kansas. Will know by the end of November 2009. 2011 RMFMS convention is to be held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. October 3: Banquet: Dinner consisted of a wonderful buffet. After eating, there was an election of officers for the coming year, beginning in November. All nominees elected.

- President: Bill Smith
- Vice President: Delane Cox
- Secretary: Debbie Leschner
- Treasurer: Gene Maggard
- State Directors: Arizona: Vacant
- Kansas: Vacant
- North Dakota: Ray Oliger
- South Dakota/Nebraska: Don R

**October 4:** Rock hound trip: Tom went rock hounding with a group from RMFMS to find "pecos diamonds". October 5, 6: We went rock hounding with a group from RMFMS to the "Hit man mine" and the "Tex-Mex" mine.

~~~~~  
ZODIAC STONES (parts 10, 11 & 12 of 12):

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Early civilizations such as India and Babylon have attributed gemstones with magical properties. Over time, astrologers assigned gems of certain colors to the twelve signs of the zodiac to help people influence the planets in their favor.

Sign	Dates	Stone	Sign	Dates	Stone
Aquarius	January 21 - February 18	Garnet	Leo	July 23 - August 23	Onyx
Pisces	February 19 - March 20	Amethyst	Virgo	August 24 - September 22	Carnelian
Aries	March 21 - April 20	Bloodstone	Libra	September 23 - October 23	Peridot
Taurus	April 21 - May 21	Sapphire	Scorpio	October 24 - November 22	Beryl
Gemini	May 22 - June 21	Agate	Sagittarius	November 23 - December 21	Topaz
Cancer	June 22 - July 22	Emerald	Capricorn	December 22 - January 20	Ruby



Golden Beryl



Heliodor



Goshenite



Aquamarine



Red Beryl (Bixbite)

The mineral **beryl** is a beryllium aluminium cyclosilicate with the chemical formula $Be_3Al_2(SiO_3)_6$. The hexagonal crystals of beryl may be very small or range to several meters in size. Terminated crystals are relatively rare. Pure beryl is colorless, but it is frequently tinted by impurities; possible colors are green, blue, yellow, red, and white. The name comes from the Greek *beryllos* which referred to a *precious blue-green color-of-sea-water* stone. The term was later adopted for the mineral beryl more exclusively. Beryl of various colors is found most commonly in granitic pegmatites, but also occurs in mica schists in the Ural Mountains, and limestone in Colombia. Beryl is often associated with tin and tungsten ore bodies.

Morganite, also known as "pink beryl," "rose beryl," "pink emerald," and "cesian beryl," is a rare light pink to rose-colored gem-quality variety of beryl. Orange/yellow varieties of morganite can also be found, and color banding is common. Red beryl (also known as "bixbite", "red emerald", or "scarlet emerald") is a red variety of beryl. Aquamarine (from Lat. *aqua marina*, "water of the sea") is a blue or turquoise variety of beryl. Emerald refers to green

beryl, colored by trace amounts of chromium and sometimes vanadium. Colorless beryl is called *goshenite*. *Golden beryl* can range in colors from pale yellow to a brilliant gold.



Cut Blue Topaz



Red Topaz



Imperial Topaz Gem



Topaz in matrix

Pure **topaz** is colorless and transparent but is usually tinted by impurities; typical topaz is wine, yellow, pale gray or reddish-orange. It can also be made white, pale green, blue, gold, pink (rare), reddish-yellow or opaque to transparent/translucent. *Orange topaz*, also known as precious topaz, is the traditional November birthstone, the symbol of friendship, and the state gemstone for the US State of Utah. *Imperial topaz* is yellow, pink (rare, if natural) or pink-orange. Brazilian Imperial Topaz can often have a bright yellow to deep golden brown hue, sometimes even violet. Many brown or pale topazes are treated to make them bright yellow, gold, pink or violet colored. Some imperial topaz stones can fade on exposure to sunlight for an extended period of time. *Blue topaz* is the Texas state gemstone. Naturally occurring Blue Topaz is quite rare. Typically, colorless, gray or pale yellow and blue material is heat treated and irradiated in order to produce a more desired darker blue. *Mystic topaz* is colorless topaz which has been artificially coated giving it the desired rainbow effect.

Topaz is commonly associated with silicic igneous rocks of the granite and rhyolite type. It typically crystallizes in granitic pegmatites or in vapor cavities in rhyolite lava flows like those at Topaz Mountain in western Utah. It can be found with fluorite and cassiterite in various areas including Ural and Ilmen mountains of Russia, in Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Czech Republic, Germany, Norway, Pakistan, Italy, Sweden, Japan, Brazil, Mexico, Flinders Island and the United States.

Some clear topaz crystals from Brazilian pegmatites can reach boulder size and weigh hundreds of pounds. Crystals of this size may be seen in museum collections. The Topaz of Aurungzebe, observed by Jean Baptiste Tavernier measured 157.75 carats.



Rough Ruby



Cut Ruby



Natural Ruby with inclusions



Rubies set in jewelry

A **ruby** is a pink to blood-red gemstone, a variety of the mineral corundum (aluminium oxide). The red color is caused mainly by the presence of the element chromium. Its name comes from *ruber*, Latin for red. Other varieties of gem-quality corundum are called sapphires. The ruby is considered one of the four precious stones, together with the sapphire, the emerald, and the diamond.

Prices of rubies are primarily determined by color. The brightest and most valuable "red" called pigeon blood-red, commands a huge premium over other rubies of similar quality. After color follows clarity: similar to diamonds, a clear stone will command a premium, but a ruby without any needle-like rutile inclusions may indicate that the stone has been treated. Cut and carat (size) also determine the price.

All natural rubies have imperfections in them, including color impurities and inclusions of rutile needles known as "silk". Gemologists use these needle inclusions found in natural rubies to distinguish them from synthetics, simulants, or substitutes. Usually the rough stone is heated before cutting. Almost all rubies today are treated in some form, with heat treatment being the most common practice. However, rubies that are completely untreated but still of excellent quality command a large premium.

Some rubies show a 3-point or 6-point asterism or "star". These rubies are cut into cabochons to display the effect properly. Asterisms are best visible with a single-light source, and move across the stone as the light moves or the stone is rotated. Such effects occur when light is reflected off the "silk" (the structurally oriented rutile needle inclusions) in a certain way. This is one example where inclusions increase the value of a gemstone. Furthermore, rubies can show color changes — though this occurs very rarely —; as well as chatoyancy or the "cat's eye" effect.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington DC, has received one of the world's largest and finest ruby gemstones. The 23.1 carats (4.6 g) Burmese ruby, set in a platinum ring with diamonds, was donated by businessman and philanthropist Peter Buck in memory of his wife Carmen Lúcia.

PLACES AND FACES:



June Culp Zeitner

Feb 7, 1916 – Oct 11, 2009

My Cathedral

By June Culp Zeitner

*There is a vastness in these sweeping plains
That makes my heart stand still within my breast;
There is a calmness that my being gains
From broad and spacious prairies of the West.*

*The penetrating silence of this scene
Smooths all the wrinkles in my ruffled life,
These rolling acres flecked with brown and green
Make burning worries seem but palest strife.*

*The cleansing winds make bitter feelings fly,
And all the endless wonders fill my mind,
Till something in me reaches for the sky,
And leaves my body standing there behind.*

*So I will choose for my cathedral, God,
These living prairie fields of virgin sod.*

June Culp Zeitner, 93, died in her home on October 11, after a lengthy illness. An internationally-known author, speaker, and mineral and gem authority, the Michigan native lived in Springfield and Aberdeen, South Dakota, before making her home in Mission, in 1937. After extensive travel across North America, Zeitner permanently settled in Rapid City in 1986 with her beloved husband Albert. She published books and magazine articles until shortly before her death.

Zeitner first moved to Mission to begin her career as an English teacher. It was there she met her future husband, whose family owned both a hardware store and a natural history museum. Zeitner taught for seven years before becoming superintendent of Todd County High School in the 1940s. She left teaching when she and Albert began a natural history odyssey that was slated to last for one year. Instead, it occupied their entire mid-life period.

The couple's 30-year cross-continent adventure was a trip from one gem or mineral locality to another. Each new mine created an impetus for another side-trip and an opportunity to work with miners and scientists in the field. The process also provided Zeitner with her first major book project, a series of authoritative, practical, and popular "Gem Trails" books in which she recorded detailed locality information to guide rock enthusiasts. It would not be long until Zeitner became one of the world's best-known rock, gem, and mineral experts.

Over the ensuing decades, Zeitner's expertise formed the basis for a dozen books and more than 1,000 magazine articles covering many aspects of the subject she loved most. Many articles appeared in *Lapidary Journal*, the primary magazine for the lapidary arts of gem carving and jewelry manufacturing, where Zeitner held the post of Special Assistant Editor for more than three decades, ending in 2002.

Zeitner's accomplishments in her chosen field are remarkable. A selection includes: being crowned at the White House by the International Gem Show as the First Lady of Gems in 1976; receiving the 2006 Carnegie Museum of Natural History's Mineralogical Award, which celebrates significant contributions to the science of mineralogy; having the largest emerald found and cut in the United States named after her; founding a dozen gem and mineral clubs and the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame; founding the State Stone Program, where every state adopted an official state gem, mineral, fossil, and/or rock (South Dakota's gem is the Fairburn Agate; its mineral is Rose Quartz; its fossil is Triceratops); and assembling a collection of gemstones for display at the Smithsonian Institution.

For her writing, Zeitner was honored as South Dakota Woman of Achievement by the National Federation of Press Women in 1976, and in 1985 received the A.H. Pankow press award, which is given to the South Dakota journalist whose "coverage and promotion of the state's visitor industry is unparalleled."

The Zeitners amassed a significant collection of rocks and gems, portions of which are currently on display at: the Pioneer Auto Show, a museum in Murdo, South Dakota; the Museum of Geology at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City; and the Black Hills Institute and the Black Hills Museum of Natural History, both in Hill City.

June Culp Zeitner is survived by her sisters, May Hubbell of Rapid City, Phyllis Teplitz of San Rafael, California, and Sylvia (Carl) Antonacci of Geneva, Ohio, as well as four nephews, three nieces, their families, and a large following of loving friends, students, and colleagues. She was preceded in death by her husband Albert, sister Eleanor Anderson, and parents Vernon and Pearl Culp. (by Neal Larson)

Several years ago I mentioned to June that I would like to buy a nice rhodochrosite specimen. She placed a large, beautiful piece in the silent auction. Thanks to Don's last minute bid, I was able to obtain this gem. It is now in our case at every club show. (by Annette R)

I met June at our show nearly twenty years ago. After visiting, we found I had her father as an instructor in college. He taught at Northern State College, in Aberdeen. That seemed to create a bond that lasted. She taught me more about rocks and minerals than any book. She also gave me many pointers while I was editor. Perhaps that is why I won several awards as a writer and editor. June was never too busy to answer questions or to make suggestions to improve my work. She was the one that encouraged me to start

my school program, and encouraged me when I felt I was not doing what I wanted. June wrote many books and was working on one when she passed away. At the last show I asked her how it was going, and she told me she had a way to go yet. She never went to a computer, but stuck to her typewriter. I will miss her as will many others. (by Don R)



Oct 9th, 2009 Minutes, by Hazel W:

The October meeting was called to order by President Deb R at 7:30pm. The September meeting minutes were approved by Stan H and 2d by David R. There are 42 family members and 51 singles. Gene M was a guest at the meeting. Rita H provided the treasures report for this month: Balance as of last report: \$11,013.34 Deposit of \$308.00, correction of \$24.65, bills paid \$117.92, remaining balance of \$11,228.63. The treasury report was motion for acceptance by Paula H and 2d by Becky B. Rita stated that dues need to be paid no later than 1 November. The cost is \$15.00 per family, or \$10 single. If the dues are not paid by the end of the year, the member will stop receiving the newsletter.

Steve E is still working on the website; we can post the ammonite, any photos, field trips, etc. Need to give any feedback to Steve. Steve is doing a wonderful job and he asked for any input the club members could provide him. Anyone interested in wire wrapping, contact Paula H with your name, phone number, and email address. She will get in touch with you when she gets ready to have the class.

The by-laws have been reviewed and rewritten to better explain the Show, Club positions and committees. The major changes were in the President's duties. It was noted the President calls the board meetings instead of the Vice President. A quorum of 2/3 must be met for a board meeting. When voting during elections, votes will be by ballot.

Jamie asked for ideas on what members want to learn about for programs. Jamie will ask speakers to come to the meetings and provide information on different items. Elections were held: Deb-President, Mike-Vice President, Paula-Secretary, Rita-Treasurer, Mickey-3rd Year Board Member.

The Christmas Dinner was discussed. It will be the 2d Friday in Dec at 6:30 at the Elks. Food choices will be Prime Rib at \$12.95 and chicken cordon blue at \$12.50. Food donations will be accepted for Church Response. It was noted the Show in 2010 will be the 30th anniversary and is the Pearl.

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

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

Positions related to the Show will be added after elections (after the by-law update approval).

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. 4th 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.

Happy Halloween - Happy Thanksgiving - Merry Christmas

THE AMMONITE

Official Publication of the
Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society

Editor: Deb R
430 E. Idaho St.
Rapid City, SD 57701
sashaNren@peoplepc.com

Affiliated with AFMS and RMFMS

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

**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.**

