



THE AMMONITE

Affiliated with RMFMS & AFMS

Next meeting:

6:00 p.m.

May 9, 2024

Minneluzahan Senior Citizen Center

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

2023-24 Officers

President:	Kelli Wold	605 381-6418	kelli@dakotastar.org
Vice President:	Pete Lysenko	605 786-8801	-----
Secretary:	Debra Bailey	571 275-1146	ddsebailey@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Leslie Lysenko	605-786-8801	leslielysenko@gmail.com
Board Member #1 :	Jason Hammer	307 851-5770	hammerstoneware@gmail.com
Board Member #2	Rod Woodcock	575 956-3081	rodwoodcock001@gmail.com
Board Member #3	Myesa Fixx	425 239-3122	mlegendrefixx@gmail.com
Librarian:	Leslie Lysenko	605 786-8801	leslielysenko@gmail.com
Editor:	Debbie Vick	605 877-6957	dlvick@live.com
Historian:	Debbie Vick	605 877-6957	dlvick@live.com
RMFMS SD Dir:	Lori Loomis	719-207 1035	riggsoldchap@yahoo.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 18 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

April Minutes

President Kelli Wold called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. There were 20 members and 1 guest and our RMFMS State Director, Lori Loomis, in attendance. Our guest was Vicke V.

Kelli asked if there was a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. Debbie motioned to approve and Jason seconded. The motion was passed.

Leslie reviewed the treasurer's report. Don motioned to approve the report and Alan seconded. The motion was passed.

Our meetings guest speaker, Frank Garcia, had to cancel joining us at the last minute, we were unable to get another speaker.

Old Business: Gem & Mineral Show- Street Banners are in and was displayed in the large gathering room.

Kelli informed members that we rented out all of the vendor spaces and that we now are starting a awaiting list. Display cases-currently we have 4 available. Silent Auction- please see Kelli to get a form if you wish to take part in the Auction.

T-Shirts- Don B showed the members the final t-shirt design and had sample t-shirts for sizing. There was a sign-up sheet for members to reserve t-shirts. Don is having sample shirts made now and should have them to show at the next meeting. Costs of the shirt should not be more than \$20 (2XL & 3XL will be \$2 more) If you want t-shirts please contact Don Bailey. T-Shirts are meant to be worn to identify us at events (show, field trips, meetings) but can be worn anytime you would like. Free advertising.

Field Trip- Jason informed members of the change in the staging location due to the possible traffic from the gun show. Staging place now at the Common Cents on rt 44 at 9:45am, leaving at 10am. Items to bring; lunch, sunscreen, hat, water, bucket, pick/tools and 1st aid kit. Rocks to look for Fairburn, jasper, bubble gum, prairie agates, petrified wood to name a few.

New Business: Received a request from Robbinsdale Elementary after school program to visit and give a one-day program on rocks. Myesa, Sean and Debra will be going to the school on May 1st to visit with about 30 kids, ages 5-12.

Website information- Leslie gave out some analytic highlights on the club's website for March. This is exciting since Mimi has been working hard to "fix" issues, update pages and keep up with all the field trips and show information we have been throwing at her. The site had 91% new visitors, 9% returning visitors. The top traffic sources (how are people getting to our website) Google search 52 sessions, Direct 50 sessions, Facebook 38 sessions and Southdakotarockhound.com with 16 sessions. 36 clicked on our membership information page! For the month of March, we had an increase in traffic by 23%. Nice work!

Loris L, RMFMS State Director, informed us of upcoming shows; Fairburn Agate and Rock Swap in Hermosa, June 7-9, and the 25th Annual Mineral, Gem & Rock Show in Cheyenne, WY, May 18-19.

Don B let everyone know about the Galena Ghost Walk on June 8th. The Galena Society hosts a historic walk and fundraiser every year with photos and interpreters around town will tell you stories of the gold and silver mining camp established in 1875. There are many original structures from the late 1800s to enjoy.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Thank you Leslie and Pete for the snacks and Jason for the Raffle items

April Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting brought to order at 5:20 PM.

Attendees:

President Kelli Wold

Vice President Pete Lysenko

Treasurer Leslie Lysenko

Secretary Debra Bailey

Retiring President Debbie Vick

Board Member Jason Hammer

Field Trip- Jason stated the field trip for 4/13 is still on, weather is good. Changing of staging location due to possible traffic with gun show. Now meeting at the Common Cents on rt 44 at 9:45am, leaving for Conata Basin at 10am.

Future Field Trips- May 11th Coral Beds lead by the Bailey's and June 15th Indian Creek, by Scenic led by Kelli. Will decide on July and August later

Gem & Mineral Show update-Leslie handed out list of vendors and up to date show balance sheet.

Banner finished and ready to show members this evening.

8 display cases rented, last 2 vendor spaces reserved (need contracts & money), we are starting a waiting list now.

Fluorescent light issue- light not working, Debra will reach out to Nate Fox at the school of Mines or Kayliegh Johnson and ask if they can help out.

Meeting adjourned 5:50 PM

April 7 Show Minutes

People attending: Debbie Vick, Leslie Lysenko, Pete Lysenko, Myesa Fixx, Kelli Wold and Debra Bailey

Meeting started at 3:14

Debbie handed out latest floor plan with 2 spots available. No more free spaces for non-profits that are not selling items. Originally there were 41 vendor spaces but since the cases were not moving as fast as the vendor spaces, we exchanged 4 of the display cases and turned them into 2 vendor spaces. So currently there is 43 vendor spaces, 41 reserved with 2 available.

For the Display Cases we have 7 reserved with 5 cases still available.

Leslie gave the secretary an up-to-date itemized show income & expense sheet.

Venue - Update on concession construction area. In progress but moving slowly. If concession area is not completed, we can get the food truck (Main St BBQ). We will make that call end of June or early July. We are permitted to put signs up on the walls and fence outside.

Banners- order is in!

Best of show plaque- Leslie will reach out to J&J

Fluorescent Display – Pete has the 10x10 pop up tent. Pete and Leslie will be picking up the black fabric to darken the tent. Black light info- Leslie gave Kelli a packet of information on different lights. Will need poster to explain the fluorescent rocks.

Advertisement- Kelli made up more flyers and will have them at the general meeting to hand out to members. Debra – has placed several more ads on events calendars online. Has emailed several touring companies and online vacation sites. Working on camps, has emailed several camps already.

Kids Corner- Myesa ordered items from Oriental Trading and showed the committee the bookmarks, pencils and other supplies. Pete will be picking up the sand for the sand box.

Program- Debbie has made a draft of the program and will email it to the committee to review.

Facebook- Myesa will put another post in for vendors and one for anyone interested in a case to display their collection.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30

Events for the upcoming months:

May 9th - Guest speaker Mammoth Site

May 11th - Field Trip TBD

June 13th – Guest speaker SD Historical Society – Rock hunting on public lands, etc.

July 11th – Guest speaker BH Paleontology Society

July 27-28th – WDGMS Show!

August 8th – Picnic/ post show potluck

President's message

Thank you to everyone that attended the April meeting. We had 1 new guest that night.

The speaker was not able to come that night. The gem and mineral show is almost sold out. If anyone is interested in a spot or knows someone, please contact Debbie Vick. There are cases left if anyone is interested in showing off their rock collection. Please contact Leslie Lysenko.

If you are interested in buying a WDG&MS tee shirt let Debra Bailey know.

The field trip was a great success. Thank you, Jason Hammer, for taking the large group out to the Conata rock beds. Please bring your rocks that you found to the next meeting.

Hope to see everyone at the May meeting!.

Kelli Wold
President

Field Trip to Conata Basin

We could not have asked for a better day to be out rock hounding! Clear skies and sunny. We staged at the Common Cents, people got last minute items from the convenience store or filled their tank with gas. We had an amazing turnout, twelve members and eight nonmembers! Jason did an amazing job leading the group and came prepared with sample rocks that the group should be looking for. Immediately after we arrive Alan stepped out of his vehicle, looked down and found a prairie agate. Sean found a nice imprint of a shell in jasper. There truly were rocks everywhere. No one was disappointed.

We stayed in the first location for a couple hours, had lunch and then moved about a quarter mile further down the road for more rock hunting. More rocks! Lots and lots of rocks! Everyone filled their buckets with gorgeous petrified wood, prairie agates, bubblegum agates, fossils, selenite and more. This was a very easy location to walk around, no hills and you drove right on to the location.

Thank you Jason for an awesome outing!

Tenacity

By Deborah 'Debbie' Vick

This unique mineral property is not very often mentioned. It is when the mineral is subjected to stress and how it reacts.

There are six different tenacity properties that a mineral may exhibit:

Brittle - This is when the mineral breaks or powders. This is what the majority of all minerals are. Examples include Quartz and Calcite

Sectile - This is when a mineral can be separated with a knife like wax. Gypsum and Argentite are examples.

Malleable - If a mineral can be hammered or pounded into thin sheets or flattened it is malleable. Silver, Gold and Copper are excellent examples.

Ductile - When a mineral can be drawn into a wire this is called ductile. Gold is an example.

Flexible - This is where a mineral can be bent but remains in the new position. Copper, Talc, and Molybdenite are examples.

Elastic - This is when thin layers can be bent then returned to their original shape. All fibrous minerals, some articular minerals, Muscovite, Biotite, Phlogopite, and Lepidolite Micas exhibit this property.

When using tenacity as an identification mark, the form is tested on its own. The mineral of questionable status should only be tested on one form except brittleness because such tests can damage the specimen. When testing for ductibility or malleability care should be taken because the only way to test is by pounding or stretching the mineral.

Testing for brittleness consists of scratching the mineral with a harder mineral or material to see if the mineral leaves a powder. This means the mineral is brittle. Word of caution do not scratch a noticeable surface as well as dirty, coated or tarnished areas.

When a specimen is suspected to be Sectile, insert a knife and see if it goes through. It can also be tested with a long fingernail inserted slowly into the mineral. If it goes

through then it is sectile.

Flexibility testing consists of putting slight pressure on the mineral to see if it bends. When checking for flexibility or elasticity, care should be taken when applying stress or the mineral may break. Do the test slowly and carefully.

Use this property along with others in identifying minerals and enjoy studying your newly acquired identified minerals. Hopefully by not damaging them too much.

References:

Iris Vanders & Paul F. Kerr. *Mineral Recognition*. John Wiley & Sons, New York. 1967. Pg 81

Edwards Salisbury Dana. *A Textbook of Mineralogy*. 4th edition. John Wiley & Sons. 1958. Pg 216

Dr. Kimberly Tait. *Gems & Minerals: Earth Treasures from the Royal Ontario Museum*. Firefly Books, New York. 2011. Pg 26

Minerals.net. *Mineral Properties: Tenacity*

Upcoming Area Shows

Most of this information was obtained from www.rockandmineralshows.com. Please check the website for other shows across the country and in Canada.

[Southern Colorado Rock & Mineral Show - NEW LOCATION - 05/03/2024](#)

Start Date: 05/03/2024

End Date: 05/05/2024

Hours: 10am - 6pm

Venue: Colorado Springs Convention Center

Address: 3960 Palmer Park Blvd

Colorado Springs Convention Center

Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Website: <http://www.socorockandmineralshow.com/>

[Body Mind Spirit Expo - 05/04/2024](#)

Start Date: 05/04/2024

End Date: 05/05/2024

Hours: Sat 10:00-7:00 Sun 10:00-6:00

Venue: The Ranch North Hall

Address: 5280 Arena Cr

The Ranch North Hall

Loveland, CO

Website: <https://www.bmse.net/>

[McPherson Gem & Mineral Show & Swap - 05/03/2024](#)

Start Date: 05/03/2024

End Date: 05/05/2024

Venue: 4-H Fairgrounds

Address: 710 W Woodside

4-H Fairgrounds

McPherson, KS 67460

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

[WY State Mineral & Gem Show - 05/30/2024](#)

Start Date: 05/30/2024

End Date: 06/01/2024

Venue: Park County Fairgrounds

Address: Heart Mountain Building

Park County Fairgrounds

Powell, WY

Website: <https://www.cody59ers.com/>

[Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club - 05/11/2024](#)

Start Date: 05/11/2024

End Date: 05/12/2024

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

Venue: Gallatin County Fairgrounds, Bldg #1

Address: 901 N Black

Gallatin County Fairgrounds, Bldg #1

Bozeman, MT 59715

Website: <http://bozemangemandmineralclub.com/>

[Butte Mineral and Gem Show - 05/18/2024](#)

Start Date: 05/18/2024

End Date: 05/19/2024

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

Venue: Butte Civic Center Main Arena

Address: 1340 Harrison Ave

Butte Civic Center Main Arena

Butte, MT 59701

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/ButteMineralandGemClub/>

[Mohave County Gemstoners Show - 05/04/2024](#)

Start Date: 05/04/2024

End Date: 05/05/2024

Hours: Sat 9:00-4:00 Sun 9:00-3:00

Venue: Mohave County Fairgrounds

Address: 2600 Fairgrounds Blvd

Mohave County Fairgrounds

Kingman, AZ

Website: <http://www.gemstoners.org/>

Minerals of Arizona - 05/10/2024

Start Date: 05/10/2024

End Date: 05/12/2024

Hours: 10:00 - 6:00 Daily

Venue: The Tucson Fine Mineral Gallery

Address: 465 W St Marys Rd

The Tucson Fine Mineral Gallery

Tucson, AZ 85701

Website: <https://tucsonfineminerals.com/>

Now for a lighter side of life as a Rock-hound

A Bit of Bling

An American lady entered a jewelry store and said, "You sold my husband a diamond ring yesterday, but it's the wrong size". "No problem, madam, we can adjust the finger size easily". "Oh, you don't understand, you sold him a 5-carat size, and I take a 10-carat size".

- From Lapidary Jokes for the Discerning Rock hound by Suzanne Day.