



Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society
P.O. Box 1944
Rapid City, South Dakota
57701-1954

This Months Funny:

This is for all the newbies:

You might be a rockhound if:

You've ever spent more than \$10 for a book about rocks.

You find yourself compelled to examine individual rocks in driveway gravel. (Be careful where!)

Your employer has asked you not to bring anymore rocks to the office until they have time to reinforce the floor!



THE AMMONITE

Affiliated with RMFMS & AFMS

Next meeting:

6:00 p.m.

July 10, 2025

Minneluzahn Senior Center

315 North 4th Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

It is always rock hunting time!

The Purpose of our Non-Profit Club is to promote interest and education in geology, mineralogy, paleontology, archaeology and lapidary, to sponsor and promote the coordination of work efforts between groups and individuals.





**The Ammonite
Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society**

2024-25 Officers

President:	Kelli Wold	605 381-6418	kelliwold24@gmail.com
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Secretary:	Debra Bailey	571-275-1146	ddsebailey@yahoo.com
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RMFMS SD Dir:	Lori Loomis	605-718-9130	sdnestatedirector@gmail.com

CLUB Mailing: Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 1954, Rapid City, SD 57709-1954

CLUB Website: www.WDGMS.org

CLUB Facebook: Western Dakota Gem and Society/groups

CLUB Email: westdakota.rocks@gmail.com

Meetings: Second Thursday of each Month (except August) at 6:00 PM (times can change)

At: Minneluzahan Senior Citizen Center, 315 North 4th Street, Rapid City, SD 57701

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

Any questions about the material found in the Ammonite please contact the editor:

Deborah Vick, 265 Stumer Rd Apt 7, Rapid City, Sd 57701

If you change your address, email address or have a problem receiving a newsletter:

Please Contact the Treasure at westdakota.rocks@gmail.com

Dues: \$15.00 per person - \$20 per family with children under 16 years – Includes 12 newsletters by e-mail. If you chose to receive the newsletter by mail, there is an additional \$10.00 fee. Dues cover the RMFMS insurance and an electronic copy of the newsletter.

Send dues to Treasurer, PO Box 1954, Rapid City, SD 57709-1954

June Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President Kelli at 6:06 pm. There were 29 people in attendance, including two guests.

Tonight's guest speaker was Jordan Barnes and she will be talking about Wyoming Jase.

Kelli asked if there was a motion to approve the May minutes, Debbie motioned and Rod seconded. All in agreement. Motion passed.

Leslie reviewed May's treasurers report. Rob motioned to approve and Jordan seconded. All in agreement. Motion passed.

Committee and Old Business:

Show update- SIX WEEKS OUT! Debbie handed out the new floor plans and explained that the show committee voted on renting the facility next door to the Nurdy Nuts Expo Hall. Ashley from the fairgrounds is giving the club a discount on the rental. This enabled the club to move the admissions, fluorescent display, show cases, club info and rock ID tables to the GenPro building. This created seven additional spaces for vendors. Debbie explained that spaces were filled from the waiting list. We are in need egg cartons for the Jr. Rockhounds, shopping bags for the silent auctions, and VOLUNTEERS to help set up and man tables on the days of the show. Debbie is putting final touches on the show program. Rob talked about the press releases going out soon. Kelli thanked Sylvia for her donation for the grand door prize for our 50th anniversary. Sylvia made a gold ring worth over \$400. Kelli also thanked Don Bush, Nancy Thompson and herself for their donations to the club's fluorescent display.

Librarian- Cole thanked Don and Leslie for their recent donations to the club library. Cole stated the list on the club website needs to be updated with the recent additions.

Historian- Jordan is looking for help preparing the Historical Exhibition for the show, celebrating the club's 50th Anniversary.

Membership- Larisa had copies of the membership list on each table.

Secretary/correspondence- 3 emails in the last month from people wanting information about rock hounding in the area. One person/family is joining our club.

Field Trip- Thank you Rob and Kathy for last month's trip to Shamrock mine. Saturday's field trip will be to Conata Basin led by the Baileys', sign up and directions on table.

July's field trip we'll be looking for geodes. Location(s) will be announced at the July meeting.

August, September and October field trips are being finalized. We are looking at going to either Vore Buffalo Jump, Beyond Agate Adventures (Nebraska), Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum and Petroglyphs on BLM land. Stay tuned for more on the field trips.

Guest Speakers:

July, August, September and October guest speakers are being finalized.

RMFMS Rep Lori Loomis- Lori asked about a follow up on our AED inquiry. Don stated it's still in the works, need to go before the board. RMFMS will be increasing insurance fee and possibly membership next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Need to have logo updated on website. Website still has the yellow logo.

Facebook issues – Our Facebook page was scammed/hacked. There were people posing as club members saying there was space open at our show. We have no idea who these people are

Snacks – looking for members to volunteer to bring snacks to the club's general meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30

May 30th Show meeting minutes

The meeting started at 3pm and was held at the Nurdy Nuts Expo Hall at the Fairgrounds. Attending meeting were Debbie, Kelli, Leslie, Pete, Lori B., Don and Debra. Ashley from fairgrounds joined us to review building and needs (electric).

Members were shown the GenPro building which is connected to the Nurdy Nuts Expo Hall. This space was offered to us for a discount. Lori and Debra measured the Jr. Rockhounds activity Center and thought it might be too small of space to fit all the activities. Members discussed the possibilities of renting the GenPro building. Lori motioned we rent the GenPro building and Debbie seconded. All were in agreement. Leslie drew up a sketch for the floor plan for the GenPro building, moving the Fluorescent Display, Admission's table, Club info table, Rock ID table, and the show display cases into the building. Entrance for the show is now through the GenPro building. By adding another building and moving several displays and tables creating six more spots for vendors. Debbie will draw up the new floor plan and reach out to vendors who are on the waiting list.

The Friday potluck will now be held in the GenPro building, more room to serve food and sit.

All of the give aways for the Jr Rockhound Activity Center came in and were reviewed.

With the adding of the GenPro building more wall signs are needed. Debra reviewed each display/table and came up with a list of signs to be made.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

Please note: There are some corrections to the May 17th show meeting minutes. They are below.

There will be 2 Squares for credit/debit card purchases. One at the Silent Auction with tax and the other at **Club Information table** without tax.

Need to get the names of vendors and their staff to make name tags. **We do not** need to purchase more lanyards.

Sylvia offered to donate gold made into a **ring**.

We will ask Jason if he will be head of the fluorescent tent.

June 28 Final Show Meeting Minutes

Show Chair Debbie Vick called the meeting to order at 10:07am. Attending the meeting were Debbie, Leslie, Pete, John, Larisa, Jason, Don, Debra, Marie, Cole, Rod, Kelli and Jordan.

Debbie gave an update on the floor plan and vendors. All spaces are full. We will have BHI Pete Larson in the Gen Pro building for book signing and Black Hills Prospecting club will set up a static display of their club and gold panning equipment. Pete will be in on Saturday, need to confirm the times. Prospecting club will be there only on Saturday. We are waiting on two contracts; one was lost in mail (MT Agate Shack) the other the vendor is overseas (Keith Lowery) until the end of the month. There are two vendors that we are waiting for their balance payment.

Show cases- Rod stated there are a total of 17 showcases. Three are for the club (Rathert, club and fluorescent). Fourteen cases are used for persons wanting to display their specimens. Seven have been claimed. Seven are still available.

Debra is putting together a power point loop to display pictures of club activities. There is a screen in the Gen Pro building and a power point in the trailer. To give us room for attendees to watch the power point, we will swap the locations of the two club displays and the showcases.

Debbie wanted to know when she should pay the balance for the venue. All were in agreement to pay now. Last year the club got a bill three months after the show for tables and chairs. All were in agreement to write a separate check for \$500 for table and chairs. Last year the bill was about \$575. We expect to be using more tables and chairs this year but we can have a large portion of the bill paid in advance.

Membership/club info- Larisa will be needing cash for change when people purchase a bag or for membership.

Fluorescent display- Jason has the tent poles at his place. He has put it up and taken it down to familiarize himself with the parts. The black plastic for the tent is in the trailer. Kelli has the specimens and will double check the labels. If additional labels are needed, she will tell Debra and she will have Copy Country make them.

Silent Auction- Rob will take over the checkout at the silent auction. He will get the square app downloaded to his phone. Kelli stated she needed more items to auction.

Historian- Jordan showed several posters she made displaying the history of the club. We will need easels to help with all the displays.

Volunteers- Debra passed around the most recent sign-up sheets for volunteers to help with the show. Areas that need coverage are the Jr. Rockhounds and fluorescent display. Since the fluorescent display is close to the club info and rock ID tables, we could have those people help with coverage.

Advertisement- Debra read Rob W email about the advertising status. Rob contacted all media outlet informing them of the incoming press release. KOTA TV said they would likely interview us again. Need to monitor the club emails for radio or TV interviews come in. Reposting flyer on FB with boosting. Reposting flyer on local FB groups that are not rock r elated. Debra had more flyers printed, both 8.5x11 and 5.5x4. Debra had wall signs made. Need additional sign made for Door Prizes.

Friday Potluck- Marie has the potluck app ready to go out next week to all club members. Debra has the plates, cups and plasticware. Need Napkins and additional plates.

Next year show dates- It was decided that next year's show will be July25th and 26th, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11am.

President's message

There was a great turn out for the June meeting. Thank you, Jordan Barnes, for giving a presentation on Jade. It was very interesting. A big shout out to the Bailey's for hosting the field trip to the Conta Agate beds. The show is fast approaching. I would like to personally thank everyone who has signed up to help with the Gem and Mineral Show. Volunteers are what keeps the show going for years to come. Sylvia Cox's has donated a beautiful 18K gold ring that she has designed made special for the 50th Anniversary of the club. Please give her a big thank you next time you see her. See you at the show!

Treasurer Notes:

Club Account – \$165 deposit = Raffle, 1 canvas bag, dues & tshirts. We paid rent & some Ammonite & copying costs. The trailer storage of \$408 is due in July

Show Account – 1 vendor deposit of \$388 & costs of \$968 = for advertising, geodes, copies, plaque for Best of Show & \$500 for rent of the GenPro building.

There will be more vendor deposits & more expenditures coming up!

WELCOME new members **JULIE, TOM & NICHOLAS GIRARDIN!**

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

Annette Rathert still at Fountain Springs rehab, making progress!

Mickey Snook still at home, frustrated, doctors have no clear answers

Kelli & Philip Wold have upcoming medical procedures

Our sympathy goes out to **Kathy Knobloch**, her daughter in Sioux Falls passed away unexpectedly

If you have any member news OR have a change in contact information, please give Larisa Bailey a call or email (605-580-5192, baileylarisa@gmail.com)

List of upcoming events:

July Guest Speaker: Dr. Sharon Weaver for BHI on why she became a Paleontologist.

July Field Trip: TBD Might be somewhere to find local geodes

The Rocky Mountain Mineralogical Society yearly convention will be in Grand Junction Colorado September 19-21 2025. Although the delegates have been chosen anybody is welcome to come and check the show out.

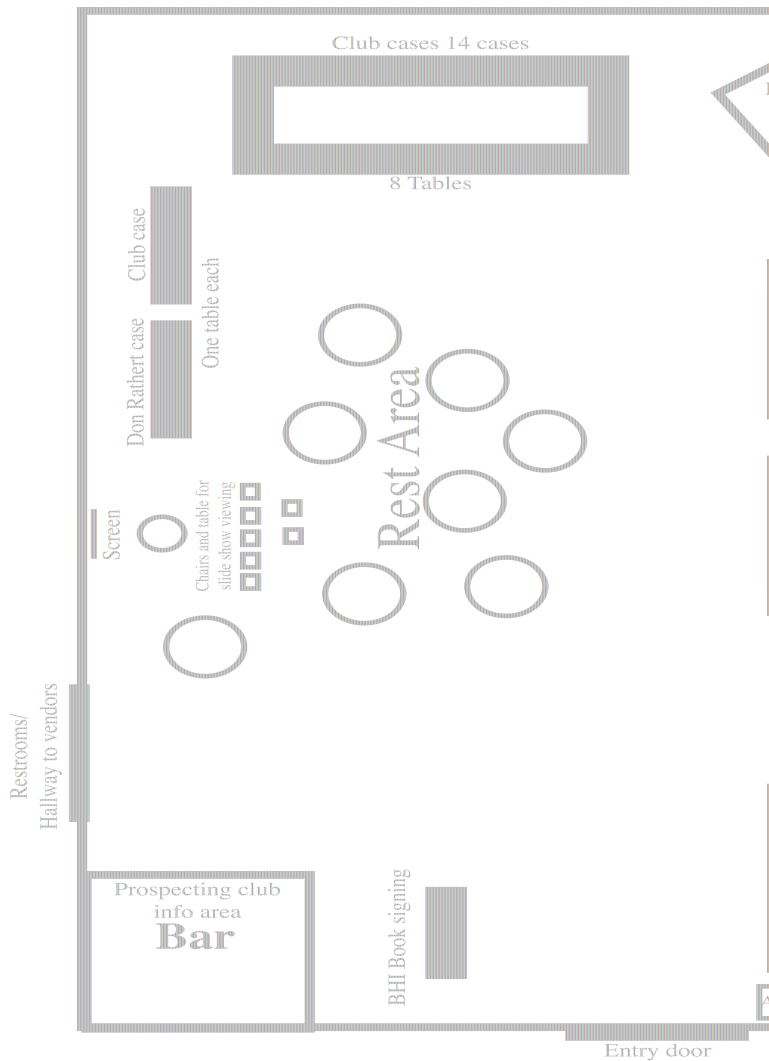
The editor is in need of fresh material for the Ammonite including articles, tips and tricks, and even a funny or two. Don't be bashful, bring them in! Even a bit on why you became a rockhound would be nice.

IT'S SHOWTIME!!!!!!

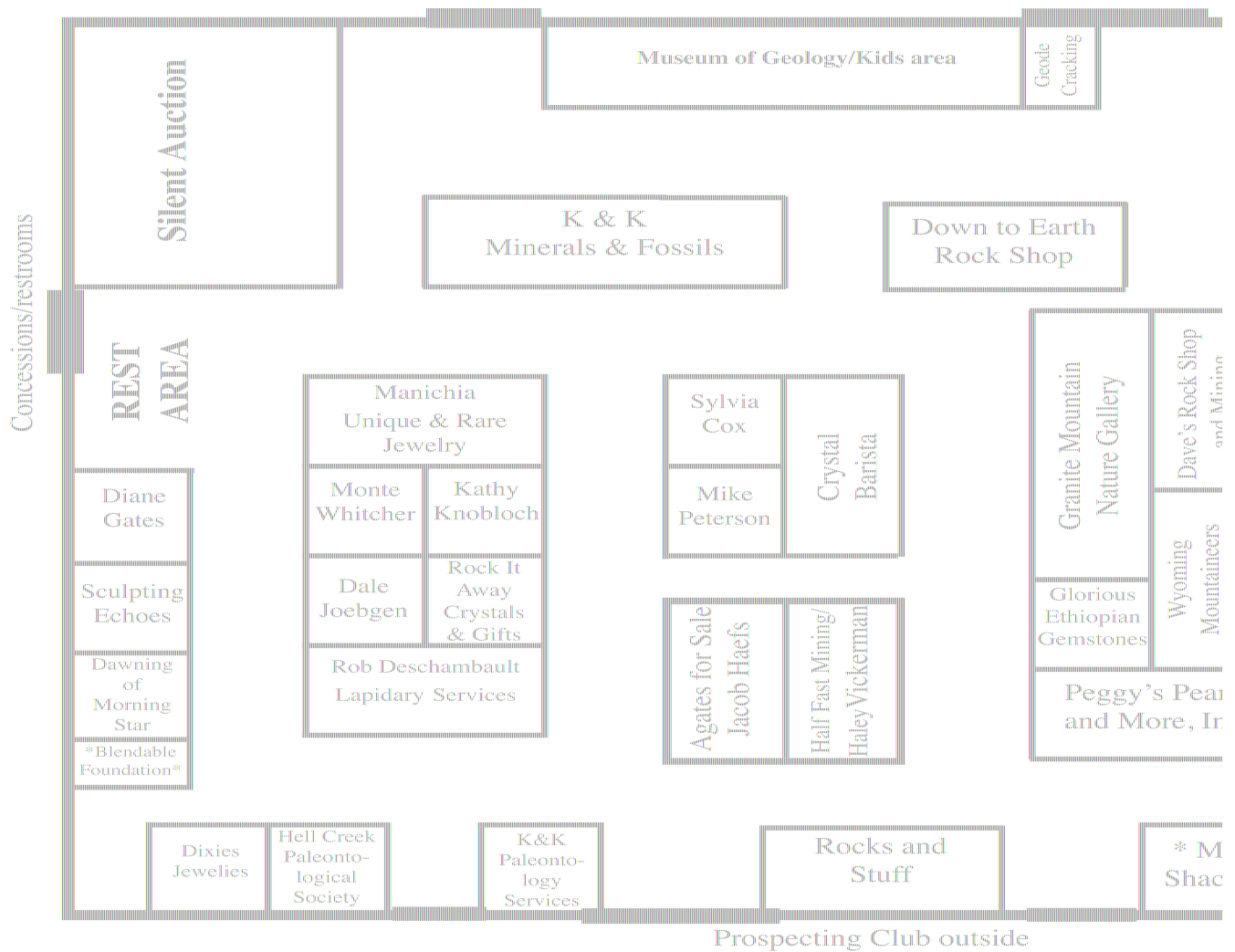
The show is the last weekend of this month. Are you ready? We are still needing members to volunteer in various areas. Contact Debra Bailey if you are interested in helping even if it is for an hour or two.

The Nerdy Nuts Expo hall will have more vendors, the silent auction and the kids area. We have expanded to include the neighboring attached GenPro building to be used as the entrance to the show. It will have the admission table, raffle table, club information table, fluorescent display, the showcases and even an area set up with a slideshow on the history of our club (it is our 50th Anniversary!)

Below is the floor plan of each building starting with the GenPro Building.



This is what the Nerdy Nuts Expo Hall floor plan looks like.



Hope to see you at the show!!!!

Upcoming Area Shows

This information can be found at the www.rockandmineralshows.com. Please check the website current shows across the country and in Canada.

Festival in the Park - 07/18/2025

Start Date: 07/18/2025

End Date: 07/20/2025

Hours: Fri 4:00-8:00 Sat 9:00-7:00 Sun 10:00-4:00

Venue: Spearfish City Park

Address: 119 S Canyon St

Spearfish City Park

Spearfish, SD 57783

Website: <https://www.matthewsopera.com/festival-in-the-park/>

Rapid City Gem & Mineral Show - 07/26/2025

Start Date: 07/26/2025

End Date: 07/27/2025

Hours: Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun 9:00-3:00

Venue: Central States Fairgrounds - Nerdy Nuts Building

Address: 800 San Francisco St

Central States Fairgrounds - Nerdy Nuts Building

Rapid City, SD 57701

Website: <http://wdgms.org/>

Gem and Mineral Show - 07/26/2025

Start Date: 07/26/2025

End Date: 07/26/2025

Hours: 10:00 - 5:00

Venue: Bethany Reformed Church

Address: 702 W 7th St

Bethany Reformed Church

Canton, SD 57013-2021

Website: <http://segams.org/index.html>

White Mountain Gem and Mineral Show - 07/18/2025

Start Date: 07/18/2025

End Date: 07/20/2025

Hours: Fri/Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun 10:00-4:00

Venue: Elks Lodge

Address: 805 E Whipple St

Elks Lodge

Show Low, AZ 85929

Website: <http://www.whitemountain-azrockclub.org/>

Primitive Arts / Knap-In - 07/12/2025

Start Date: 07/12/2025

End Date: 07/13/2025

Venue: The Hairy Mosquito Trading Co.

Address: 21287 US 169

The Hairy Mosquito Trading Co.

Milaca, MN 56353

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1152672529990851&set=pcb.1152672596657511>

Des Moines Lapidary Society Rock Swap - 07/19/2025

Start Date: 07/19/2025

End Date: 07/19/2025

Hours: 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Venue: Des Moines Lapidary Society

Address: 2608 24th St

Des Moines Lapidary Society

Des Moines, IA 50310

Website: <http://dmlapidary.org/>

Annual Four Corners Gem and Mineral Club Show - 07/11/2025

Start Date: 07/11/2025

End Date: 07/13/2025

Hours: Fri/Sat 10:00-6:00 Sun 10:00-4:00

Venue: La Plata County Fairgrounds

Address: 2500 Main Ave

La Plata County Fairgrounds

Durango, CO 81301 Website: <http://www.durangorocks.org/>

Pueblo Gem & Mineral Show - 07/19/2025

Start Date: 07/19/2025

End Date: 07/20/2025

Hours: Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun 10:00-4:00

Venue: Pueblo Convention Center

Address: 320 Central Main St

Pueblo Convention Center

Pueblo, CO 81003

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61570095422475>

The Crystal Festival - Rock, Mineral, Gem & Crystal Show - 07/19/2025

Start Date: 07/19/2025

End Date: 07/20/2025

Hours: 10am - 8pm

Venue: Colorado Springs Event Center

Address: 3960 Palmer Park Blvd

Colorado Springs Event Center

Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Website: <https://www.crystalfestival.org/>

Fairplay Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show - 07/24/2025

Start Date: 07/24/2025

End Date: 07/27/2025

Hours: 9:00 - 5:00

Venue: Fairplay River Park Event Site

Address: 200 Platte Dr

Fairplay River Park Event Site

Fairplay, CO 80440

Website: <http://abqfallshow.wix.com/fairplay>