



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

Affiliated with RMFMS & AFMS

TO:

March 2016 Edition
Meeting: March 10th at 7PM.



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

MARCH 2016

WESTERN DAKOTA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY 2015-16 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

President: Truman Goddard, 12009 Crook City Rd, Whitewood, SD 57793.....	605 269-2522
Vice President: John Dickinson- PO Box 775, Lead, SD 57784	605-580-5579
Secretary: Lori Green, 207 E. St. Andrew St. Rapid City, SD 57701.....	719-207-1035
Treasurer: Kelli Wold, 4511 Ridgewood, Rapid City, SD 57702.....	605-381-6418
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: Jan Baumeister, 3901 Hall St, Rapid City, SD 57702.....	605-342-5517
ALAA SD Rep: Jan Baumeister, 3901 Hall St, Rapid City, SD 57702	605-342-5517
Field Trip Chairman: Ellen Tilley, 21653 Piedmont Meadows Rd, Piedmont, SD 57769	605-787-6355
1 yr. Board Member: David Ramberg, 1115 South 36 th , Spearfish, SD 57793.....	605-722-5101
2 yr. Board Member: Ellen Tilley, 21653 Piedmont Meadows Rd, Piedmont, SD 57769.....	605-787-6355
3 yr. Board Member: Sony Hemsher, P.O. Box 376, 1980 Country Road, Piedmont, SD 57769.....	605-431-2755
Newsletter Editor: Kelli Wold, 2511 Ridgewood, Rapid City, SD 57702.....	605-381-6418
Co-Editor: Janice Baumeister, 3901 Hall St, Rapid City, SD 57702	605-342-5517
Librarian: Calvin Luke, 714 Halley Ave, Apt.2, Rapid City, SD 57701	605-430-1772
Historian: Annette Rathert, 2701 Mystic Mt. Road, Rapid City, SD 57702	605-348-8948
Webmaster: Barbara Goddard, 3280 Bumblebee Dr, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314	928-237-9261
Calling Committee: Jan Goheen 605-431-6161 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 Citizens Center, 315 B, 4th St, Rapid City, SD 57701

***CLUB INFORMATION & REPORTS ARE DUE BEFORE 25TH OF EACH MONTH ***

If you change your home address, or change your email address, or *have a problem receiving a bulletin, please call 605-381-6418 and it will get corrected.* If you do not want your last name put in the bulletin, call the Editor.

***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: Kelli Wold, 4511 Ridgewood, Rapid City, SD 57702

MEETING: THURSDAY, March 10th - 7pm

Program: Tabitha Wood

Refreshments by: Lori Green

Door Prizes by: Rita Hanson

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT- Truman Goddard

Well, we are getting the Ammonite back on line. Sorry for the long delay.

Please read the minutes from our November, January and February meetings since we need to get them approved. They can be read on our web site/wdgm.org, Facebook and now the Ammonite.

We need to fill some positions for the show which include: set up, selling tickets at the door and helping at the Silent Auction. Come to the meeting on Thursday, March 10th at 7:00 pm. We will have a presentation by Tabitha Wood addressing our Facebook page. Come and be heard on some important business and remember to pay your dues.

Thanks,

See you there

Truman Goddard, President

Minutes of February 11th Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM by President Truman Goddard. Since only a few people had read the previous meeting minutes on Facebook, approval of those minutes was tabled to the March meeting.

Annette announced receiving a letter from the Wall BLM Office informing our club that the designation for the Indian Creek area will not be changing for rock hounds. The changes being made will mostly be related to livestock.

Annette also gave the club an update on the Rocky Mountain Federation scholarship. She said that Dr. Foster Sawyer and one other School of Mines representative will be choosing the 2 recipients of the \$4,000 scholarships. Dr. Sawyer will inform our club when the students are chosen so the monies can be prepared for them. Annette has also asked Dr. Sawyer that he and the students attend our September meeting for club recognition. He has also asked the school to be a part of our publicity. A motion to get the students and Dr. Sawyer some sort of certificate or recognition from the club. The motion was seconded and approved. Truman read a letter from the School of Mines thanking us for the scholarship donation of \$526.00 that was money obtained from the silent auction at the July 2015 show. Truman brought up discussion on the books donated by Pete Larson. A motion was made and seconded that the topic be tabled for a decision at the March meeting. This motion was also approved.

The club members are to put forth suggestions on the future of the books by March 1, 2016, thru the private Facebook page. The Board will review the suggestions at their next meeting and determine the best options. A paper ballot with those options will be distributed at the March meeting and those members present will be able to vote for their choice.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

The speaker this evening was Barbara Beasley, area Paleontologist for the Forest Service. Her presentation covered Paleontological Resources Management & Administration, and fossilization.

Lori Green, Secretary



March Board Meeting- President Truman Goddard held a board of directors meeting on Tuesday evening. There were many subjects to discuss including the future July show. Volunteers are needed to sign up for the show committees.

Club Member News –by Kelli Wold. - Kelli will be doing a mini newsletter with the assistance of Jan Baumeister, former editor. Jan will be sharing her articles, since there has not been an Ammonite published recently. Clubs need monthly news.

PLAC News- by Jan Baumeister. South Dakota Governor Dennis Daugaard replied to a letter concerning the proposed Spearfish Canyon State Park. He said the highway going thru the proposed park will remain open as normal, without an entrance fee, but there will be additional user fees.

FUTURE SHOWS

March 2-3—LINCOLN, NEBRASKA Lancaster Event Center; 84th and Havelock Street

March 15-17—DENVER, COLORADO: Show; Rocky Mountain Gems & Minerals, Inc., Crowne Plaza Denver Airport Convention Center & Hotel; 15500 E 40th Ave, Convention Center D; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5 .

APRIL 7-8—BILLINGS, MONTANA: Annual show; Billings Gem and Mineral Club, Al Bedoo Shrine Auditorium; 1125 Broadwater Avenue; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; \$3 Admission, Children under 12 free; \$1 discount coupon in Billings Gazette newspaper; contact Doug True, 406 670 0506; e-mail: dtruefossils12@yahoo.com

AFMS News- National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame News by Steve Weinberger, HOF Chair. The National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame was established by June Culp Zeitner in 1987 to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions in their fields over many years, and have further advanced the ideals of the hobby. The NR&LHoF is currently located in the Pioneer Auto Museum in Murdo, S.D. There are five categories in which people can be nominated: Minerals, Education, Lapidary, Fossils and Tribute (deceased). There were four inductees for 2015 and congratulations go to the following: Minerals—James Hurlbut (CO), Education—Steven Wade Veatch (Colorado) Lapidary—Jerry Call (North Carolina) and Tribute—A. Worth Hobby, M.D. (Georgia)

RMFMS News-The annual RMFMS Show and Convention in Wichita, Kansas from April 22 - 24. Delegates at the House of Delegates Meeting on Saturday, April 23. Our WDG&M club will be represented by SD State Director Sony Hemsher and President Truman Goddard.

CABOCHON CUTTING

by Shelley Gibbins, Calgary Lapidary Journal, February 2013

Choose a stone and decide on a shape. Determine where on the stone you want to cut (remember that you need to select which side will be the back and which will be the front). Using your scribing tool, outline the shape of your stencil (be sure that you make your marks on the back of the stone: Screw two stencils together to see the front and back to mark the stone on both sides.

Using a ruler, mark off your cutting lines so that you can saw out your shape (be careful not to touch the scribed lines of the cab).

Take into account the size of your blade and draw straight lines as close to the shape as possible – without cutting into the scribed lines. When making cabochons, grind a bevel around the bottom sharp edge of the stone which could otherwise chip when setting. Make sure to use water/oil with your saw blade to maintain the life of the blade.



Paleontology and Geology of South Dakota

The Precambrian: Precambrian rocks are exposed in the Black Hills in the western part of the state and in the Sioux Arch in eastern South Dakota. All of these rocks are metamorphic; no fossils have been found in them to date.

The Paleozoic: A shallow sea flooded South Dakota in the early Paleozoic, depositing a sequence of progressively finer-grained layers of sediment. Trace fossils are abundant in the Cambrian rocks of the state. Fossils of corals, brachiopods, cephalopods, and other invertebrates indicate that marine conditions continued through the early to middle Paleozoic, interrupted by brief intervals during the Ordovician when the sea withdrew, leaving the state exposed to erosion. The late Paleozoic (Carboniferous) was again a time of fluctuating sea levels across the state: fossils of brachiopods and corals, and coal deposits, are evidence that marine, brackish, and fresh water conditions existed at various times through this interval. Sea level dropped during the Permian, once more leaving South Dakota exposed to erosion.

The Mesozoic: South Dakota was covered by humid coastal plains and intertidal mudflats during the early Mesozoic (Triassic). The sea again flooded the state in the middle Mesozoic (Jurassic), leaving behind a rock record that includes fossils of clams, ammonites, crinoids, and starfish. Lakes, swamps, and streams developed over the landscape as the sea retreated later in the Jurassic. The sedimentary rocks formed in these environments contain abundant plant fossils and the remains of giant sauropod dinosaurs. During the late Mesozoic (Cretaceous), a great seaway developed, once more covering much of South Dakota with marine waters. This seaway was home to abundant invertebrates, marine reptiles, and aquatic birds, while dinosaurs, small mammals, and birds inhabited the shores and inland areas. The Black Hills of western South Dakota were uplifted during this time.

The Cenozoic: The Black Hills continued to raise during the early Cenozoic (Tertiary), while the last invasion of marine water over South Dakota occurred in the central and eastern parts of the state. As the Cenozoic progressed, the sea gradually withdrew from the state and was replaced by expanding grasslands inhabited by numerous grazing mammals. Layers of ash incorporated in early Cenozoic rocks across the state indicate that this was a time of volcanic activity. In the late Cenozoic (Quaternary), ice sheets advanced and retreated across South Dakota. Gravels and sands left behind by the melting ice contain numerous fossils of bison, mammoth, mastodon, and horse. Erosion processes increased during the Late Quaternary and continue to modify the surface of South Dakota today.

Reference: www.paleoportal.org/index.php?globalnav=time_space§ionnav=state&name=South%20Dakota



SOUTH DAKOTA SAND CRYSTALS

By Jan Baumeister

Sand crystals are located in only two places in the world: in Europe and in South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation south of White River. These sand crystals unusually are found in the bed of sand scarcely three feet thick, and the crystals are best figured in tons. They are made up of 60% sand and 40% calcium carbonate. Their size varies in length. They occur chiefly in the Arikaree formation, which is largely soft sandstone. They are mostly single sand crystals with numerous doublets, triplets, quadruplets and other multiples. In other words—made in every form from solitary crystals to crowded bunches. Reference: "White River Badlands" book at SDSM & T Library.

Editorial
By Jan B

I'm merely speaking out from forty three years of experience of being a club member- beginning Black Hills Mineral Society starting 1973- when I was 36! They had no publicity to publicize their meetings in local newspaper—I was their first publicity chairman— then co-chair of their bulletin, and editor in 1977. We had a big club, over 120 members—put on the first SD RMFMS Show in 1979, with help of the newer small Western Dakota Gem and Mineral club.

I saw how this "once big rock club" fell apart after two meetings when members came to meetings and were forced to listen to arguments and disorder. One member, who disturbed the meeting with his big mouth complaining of the raise of our dues *only one dollar!* He was a school teacher,-wife a secretary! This horrible disturbance of his yelling bickering with the club president caused 85% of the membership to quit the club! Left was very few old coffee drinking members talking over their old times rock hunting. We officers were struggling to hold a position, with low attendance at meetings and field trips! Finally we quit and joined the WDG&M club in 1983 when I become the editor of the Ammonite. The same meeting, with a motion by Al Albrecht, the club voted the name, "The **Ammonite**" for our newsletter and we finalized the Ammonite fossil as our logo. The RMFMS club members all have different color vests to wear at their local shows—we delegates to the convention could recognize certain clubs by colors of their vests! I like to sew and created my own vest with a big ammonite on the back.

The mini size Black Hills Prospector won 1st place at RMFMS bulletin contest in 1982 and I was a delegate to that Tulsa, OK show. I was asked by the president and Lou Ellen Montgomery, Parliamentarian (who ruled as overseer of the RMFMS rules and by-laws) to take over the Federation bulletin, article, poems contest. *I knew NOTHING about the RMFMS—the first thing I did was read and study their rules and by-laws.* This organization is a sample for the member clubs to follow their bylaws to a T!! Topics discussed-hand after hand raised to speak out opinions, then discussion held, the President asks for motion and second on each issue! Minutes had to be precise and correctly recorded! I was a club secretary and a club delegate to many RMFMS conventions, also secretary for the RMFMS 1991 RMFMS Federation President G. Arthur Pavin, founder of this club! To keep a club running smooth, *this is what is needed—correct usage of club by-laws/rules of order.* We used to have separate board meetings, not with club meetings. Our show meetings to plan our show in every detail early in the fiscal year, then reports given by elected show chairmen at separate meetings in some one's home if we had no place to meet. With organization, cooperation with chairmen/ officers, everything ran smoothly for years- we become one happy rock club family with monthly fun and field trips for years!

Due to illness, I have not attended our meetings but hear from other friends about recent concerns and *lack of the proper use of our by-laws*, motions and seconding them; hands being raised to speak on concerned issues –example: recently when a (past president) member wished to share concerns- was recognized, starts to speak, then *forced to stop* when other topics are suddenly being talked about! Secretaries need to be conscientious and properly recording things like motions –those items being tabled, etc - she needs publically *announcing any of her mistakes not put in the minutes* at following meeting. The corrections are then recorded in present minutes of meeting to go into minutes put in the next month's "Ammonite" for everyone to read. If there is an issue among club officials, or members, *take the facts of your criticism privately* to the Board of Director's meeting, not voice it out at club meetings!

It is hard for a president or show chairman to get people to volunteer for chairman positions in both club and show! If you see one of the chairman jobs at the show you'd like to learn, *ask to be an assistant* at one show to be prepared to volunteer the following year. You learn by volunteering and continued experience! It takes a lot of club members to fill chairman and other positions from heading activities, -door entrance, to silent auction! We have always had a program room with hourly DVDs alternatively with live programs both Saturday and Sunday for those who wish to sit, especially with children. Club computer with DVD projector and screen is used. There is a member who will get this machine set up for the program chairman, and show him and volunteers how to slip in a disk-start and stop it! Volunteers can be used hourly with new DVD's ordered and then used alternately with live speakers at our monthly club meetings like we used to have!

The club newspaper is a "must"--the basic publication to let members know about club matters! The editor has to have a computer with the capability to use it and use her talent in writing correctly. With the usage of printer and email, she has to be willing to learn how to copy photos of our shows, put in her documents, learn to size down the photo to put into the Ammonite, show reports, articles and decorate her newsletter. New editors "learn by experience" and ask for help of other computer users to show us how to do things! Our club cannot exist without monthly communication to members! Kelli Wold stepped up and will be the editor with myself as co-editor to get this publication out to all members and others. *We need to strive to become one happy rockhound group again enjoying every aspect of our club and activities!*

