



Judy Gordy, Editor
Official Newsletter of the
Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society
PO Box 3620,
Rapid City, SD, 57709-3620

Affiliated with RMFMS & AFMS

April 2017 Edition
Meeting: April 13, 2017. 7PM

HAPPY EASTER !!!

Sorry the newsletter is so late getting out – had some personal issues interfere. Thank you for understanding. Judy

It's agate hunting time again!

The purpose of our club is to promote interest and education in geology, mineralogy, paleontology, archeology and lapidary, to sponsor and promote means of coordination of the work efforts of groups and individual.



THE AMMONITE



Newsletter of the Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society

April 2017

WESTERN DAKOTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY 2016-17 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

President: Truman Goddard -- 12009 Crook City Rd, Whitewood, SD 57793	605 269-2015
Vice President: John Dickinson -- PO Box 775, Lead, SD 57784	605-580-5579
Secretary: Judy Gordy -- 407 E Minnesota St Apt 209, Rapid City, SD 57701	402-208-6079
Treasurer: Leslie Lysenko -- 2710 Mystic Mountain Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702.....	605-786-8801
BHRMUC Rep: Ellen Tilley -- 21653 Piedmont Meadows Rd., Piedmont, SD 57769.....	605-787-4659
RMFS SD Dir.: Sony Hemsher -- PO Box 376, Piedmont, SD 57769	605-431-2755
RMFMS PLAC Rep: Brandon Nelson -- 1607 Sioux Ave, Rapid City, SD 57701.....	605-593-6610
ALAA SD Rep: Brandon Nelson -- 1607 Sioux Ave, Rapid City, SD 57701	605-593-6610
Field Trip Chairman: Ellen Tilley -- 21653 Piedmont Meadows Rd, Piedmont, SD 57769.....	605-787-4659
Board Member: Sony Hemsher -- P. O. Box 376, Piedmont, SD 57769.....	605-431-2755
Board Member: Kelli Wold -- 4511 Ridgewood, Rapid City, SD 57702.....	605-381-6814
Board Member: Ellen Tilley -- 21653 Piedmont Meadows Rd., Piedmont, SD 57769.....	605-787-4659
Newsletter Editor: Judy Gordy -- 407 E Minnesota St Apt 209, Rapid City, SD 57701	402-208-6079
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Webmaster: Barbara Goddard -- 3280 Bumblebee Dr, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314.....	928-237-9261
Calling Committee: Jan Goheen 605-341-6161 Letha Wynia 605-721-0550 Patricia Dickinson 605-580-5579	

Club Information: Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 3620, Rapid City, SD 57709-3620

CLUB WEBSITE is: www.WDGMS.org **OTHER CLUB SITES:** Facebook -Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society/groups.

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month (except August) at 7:00 PM

At: Minneluzahan Senior Center, 315 N 4th St., Rapid City, SD 57701

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

If you change your home address, or your email address, or [have a problem receiving the newsletter, please contact the editor at 402-208-6079 or by email at \[ammoniteneewsletter@gmail.com\]\(mailto:ammoniteneewsletter@gmail.com\) and it will be corrected.](#)

CLUB DUES: \$15.00 per person - \$20.00 per family with children under 18 yrs – Includes 11 newsletters by E-mail.

If you chose to receive the newsletter by mail, there is an additional \$10.00 cost to cover the mailing.

Dues cover the RMFMS insurance and the newsletter.

Send dues to the Treasurer: Leslie Lysenko, PO Box 3620, Rapid City, SD 57709-3620

MEETING: Thursday, April 13th at 7 pm.

PROGRAM: Wire Wrapping with Kim Smith

REFRESHMENTS: Calvin Luke

DOOR PRIZES: Jan Goheen

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT –TRUMAN GODDARD

Well, since Truman is on vacation, our message this month will be from our Vice President, John Dickinson.

John would like to have a Board meeting at 6pm prior to meeting on April 13th, to keep up to date on progress for the show.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MARCH 9, 2017 MEETING

President Truman Goddard called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Since our speaker had not arrived yet, Truman started the meeting.

We had five guests, Kelly New, Danny Berg, Donna Arnaud, Jim LeMan and Sara Keeler, who each introduced themselves.

Pete Lysenko moved and Kelli Wold seconded the motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Ammonite.

Leslie Lysenko read the Treasurer's report. We have a total of \$2546.42 in checking and a total of \$8046.85 in both accounts.

Our speaker had arrived.

Kelli Wold moved and Ellen Tilley seconded the motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read.

Ellen Tilley did not have a Multiple Use report.

There was no ALAA Report since Brandon Nelson was not in attendance.

Sony Hemsher reported that he was not going to be able to attend the RMFMS Convention, so Truman and Paula Goddard were going to represent the club. He also reported that there is a proposal for the Federation to pay the expenses for the club delegates to attend the convention. This proposal is sponsored by the Wyoming Club and Sony's thought was that if the delegates could possibly afford the trip to the convention then that money could go toward other members going so more people get to enjoy the conventions.

NEW BUSINESS

Tabitha Wood brought up the idea of getting "The Square.". It's an attachment that works through your cell phone to process credit cards. It charges 2-3 cents per \$1.00 or about 3% to process the credit cards. There is no charge for the device. She has talked to a lady she works with that uses Square in her small business and if she refers us, then the first \$1000 of charges are free. The deposit takes 2-4 days to show in the bank account. It runs off your cell phone or data.

The Civic Center has WiFi, it's \$10.0 per day per device.

At 7:24 pm Truman turned the meeting over to Frank Garcia, our speaker for the evening. Frank is a Paleontologist and will be speaking about his fossil finds in Florida. He grew up in the Tampa area. His first fossil finds were along the Hillsborough River as a kid. His interest in Paleontology grew after reading about a famous

fossil Hunter. He told about Thomas Jefferson, who was America's first Paleontologist . Frank has some of Jefferson's specimens and one night he dreamed he had a conversation with Jefferson about both Jefferson's specimens and Frank's fossils. He talked about the kids he's taught about fossils. And that given a choice kids would rather have a fossil than a cell phone. He told about when he had back surgery, the doctor asked if Frank remembered him, he had been one of Frank's students in his fossil groups. With his problems in school, there was no college or degrees for him. After graduation he was in the Naval Reserve and worked removing asbestos insulation. In 1979, he found a whale skull in a phosphate mine, the skull was bigger than a T rex. He cleaned it up and sent it to the Smithsonian. The chief field inspector was so impressed with his workmanship on the fossil that Frank was hired to work for the Smithsonian, even though he didn't have any degrees. He has found 30 animals new to science. Some have been named after him, one was a prehistoric sea cow, which is related to modern manatees and was named nano siren garcia. He has an antelope, Subantilocapra garcia's, named after him , which is an ancestor to our modern antelope. He makes yearly trips to the Arner Ranch in the Badlands of Nebraska. He says there are jawbones everywhere. He has also found what he calls chocolate animals, where the fossils are dark brown in color. In 1983, he started looking in the Leisey Shell Pit. It is one of the richest and earliest sites ever found. His discoveries lead to an interview with Brian Gumbo and 3 stories on CNN. He had people from the Smithsonian and the University of Florida working under his direction. His father didn't like fossils and would tell him to throw them out of the house. But the Leisey Shell Pit is a record of the history of Tampa Bay. They have located 214 different kinds of animals, 12 new to science. There were beaver nearly 8 ft tall, saber tooth cats -- he found the most complete skull ever found, armadillos, a condor with a 15-20 foot wing span, llamas, horses, and great white sharks. Who would believe that such an incredible bone bed was just 8 ft below where the tomato and cauliflower crops used to grow. The La Brea Tar Pit in Los Angeles has no where near the number of specimens that are coming out of the Leisey Shell Pit. The shell pit made Garcia an instant celebrity and put Hillsborough County on the Archaeology map. Mike Chamberlain asked if the animals were all the same age. Frank answered yes, there had been a tsunami and at low tide the bear dogs attacked them and at high tide the sharks attacked them. Pete Lysenko asked about the date. Frank answered 1.4-1.7 million years ago.

After a short intermission to buy books and look at the fossils Frank had bought, the meeting resumed. Mimi Lancsak moved and Kelli Wold seconded a motion to get the square for use during the show.

The Mind, Body, Spirit show at the Ramkota on March 25-26 was discussed. Since Truman will be out of town, Tabitha Wood will handle the display for the show. With the space they have allotted the club, it looks like two display cases will be displayed.

Kelli Wold moved and Tabitha Wood seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Judy Gordy Secretary

22 members and 5 guests plus our speaker and his wife.

MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 9, 2017 BOARD MEETING

I was about 10 minutes late to the meeting, and they had already started the meeting. They had voted to approve the \$100.00 apiece for expenses for the two delegates to the RMFMS Convention. Truman Goddard and Sony Hemsher are the two delegates.

Leslie Lysenko, Treasurer, reported that the paperwork for the insurance for 2017 had arrived. And a copy of the insurance would be given to the Civic Center.

Rebecca Wood reported that there was money already paid at the UPS Store on Haines for 1013 color copies. So

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Sony Hemsher announced that he will not be able to attend the Albuquerque show. The VA scheduled an appointment for him that cannot be changed. So it was decided that Paula Goddard would be the other delegate, since she was going anyway.

Sony reported that the Wyoming Club is proposing that the RMFMS pay for the delegates expenses to attend the convention, like milage and dinner. His thought was that if the RMFMS was paying expenses for the two delegates and the delegates could afford to go without their expenses being paid, then they could maybe give that money to someone else in the club, so more people would be able to attend the conventions.

Leslie Lysenko reported that the Dept. Of Revenue has the show dates. The paperwork for the vendors is in the mail.

Mike Chamberlain volunteered to call the vendors, if that would help Tabitha Wood out. He will discuss it with her when she gets here. She had to finish a report before she could leave work.

Judy Gordy reported on the letter she received from John Bolan. John is a member, who lives in California, but has a ranch just outside of Newcastle, Wyoming, called the Triceratops Cheyenne River Ranch. It is on the Cretaceous-Paleocene Lance Creek Formation. They are digging for fossils on the ranch from June 1 to October 1 each year. The ranch also has dinosaur digs available for \$140/ day per person or \$80/ half day and \$30 for non diggers. John has graciously offered the club a field trip to come dig dinosaur bones for free. He has suggested a date between July 4th and the show with a maximum of 20-25 people. He said there is also lots of petrified wood. We get to keep what we dig, providing it's not a part of a T rex, or over \$100 value, or about \$1000 for everybody that goes. And the offer stands that if it works out well, it may become a yearly field trip. One of the thoughts was to maybe have John or his Ranch Foreman as our speaker for the July meeting with the field trip the following Saturday.

Siny Hemsher brought up RMFMS conventions. The 2018 Convention will be in Colorado, but we should plan to have one in the near future. There was a limited discussion about what info we need to plan to have the convention.

Judy Gordy ask if we wanted to do the KOTA Noon News again this year. Truman Goddard's answer was that it was entirely up to her as publicity chairman.

Judy Gordy also asked if we were going to have a theme or slogan for the show. Last year's theme was fossils. It was pointed out that this year's show is being dedicated to Annette Rathert for all the years of hard work she has given the club.

John Dickinson brought up that we need thank you cards for our speakers. That it would be nice if we could have them at the meetings for everybody to sigh.

Judy Gordy brought up the purchase of some cards, like sympathy and thank you, to have on hand for when they are needed. She showed a catalog where we could purchase a box of 20 cards for \$16.95, which would be cheaper than buying individual cards from a store where they run \$2.50 to \$5.00 a piece. It was decided that the club didn't want to spend that much. But Kelli Wold said she had some at home that she would donate to the club.

Judy Gordy brought up the need to get a hold of small polished rocks if we wanted to have the small rocks on a card with our club name and seal on it, to be able to hand out to the kids at the door. Per Truman, the Club was not going to buy rocks to give away and the people that used to polish stones for them are no longer doing it. So no, we will not have them this year.

The subject of speakers for the show was brought up. John Dickinson said he has Barbara Beasley signed up for both days. But he has not really got started on scheduling sneakers for the show vet.

Truman Goddard brought up the other book and movie donated by Pete Larson. We're we going to auction them off this year. The concensus was that that was what was planned last year.

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Mike Chamberlain brought up the issue of adding the Librarian to the Board of Directors. That the by-laws does not provide for that position to be a member of the Board and that before the MN can be officially added, we need to change the by-laws.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMEMBER THE ROCK SHOW IS JULY 22nd & 23rd. NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS. IF YOU WANT TO HELP WITH THE SILENT AUCTION, CONTACT TABITHA WOOD 402-706-0168 OR nestormdancer2003@hotmail.com. IF YOU WANT TO HELP AT THE INFORMATION TABLE OR ADMISSION TABLE, CONTACT JUDY GORDY 402-208-6069 OR ammonitenewsletter@gmail.com. ANY OTHER JOBS, TALK TO BRANDON NELSON 605-593-6610 or nelson.bc@gmail.com OR TRUMAN GODDARD 605-298-2015 OR trumangoddard@gmail.com.

REMEMBER TO SAVE DOZEN SIZE EGG CARTONS FOR ELLEN TILLEY FOR THE KIDS CORNER AT THE ROCK SHOW

ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR PROGRAMS FOR OUR MEETINGS? PLEASE TALK TO JOHN DICKINSON. NEED PROGRAMS FOR OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER

REMEMBER THE SIGN UP SHEET FOR DOOR PRIZES AND REFRESHMENTS.

ATTENTION ANYONE 62 OR OLDER: IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A NATIONAL PARKS SENIOR PASS OR GOLDEN AGE PASS, YOU NEED TO GET ONE NOW. ORIGINALLY THESE PASSES WERE CALLED GOLDEN AGE PASS, THEN THEY CHANGED TO SENIOR PASSES – EITHER ONE IS GOOD FOR YOUR LIFETIME, BUT NONTRANSFERABLE. THE PASS IS \$10.00 IF PURCHASED IN PERSON OR \$20.00 IF ORDERED THROUGH THE MAIL OR EMAIL. THE ISSUE IS THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT RAISING THE PRICE TO AROUND \$80.00 BY THE END OF THE YEAR. SO NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY ONE. THEY ARE HONORED BY THE NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, USACE, BUREAU OF LAND RECLAMATION, USDA FOREST SERVICE, AND US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, AND POSSIBLY THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY. VERIFY WITH EACH LOCATION FOR EXACT COVERAGE.

FOR SALE: RICHARDSON HIGH SPEED SANDER. By Sean Hall at king1973@embarqmail.com. SEAN MESSAGED TRUMAN GODDARD WHICH WAS THEN FORWARDED THROUGH LESLIE LYSENKO. SEAN LIVES IN WASHINGTON STATE, BUT IS LEAVING IN A WEEK OR TWO TO COME WORK IN THE HOSPITAL IN PHILIP, SD FOR ABOUT 10 WEEKS. AND WILL BRING THE SANDER IF ANYONE. IS INTERESTED. HE DID NOT LIST A PRICE OR ANY SPECIFICS ABOUT THE SANDER OTHER THAN THE NAME.

AFMS ENDOWMENT FUND IS HOLDING A RAFFLE TO RAISE FUNDS. THE MONEY COLLECTED IS USED FOR

FEW. THE TICKETS ARE \$5 EACH OR 5 FOR \$20. THEY ALSO HAVE FEDERATION PINS AVAILABLE FOR \$20 EACH FOR EACH OF THE FEDERSTIONS EXCEPT THE SOUTH CENTRAL. THE PRIZES LISTED ARE A DINISAUR FOOT PRINT, A MULTI-COLORED FRESH WATER PEARL NECKLACE, A PIECE OF RED JASPER, A BRAZILIAN

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AMETHYST PLATE, A FRAMED FOSSIL FISH, A BRAZILIAN AGATE WITH WOOD STAND, A 130 CT OVELLITE PENDANT, A PIECE OF MORROCCAN VANADINITE, AND A GRAPE AGATE. THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AT LEAST THIRTY PRIZES, SO ARE STILL LOOKING FOR DONATIONS. THEY REQUEST THAT THE DONATED ITEMS HAVE AT LEAST A \$75 VALUE AND NOT WEIGH MORE THAN 5 LBS. TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM EITHER DELANE COX, 8152 SPANKER RIDGE DR, BENTONVILLE, AL 72712, delanec3@earthlink.net OR RICHARD JAEGER, 3515 E 88th ST, TULSA, OK, rjgrsci@aol.com.

I STARTED WRITING THE NEWSLETTER IN APRIL 2016. I KNOW THAT SOME MONTHES DIDN'T GET MAILED TO PEOPLE SO IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE COPIES OF THE MONTHS THEY DIDN'T RECEIVE PLEASE LET ME KNOW AND I WILL GET THEM SENT TO YOU.

FUTURE SHOWS

March 30-April 2, 2017 – Joshua Tree, California – Annual Show – by JT Sportsman Club – 6225 Sunburst Ave, Joshua Tree, Ca. – Daily 8-6 – Free Admission

March 31-April 2, 2017 – Indianapolis. Indiana – Annual Show – Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows – Indiana State Fairgrounds, Agriculture/Horticulture Building, 1202 East 38th St., Indianapolis, In. – Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5 – Adults \$5 (Good all 3 days) Children Free under 16

March 31-April 2, 2017 – Green River, Utah – Annual Show – Epicenter, John Wesley Powell River History Museum, 1765 Main St, Green River, Ut. – Fri. 6-9, Sat. 10-4, Sun. 10-4 – Free Admission

March 31-April 2, 2017 – Loveland, Colorado – Annual Show – by Fort Collins Rockhounds – The Ranch, Latimer County Fairgrounds, 5280 Arena Circle, Thomas M. McKee Building, Loveland, Co. – Fri. 4-8, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$4/day, \$7/3-day, Seniors \$4/day, \$7/3-day, Students 12-18 w/id \$1, Children 12 free with adult

March 31-April 2, 2017 – Puyallup, Washington – Wholesale and Retail show – by Gem Faire Inc. – Washington State Fair Events Center, 110 9th Ave SW, Puyallup, Wa. – Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Admission: \$7 weekend pass, Children free (ages 0-11)

March 31-April 2, 2017 – Raleigh, North Carolina – Annual Show – by Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club – Kerr Scott Bldg, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC. – Fri. 3-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Free Admission

April 1-2, 2017 – Central point, Oregon – Annual Show – by Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral Society – Jackson County Fairgrounds, 1 Penninger Rd, Olsrud Arena, Central Point, Or. – Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4 – Adults \$5, Seniors \$3, Students \$2

April 1-2, 2017 – Chico, California – Annual Show – by Paradise Gem & Mineral Club – Silver Dollar Fairgrounds, 2357 Fair Street, Chico, Ca. – Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4 – Adults \$4, Children under 16 free

April 1-2, 2017 – Des Plaines, Illinois – Retail Show – by The Des Plaines Valley Geological Society – Des Plaines Park District Leisure Center, 2222 Birch St, Des Plaines, Il. – Sat. 930-5, Sun. 10-4 – Adults 3, Seniors \$2, Students \$1, Children under 12 Free

April 1-2, 2017 – Johnson City, New York – Annual Show – by New York Southern Tier Geology Clubs – Johnson City Senior Center, 30 Brockton St, Johnson City, NY. – Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4 – Admission \$3, Children under 12 free

April 1-2, 2017 – Lincoln, Nebraska – Annual Show – by Lincoln Gem and Mineral Clubs, Inc. – Lancaster County Event Center, 84th and Havelock, Lincoln, Ne. – Sat. 9-6, Sun 10-5 – Adults \$6, Children 11 and under free

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April 1-2, 2017 – Midland Park, New Jersey – 28th Annual Show – by North Jersey Mineralogical Society – Midland Park High School, 250 Prospect Street, Midland Park, NJ. – Sat. 10-4, Sun. 10-4 – Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, Children free

April 1-2, 2017 – Orange, Connecticut – Annual Show – by New Haven Mineral Club – Amity Middle School, 100 Ohman Ave, Orange, Ct. – Sat. 930-5, Sun 10-430 – Admission \$5, Children free

April 1-2, 2017 – Paris, Ontario, Canada – 45th Annual Show – by Brantford Lapidary & Mineral Society – Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver Street, Paris, Ontario – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$5, Children 12 & under free

April 1-2, 2017 – Standish, Maine – 34th Annual Show – by Maine Mineralogical & Geological Society – Saint Joseph's College, 278 Whites Bridge Road, Standish, Maine – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4 – Adults \$4, Seniors/Students \$3, Children free

April 1-2, 2017 – Sweet Home, Oregon – 69th Annual Sweet Home Show – by Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society – Sweet Home High School Gym – 1641 Long Street, Sweet Home, Or. – Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$.50, Children 12 and under free with an adult admission

April 1-2, 2017 – Torrance, California – 68th Annual Show – South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, Ken Miller Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, Ca. – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4 – Free Admission

April 6-8, 2017 – Wyoming, Michigan – 42nd Annual Show – by Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Clubs – Rogers Plaza Town Center, 972 28th Street SW – Wyoming, Mi. – Thu 930-9, Fri. 930-9, Sat. 930-7 – Free Admission

April 7-9, 2017 – Edison, New Jersey – 6th Annual Show – by Eons Expos – NJ Convention & Exposition Center, 97 Subfield Avenue, Edison, NJ – Fri. 12-9, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6 – Adults \$15, Children \$10

April 7-9, 2017 – Hillsboro, Oregon – Wholesale and Retail Show – by Gem Faire Inc. – Washington County Fairgrounds, 873 NE 34th Ave, Hillsboro, Or. – Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun 10-5 – Admission: \$7 weekend pass, Children free (ages 0-11)

April 7-9, 2017 – Ogden, Utah – 66th Gemstone Junction – by Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society -- Golden Spike Events Center, Weber County Fairgrounds, 1000 N 1200 W, Ogden, Ut. – Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4 – Adults \$3, Students ages 12-18 \$2, Children under 12 free

April 8, 2017 – Madison, Tennessee – 4th Annual Show – by Middle Tennessee Rockhounds – Amqui Station, 303 Madison St, Madison, TN – Sat. 10-4 – Free admission

April 8-9, 2017 -- Abilene, Texas – Annual Show – by Central Texas Gem & Mineral Society -- Abilene Civic Center, 1100 North 6th Street, Abilene, Tx. – Sat. 10-6 – Adults/Seniors \$3, Children \$1.50, under 6 and Scouts and Military Free

April 8-9, 2017 – Canton, Ohio – 50th Annual Show – by Stark County Gem and Mineral Clubs, Stark County Fairgrounds, 305 Wertz Ave, Canton, Oh. – Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, Children \$1

April 8-9, 2017 – Columbus, Ohio – by Columbus Rock and Mineral Society and Licking County Rock and Mineral Society – Northland Performing Arts Center, 4411 Tamarack Blvd, Columbus, Oh. – Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5 – Adults \$7, Seniors \$6, Students \$3, Children under 6 free

April 8-9, 2017 – Dover, New Hampshire – Annual Show – by Southeastern New Hampshire Mineral Clubs – Dover Veterans Community Center,

April 8-9, 2017 – Edmonds, Washington – April Sale – by Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubs – Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196th Street SW, Edmonds, Wa. – Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-6 – Free Admission

April 8-9, 2017 – Helena, Montana – Annual Show – by Helena Mineral Society – Helena Civic Center, 316 N Park Avenue, Corner of Neill & Park Ave, Helena, Mt. – Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4 – Adults \$2, Children 12 & under free

April 8-9, 2017 – Marion, Illinois – Annual Show – by Southern Illinois Earth Science Club Inc – Pavilion of the City of Marion, 1602 Sioux Drive, Marion, Ill. – Sat.10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$2, Children free

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April 8-9, 2017 – Mariposa, California – Annual Show – by Mariposa Gem and Mineral Clubs – Mariposa Fairgrounds, 5007 Fairgrounds Road – Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$3

April 8-9, 2017 – Pinecrest, Florida – Show and Sale – by Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild – Evelyn Greer Park – 8200 SW 124 St, Pinecrest, FL. – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$6, Children free

April 8-9, 2017 – Pocatello, Idaho – Annual Show – by South East Idaho Gem and Mineral Society – North Bannock County Fairgrounds, 10588 Fairgrounds Dr, Pocatello, ID. – Sat.10-6 Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$2, Children 12 and under free.

April 8-9, 2017 – Siloam Springs, Arkansas – Annual Show – by Northwest Arkansas Gem and Mineral Society – Sloan Springs Community Building, Mount Olive Rd, Siloam Springs, Ar. – Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4 – Admission \$3, Children free

April 14-16, 2017 – Alpine, Texas – Annual Show – by Chihuahuan Desert Gem & Mineral Club – Alpine Civic Center, 803 W Holland Ave (W. Hwy 90), Alpine, TX. – Fri 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4 – Free Admission

April 14-16, 2017 – Eugene, Oregon – Wholesale and Retail Show – by Gem Faire Inc. – Lane County Events Center, 796 W 13th Ave, Eugene, Or. – Fri. 12-6, Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$7 weekend pass, free (ages 0-11)

April 14-16, 2017 – Rickreall, Oregon – 62nd Annual Rock and Gem Show – Thundereggs – by Willamette Agate and Mineral Society – Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S Pacific Hwy W, Rickreall, Or. – Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun 10-4 – Admission \$2, Children under 12 free with adult

April 21-23 – San Diego, California – Wholesale and Retail Show – by Gem Faire Inc – Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio S, San Diego, Ca. – Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$7 weekend pass, Children free (ages 0-11)

April 21-23, 2017 – South Jordan, Utah – Annual Show – by Wasatch Gem Society – Salt Lake County Equestrian Park and Events Center, 2100 West 11400 South, South Jordan, Ut. – Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4 – Admission \$2, Children under 12 free

April 21-23, 2017 – Virginia Beach, Virginia – Retail Show – by Treasures of the Earth, Inc. – Virginia Beach Convention center, 1000 19th Street, Virginia Beach, Va. – Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$5, Students 16 and under free

April 22, 2017 – Severna Park, Maryland – Annual Show – Patuxent Lapidary Guild, Inc – Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Hall, 161 Ritchie Hwy, Severna Park, MD ----Sat. 10-5 – Adults \$6, Children under 10 free

April 22-23, 2017 – Annual Show – by Central Illinois Gem & Mineral Club – Progress City, East 6th Progress St, Lester Building, Decatur, Il. – Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4 – Adults \$5, Seniors \$3, Children free

April 22-23, 2017 – Eau Claire, Wisconsin – 54th Annual Show – by Chippewa Valley Gem & Mineral Society – Eau Claire County Exposition Center, 5530 Fairview Drive, Eau Claire, Wi. – Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4 – Free Admission

April 22-23, 2017 – Idaho Falls, Idaho – Annual Show – Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society – Recreation Center, Memorial & B St, Idaho Falls, Id. – Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$3, Children free

April 22-23, 2017 – Kennewick, Washington – Annual Show – by Lakeside Gem & Mineral – Benton County Fairgrounds, 1500 South Oak Street, Kennewick, Wa. – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4 – Admission \$5, 12 and under free with paid adult.

April 22-23, 2017 – Memphis, Tennessee – Annual Show – by Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society – Memphis International Agricenter, 7777 Walnut Grove Rd, Memphis, Tn. – Sat 9-6, Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$5, Children \$2

April 22-23, 2017 – Newberry Park, California – Annual Show – by Conejo Gem & Mineral Clubs – Borchard Park Community Center, 190 Reino Rd at Botchard Rd, Newbury Park, Ca. – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5 – Free Admission

April 22-23, 2017 – Troy, Ohio – Annual Show – by Brukner Gem and Mineral Clubs – 650 North Country Rd 25A, Troy, Oh -- Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4 – Adults/Seniors \$2, Students/Children free admission

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April 22-23, 2017 – West Muffin, Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh area) – Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show – by The Monongahela Rockhounds – Skyview Hall, West Muffin Volunteer Fire Company #4, 660 Noble Drive, West Muffin, Pa.

April 22-23, 2017 – Yakima, Washington – 57th Parade of Gems – by Yakima Rock Club – Modern Living Building, Central Washington State Fair Grounds, 1301 South Fair Avenue, Yakima, Wa. – Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-4 – Adults \$3.50, Seniors/Students \$2, Children under 12 free

April 25-27, 2017 – Irvine, Kentucky – Annual Show – by Mountain Mushroom Festival – Estelle County Schools's Central Office, 253 Main St, (Parking lot in the rear of building), Irvine, Ky. – Tue. 9-4, Wed. 9-4, Thur. 9-4 – Admission \$10.

April 28-30, 2017 – Irvine, Kentucky – Annual Show – by Mountain Mushroom Festival – Estelle County School's Central Office Gym, 253 Main St. (Enter at the back of the gym), Irvine Ky. – Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun 10-5 – Free Admission

April 28-30, 2017 – Orlando, Florida – Annual Show – by Central Florida Mineral and Gem Society – FL. National Guard Armory, 2809 South Fern Creek Ave, Orlando, FL. – Fri. 1-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$5, Students \$2

April 28-30, 2017 – Portland, Oregon -- by My Hood Rock Club – Jackson Armory, 6255 NE Cornfoot Road, Portland, Or. – Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4 – Admission free, donations appreciated

April 28-30, 2017 – Santa Rosa, California – Wholesale and Retail show – by Gem Faire Inc – Sonoma County Fairgrounds, 1350 Bennett Valley Rd, Santa Rosa, Ca. – Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$7 weekend pass, Children free (ages 0-11)

April 28-30, 2017 – Shenandoah The Woodlands, Texas – Annual Show – Fine Mineral Show – Holiday Inn & Suites Shenandoah The Woodlands, 19333 David Memorial Dr, Shenandoah The Woodlands, TX. – Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5 – Free Admission

April 29-30, 2017 – Elma, Washington – Annual Show –Grays Harbor Gem and Geology – Grays Harbor Fairgrounds, 43 Elma-McCleary Road, Elma, Wa. – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4 – Free

April 29-30, 2017 -- Franklin, New Jersey --- 45th Annual New Jersey Earth Science Association Gem & Mineral Show – by New Jersey Earth Science Association – Franklin Borough School, 50 Washington Avenue, Franklin, NJ – Sat. 9-530, Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$6, under 14 free

April 29-30, 2017 – Freeport, New York – Annual Show – by Freeport Recreation Center – Freeport Recreation Center, 130 East Merrick Road, Freeport, NY – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5 – Adults \$5.50, Children 12 and under free with adult.

April 29-30, 2017 – Lancaster, California – Annual Show – by Antelope Valley Gem and Mineral Club – Lancaster High School, 44701 32nd St W, Lancaster, Ca. – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5 – Free admission

April 29-30, 2017 – Seattle, Washington – Annual Show – by West Seattle Rock Clubs – Alli Masonic Temple, 4736 40th Avenue SW Seattle, Wa. – Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5 – Free Admission

April 29-30, 2017 – Waco, Texas – Annual Show – by Waco Gem and Mineral Club – Extraco Events Center Creative Arts Bldg, 4601 Bosque Blvd, Waco, Tx. – Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5 – Admission \$5, Children 6-12 \$1, Scouts and Leaders in uniform will get in free.

April 30, 2017 – Waterloo, Iowa – Annual Show – by Black Hawk Gem and Mineral Society – Waterloo Center for the Arts, 225 Commercial St, Waterloo, Ia. – Sun. 12-5 – Free admission

June 2-4, 2017 – Wauseon, Ohio – Jewelry, Rock and Mineral Show – by State Line Gem & Mineral Society – Friday 6/2 @ 9am – Sunday 6/4 @ 1pm – Fulton County Fairgrounds, 8591 State Route 108.

June 9-11, 2017 – Ventura, California – Ventura Rocks the Nation – CFMS – AFMS Show – by Ventura Gem & Mineral Society – member of the California Federation of Mineral Societies – Fri. – Sat. 10 am – 5 pm, Sun. 10 am – 4 pm – Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 Harbor Blvd, Ventura, Ca.

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JULY 22-23, 2017 --- Rapid City, SD -- 37th Annual Gem & Mineral Show – by Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society – Rapid City Civic Center – Saturday 9am-6pm – Sunday 10am-4pm – Set up day is Friday 8am to 6pm with a pot luck dinner at 6 pm for members and vendors.

4,000-YEAR-OLD STRUCTURE WITH MYSTERIOUS ENGRAVINGS DISCOVERED IN GALILEE

By Daniel K Eisenbud. The Jerusalem Post. Isreal News. March 5, 2017 2:35 am

In the Kibbutz Shamir in upper Galilee, a 4,000-year-old table-like stone structure inscribed with mysterious art was recently discovered, per the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA). The structure dates to the Bronze Age and was initially found by Professor Gonen Sharon, of the Tell Hai College's Galilee Studies Program.

This dolman is unique because of it's huge dimensions, the structures surrounding it, and the unique artistic decorations engraved on it's ceiling, per the IAA.

A study on the find was published in the Scientific Journal Plos One by archaeologists from Tell Hai College, the IAA, and the Hebron University of Jerusalem.

A dolman is a millenia-old megalithic structure built of huge stones. They are basically like a table and most are surrounded by a heap of stones. Dolman have been found through out the world, from Ireland to Korea. There are thousands through out the Middle East. The Golan Heights has thousands of different types scattered in concentrations known as “dolman fields.”

Although they are quite common and stand out quite prominently in the landscape of ancient Isreal, their age and purpose have not been resolved.

This dolman is just one if the more than 400 huge stone structures from the Bronze Age that are located in the dolman field surrounding Kibbutz Shamir per the IAA. When Professor Sharon entered the chamber built beneath the largest dolman, he found rock engravings in the ceiling. The discovery lead to the joint research project of the dolman and it's environs which produced new revelations about the dolman phenomenon in Israel.

“This is the first art ever documented in a dolman in the Middle East” per Upi Berger, archaeologist with the Antiquities Authority and a partner in the study. “The engraved shapes depict a straight line going to the center of an arc, About 15 such engravings we're documented on the ceiling of the dolman, spred out in a kind of arc along the ceiling. No parallels exist for these shapes in the engraved rock drawings of the middle east and there significance remains a mystery.”

The area with the art was scanned by the Computerized Archaeology Laboratory of the Hebrew University to create an innovative three-dimensional model of the engravings. The scan allowed the team to see parts of the engraving that couldn't be seen by the naked eye. The chamber inside the dolman is large measuring two by three meters and the stone's weight is approximately 50 tons. This is one of the largest stones ever used in the construction of dolman in the Middle East."

The large stone heap surrounding the dolman was 20 meters in diameter per Grossman, with stones estimated to weigh 400 tons. Four smaller dolman were positioned inside the stone heap. "What we have here is a huge monumental structure built hierarchically (with a main cell and secondary cells). This is the first time such a hierarchical dolman has been identified in the Middle East.

The large dolman at Kibbutz Shamir is just one of hundreds of these structures scattered in the region.

"It bears witness to the existence of a significant and established governmental system in the region during the 'Middle Ages' of the Bronze Age." Per Grossman, Archaeologists tend to interpret the past based on material finds. The absence of cities, large settlements and monumental buildings attests to the collapse of the governmental and economical systems during a dark period in history. The dolman tell a different story about the period – a story about a society that had a complex

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governmental and economical system that executed monumental engineering projects, but did not leave behind any other archaeological evidence". Sharon noted that the dolman was an indication of public construction. It required significant amount of manpower over a considerable period of time. The people had to be housed and fed. Constructing such huge buildings necessitated a knowledge of engineering and architecture that nomadic groups usually didn't possess.

Despite all this very little is known about the people who built them and they are still among the great mysteries of the archaeology of Israel.

This dolman field was first discovered in the 1950's and more than 400 huge structures have been identified.

THIS PINK DIAMOND IS ABOUT TO BECOME THE MOST EXPENSIVE IN HISTORY

Refinery 29. March 26, 2017. 7:46 pm

The biggest, fanciest pink diamond in the world, known as the Pink Star, is also flawless. The Pink Star diamond is the largest internally flawless vivid pink diamond, at 59.60 karats, ever graded by the Gemological Institute of America. It's estimated value is more than \$60 million.

The diamond will be auctioned at Sotheby's Hong Kong Magnificent Jewels and Jadeite sale on April 4th. It is making a rare reappearance at auction, having been sold at the highest price ever for a diamond -- \$83 million – at Sothby's Geneva in November 2013. But the buyers reneged on the purchase and Sothby had to buy it back at their guaranteed price of \$60 million.

The Pink Star is graded as type 11a, which is rare for any pink diamond. It was originally a 132.5 care rough cut by DeBeers in 1999, and was cut and polished over two years.

The Pink Star is not the biggest diamond in the world. That honor belongs to the Lulo diamond, which is 404.2 carets and valued at \$14 million.

PINK DIAMOND

Wikipedia

The name Pink Love, Pink Star, and Steinmetz Pink all refer to the same pink diamond, weighing 59.60 carats (11.92g), rated in color as Fancy Vivid Pink by the Gemological Institute of America. It was mined by DeBeers in 1999 in South Africa and weighed 132.5 carats in the rough. The Pink Star is the largest known diamond to be rated vivid pink. Because of its rarity, the Steinmetz Group cautiously took 20 months to cut it. It was unveiled in Monaco on May 29, 2003 in a public ceremony.

The Pink Star was displayed as the Steinmetz Pink in the Smithsonian's "The Splendor of Diamonds" exhibit along with the DeBeers Millennium Star, the second largest blue diamond and the "Heart of Eternity" diamond, a 27.64 carat (5.582g) heart shaped blue diamond and the "Moussaieff Red Diamond," the world's largest known fancy red diamond at 5.11 carat (1.022g).

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THE WORLD'S LARGEST PINK DIAMOND SOLD FOR A RECORD BREAKING \$71.2 MILLION

Fashion magazine.com. By Caitlin Moneta April 5, 2017

The 'Pink Star' diamond sold for \$71.2 million (US) in Hong Kong on Tuesday April 4th to Hong Kong jeweler Chow Tai Fook after an intense bidding war between three buyers. It now holds the title of the most expensive diamond or jewel ever sold at auction.

This sale was just a couple months after the sale of the DeBeers Millennium Jewel 4, the world's largest 'oval Fancy Vivid Blue' diamond, also sold by Sothby's Hong Kong. The 14.62 carat Oppenheimer Blue Diamond, once belonging to the chairman of DeBeers, was recently sold by Christie's in Geneva for \$57 million. Other recent sales included 12.03 carat "Blue Moon" diamond for \$28.5 million. Both of these were bought by a Hong Kong billionaire for his 7-year-old daughter.

TECHNION DEVELOPS HYDROGEN PRODUCTION METHOD THAT BLOWS OTHERS OUT OF THE WATER

The Jerusalem Post. March 26, 2017. 10:07 pm

Hydrogen is currently produced from natural gas in a process that emits carbon dioxide into the air. Technion – Isreal Institute of Technology – researchers have developed a new method for the production of hydrogen from water using solar energy in a centralized way at the point of sale, such as a gasoline station for electric cars fueled by the gas. It eliminates the need for 'solar farms' whose hydrogen has to be trucked long distances, making the procedure cost effective and safe and efficient.

The study, recently published in Nature Materials, was led by Avigail Landman, a doctoral student in the Nancy & Stephan Grand Technion Energy Program and Dr Hen Dotan, from the Electrochemical Materials and Devices Lab.

Hydrogen is considered as one of the most promising energy carriers for vehicles and various other uses because it can be

The use of hydrogen fuel would reduce the dependence on fossil fuels, like oil and natural gas. And unlike gas or diesel engines that emits considerable pollution, hydrogen gas' only byproduct is water.

Because of these advantages, countries like the US, Germany, and Japan are investing heavily to develop environmentally friendly technologies for hydrogen production.

Currently, most hydrogen production is from natural gas and releases carbon dioxide into the air. Hydrogen can also be produced from water by electrolsis to split the water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen. But electricity production itself is expensive and a source of pollution. So Technion researchers have been working on developing a hydrogen production method that does not use an external power source. Their method uses a photoelectric chemical (pec) cell, that uses solar energy, to split water into hydrogen and oxygen directly.

According to their cost estimate, their method could successfully compete with existing water splitting methods and serve as a safer and cheaper method of producing hydrogen. To do so, the hydrogen and oxygen must be separated and then collected from the millions of pec cells and then transported to the point of sale. To solve this, the Technion team developed a new method of pec water splitting where the oxygen and hydrogen are formed in two separate cells. The traditional method allowed for the oxygen and hydrogen to be collected in the same cell with only a thin membrane separating the two gases and preventing them from intermixing and forming a flammable and explosive mixture. This new method allows for a

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geographic separation of the two types of cells so that the cells producing oxygen can be miles from the cells producing hydrogen.

To achieve this, the Technion team used a pair of auxiliary electrodes made of nickel hydroside, an inexpensive material used in rechargeable batteries and a metal wire to connect them.

ARCHAEOLOGIST SUGGESTS ANCIENT HUMANS HELPED CATALYZE THE SAHARA'S DESERTIFICATION

inhabitat.com

The Sahara Desert is rolling sand dunes and hot temperatures, but used to be verdant grassland with lakes. Traditionally, the dramatic change was attributed to a wobble in the Earth's orbital axis, but now archaeologist David K Wright of Seoul National University suggests that humans may have been to blame. A 10,000-year or so wet period brought moisture to northern and eastern Africa. But about 8,000 years ago, the moisture balance began to change. Below the surface, you can find signs of rivers and plants. In an article published in the journal 'Frontiers in Earth Science,' Wright explains that humans were thought of as passive agents in the end of the African Humid Period. But he thinks humans were active agents in the change.

Wright said that in East Asia, there are long established theories of how Neolithic populations changed the landscape so much that the monsoons stopped penetrating as far inland. He thinks the same thing happened in the Sahara. People growing crops and raising livestock, changed the environment, exposing soil and sunlight bouncing off the soil warmed the air causing atmospheric conditions to change and lessen rainfall, adding to the desertification of the Sahara.

As yet, Wright needs more evidence for other scientists to agree with him. He says that lakes were everything during this wet period and there will be a record of the changing vegetation. We need to drill into the former lake beds to get the records of the changing vegetation, look at the archaeology and see what people were doing there.

If Wright turns out to be correct, the research could yield insight into how we can adapt to large scale climate change.

TEEN BOY FINDS 7.44-CARAT 'SUPERMAN'S DIAMOND' AT AN ARKANSAS STATE PARK

By Eliza Murphy. ABC News. March 17, 2017. 2:05 pm

Kalel Langford, 14, found a 7.44-carat diamond at Crater of Diamonds State Park in Murfreesboro, Arkansas. He named it 'Superman's Diamond' since Superman's real name is Kal-El. It is the seventh largest diamond ever found in the park.

Michelle Langford, Kalel's mom, said he was really excited. He had just played a baseball tournament so he was tired, and she thinks it has taken a couple of days and some sleep for it to actually sink in. At first, he thought it was a diamond, but wasn't sure.

When they showed the stone to the staff at the park, they weren't really sure either. Kalel thought maybe he had found something no one else had found, but it was actually a brown diamond. The diamond is coffee-colored and about the size of a pinto beans. He found it in the first 20 minutes at the park without even trying that hard.

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He had been begging to go to the park, and we had an hour and the park was just 15 minutes from his tournament's location. They were just surface hunting, they hadn't brought gloves or anything. A lot of people were surprised at how easily he found it on a really cloudy day in the mud.

Kalel plans to keep it for now and maybe spend it wisely in the future. He told his parents, he'll use it for college if he doesn't get enough scholarships and if he does, then it could be a down payment on a house. His mother said he's a good kid, very much into science and loves rocks and minerals.

SIERRA LEONE PASTOR DISCOVERS 706-CARAT DIAMOND IN VILLAGE

Associated Press. Rapid City Journal. March 17, 2017

Freetown, Sierra Leone

Pastor Emmanuel Momoh found a 706-carat alluvial diamond in Yakadu Village in Sierra Leone's diamond rich east and presented it to President Ernest Bai Koroma on Wednesday March 15th, in hopes it will help boost recent development in his impoverished nation. This is the largest uncut diamond found in more than four decades in the west African country. It is a bit smaller than a hockey puck and the second largest diamond found in Sierra Leone. The 968.9-carat Star of Sierra Leone was found by miners in 1972 and sold for about \$2.5 million.

Momoh told the Associated Press that he is impressed by the development being undertaken in the Kono District, where the diamond was found and hopes the diamond can help the development. There is road construction and improvements to electricity, after almost 30 years of blackouts. He said, he believes the country can do more especially at a time when they are experiencing some economic challenges.

It was not immediately known how the pastor came across the diamond. But the president expressed appreciation that there was no attempt to smuggle it out of the country. And he encouraged others to emulate the pastor's example. He promised the diamond would be sold to the highest bidder and the government would distribute according.

Spokesman Bayraytay said the diamond has not been valued yet and is presently in the Bank of Sierra Leone. The President has given clear instructions to the Ministry of Mines, that the evaluation, sale and distribution of proceeds is to be handled in the most transparent means possible.









