



# THE AMMONITE

Affiliated with RMFMS & AFMS

Next meeting:

**6:00 p.m.**

**October 10, 2024**

**Minneluzahn Senior Center**

**315 North 4<sup>th</sup> 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

### 2023-24 Officers

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

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

**CLUB Website:** [www.WDGMS.org](http://www.WDGMS.org)

**CLUB Facebook:** Western Dakota Gem and Society/groups

**CLUB Email:** [westdakota.rocks@gmail.com](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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**

## **September Minutes**

President Kelli Wold called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm. There were 27 members in attendance.

### **Old Business:**

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

Leslie reviewed the treasurer's report. Rob W motioned to approve the report and Rod W seconded. The motion was passed.

Debra explained that our planned guest speaker, Gareth Patton from Calumet Mine, cancelled. Kelli Wold will be our speaker and will discuss opals. Our Saturday field trip to Calumet was also cancelled. Gareth found poachers on his property stealing valuable rocks and did not feel this was a good time to take people around his property. Saturday's field trip is now to the French Creek Agate Bed, east of Fairburn.

### **New Business:**

October Elections – Secretary Debra Bailey explained next month we will be voting for new officers and a board member for the 2024-2025 club year. The Board reviewed in its last meeting prospective nominees. Debra explained that there will be a voting ballot, on the ballot there are three sections; one for Board Recommendation, one for Floor Nomination and one for Write-in. Board Recommendation is where the board has chosen a member for this position, with their approval. Floor nomination is when the members decide to add a member's name to the ballot and the write-in is when a member(s) choice to write-in a member's name of their choice. Officer positions for the 2024-2025 year: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, (1) Board of Director, Historian, and Librarian. (Per Club By-Laws, the office of Historian and Librarian may be separate or combined or committees for each may be elected) Another position needing to be filled but not part of board of directors: Field Trip Chair. Debra explained to the attending members the Boards' recommendations. President: incumbent Kelli Wold, Vice President: Pete Bergeron, Treasurer: incumbent Leslie Lysenko, Secretary: Melissa Cote, Board Member: Lori Bickford.

Scholarships – It was unanimously approved by the board to give a total of 6 scholarships. Five (5) \$500 scholarships to South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Willard Roberts Memorial Scholarship. (plus \$26 tax each, total \$130) One (1) \$500 to AFMS. Funds from Silent Auction only.

Treasurer's books need to be audited. They have not been audited in several years. It was asked if any on the members knew of an accountant or tax prep that would be interested in auditing our books. The books need to be audited by a non- club

member. Club will check with A-Z.

Change in Ammonite to reflect correct age of “children” to 16 for family. By-Laws state family membership is a married couple or parent with children under 16. Over 16 must become single member to remain in club. Ammonite states family with children under 18.

Kelli informed members that next year we will be voting on the position of the RMFMS Representative – More information on this in the coming months.

Examine display cases – decided to wait until spring to examine display cases for completeness or repairs.

Library Books –we will wait until the new Librarian can review books on what to keep.

WDGMS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – New Historian to review what little we have on history and look for more information, ask longtime members for information or memorabilia. Possible put information out every month about club history and use display case at show to display memorabilia.

Bank Accounts – The board unanimously approved of having two (2) separate accounts for the club. One account for general expenditures and deposits. The other for show expenses and vendor rental payments. Both accounts will have Square accounts; general account for memberships (nontax) and show account for silent auction (taxable).

T-Shirts – Don B asked about putting together a new order, possibly adding long sleeves with “WDGMS” down the sleeve. Don will have prices for next meeting.

50/50 - Don B talked briefly about the possibility about having 50/50 chances. Another option to bring in more money to the club.

Board unanimously approved of Debbie Vick as our Show Chair for the 2025 Gem and Mineral Show.

Board unanimously approved of holding the 2025 Gem and Mineral Show at Central States Fairgrounds, same building, Nerdy Nuts Expo Hall.

Admission to show – Increasing the admission fee from \$4 to \$5. Keli explained it makes making change easier additionally we had the fee at \$5 a few years back when the show was at the Ramkoda. Approved by attending club members.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Thank you, Debra and Don for Snacks.

Thank you, Leslie, Pete, and Jason, for the raffle donations.

## **September Board/Show Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order by Kelli at 5:37 pm

Attending meeting were Kelli W, Pete L, Leslie L, Debra B, Debbie V, Jason H, Rod W and Lori B.

Elections next month – Positions that will be open for the 2024-2025 year: Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, (1) Board of Director, Historian and Librarian. (Per Club By-Laws, the office of Historian and Librarian may be separate or combined or committees for each may be elected) Other position needing to be filled but not part of board members: Field Trip Chair. The Board will propose names for open positions and welcome nominations from general club membership.

Scholarships – Unanimously approved by the board to give a total of 6 scholarships. Five (5) \$500 scholarships to South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Willard Roberts Memorial Scholarship. (plus \$26 tax each, total \$130) One (1) \$500 to AFMS. Funds from Silent Auction only.

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RMFMS Representative – wishing more input from our current representative.

With an increase in membership after the show there may be a need to move meetings to a larger room. September meeting will still be in the current meeting room, see how that works. If we need to move to the larger room there will be an increase in monthly rental. Increase is to \$100.

Passwords, access and keys- what officer positions need access to sites.  
Unanimously approved by the board. President – club email, mailbox, website, FB, Bank, Trailer

Vice President – email, mailbox, website, FB, Bank, Trailer

Treasurer – Bank, online accounts, Mailbox

Secretary – Club email, mailbox, Website, FB

Social Media - FB, Website

Show Chair – Trailer

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Emmilie Grasslie as guest speaker, will look into.

T-Shirts – new order, ask members at general meeting if interested.

Show Points-

Board unanimously approved of Debbie Vick as our Show Chair for the 2025 Gem and Mineral Show.

Board unanimously approved of holding the 2025 Gem and Mineral Show at Central States Fairgrounds, same building, Nerdy Nuts Expo Hall.

Review vendor contract- both vendor letter and contract need to have wordage for DOR/responsible for sales tax (7.7%), not buying items from attendees per RCPD (possible stolen items), small donation to raffle, club not responsible for vendor items security, and no mass-produced items.

Members will pay entry fee if not volunteering at show.

Pre-sale tickets to enter event. Looking into cost through online.

No children under the age of 16 in the Silent Auction area. Help is appreciated but can get crazy busy moving sold items and replacing with new items to auction and securing items. Items are not property of club but of individuals, club members or not, and we need to insure their property.

Limiting “free spaces” to four (4) for public entities (museums, SDSMT, Mammoth Site)

Items to sell at the show with the club logo. T-shirts, bags, water bottles.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 pm.

**Remaining events for the rest of the year:**

October 10th election of officers, guest speaker – John Masterson  
October 12th Field Trip - The Mammoth Site  
November 14th meeting, guest speaker - Hell Creek Paleontological Society  
November 16th - Field trip TBD  
December 12th - Holiday Potluck  
No December Field trip

**President's message**

Thank you to everyone that attended the September meeting. We had several new guests that night.

The speaker was Kelli Wold on Opals from around the world.

We had quite a bit to go over with the upcoming elections. If you are interested in a position with the club, please let us know.

Let's keep the excitement going with all the new members.

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

Hope to see everyone at the October meeting.

**Treasurer Notes for October:**

Pursuant to Board action and member approval, a Show Account was opened and the show balance was transferred into that account. All show expenses and income will now go through that account. When our checks are received the approved scholarship amounts will be sent: \$2,630.00 (5 scholarships) to the Willard L. "Bill" Roberts Scholarship fund and \$500.00 to the American Federation of Mineral Societies scholarship fund. It feels really good to be able to help students who want to pursue geology, mineralogy, paleontology, archaeology, fossils, lapidary.

Membership– Thank you Larisa Bailey for offering to take the membership duties. Renewal date is coming up & you'll be hearing from her!

Library– *There are a total of 58 books & 7 CDs in the Club library. They fit in 3 storage boxes. I will continue bringing a selection to meetings. If anybody has ideas about the future of the library, please let me know.*

Ever wonder how much our club is influencing others, here is a letter from a very happy parent about the resources we have provided to the community.

Thanks to the members of the Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society for sharing your geology resources... they've come in handy! My daughter Corrine has signed up for a Girls in STEM fall/winter program and I'm happy to report that she's been LOVING it so far! This week they're working on a 'Geology 101: Understanding the Earth' project. (As a kid, I always loved learning about Pangea and how the earth changed over time...this project is fun for both of us hehe!)

The instructor asked the girls to put together a report explaining why geology and the study of the earth is so important to Earth Science. They will need to briefly discuss how plate tectonics work and the concept of geologic time, describe the rock cycle and understand how rocks and minerals are formed, and explain how the oceans, weather and climate all impact the earth. You listed some wonderful websites for us to check out! Thank so much! I'm not sure if you've seen it, but Corrine really enjoyed this Geology guide: <https://brite.co/education/earth-science-geology-andthe-formation-of-diamonds/>

It's a nice little overview that was perfect for their project. The glossary of geology terms was fantastic, as was the career information for student's interest in geology. (Sometimes it's hard to see the big picture of your career choice when you're a kid!) Corrine thought it might help other students who are new to geology and would like to explore it further. Do you mind adding it to your links page for us? I know Corrine would be delighted to share this with the rest of the Stemettes if you include it. Please get back to me when you have a chance.... The club meets Monday after school and I'd love to surprise her:)

Thanks again!

## **Upcoming Area Shows**

This information can be found at the [www.rockandmineralshows.com](http://www.rockandmineralshows.com). Please check the website current shows across the country and in Canada.

Because of the large space that is used just to list current shows it was voted by the board just to include the link to find a show in ANY state.



It is time to elect new officers and board members for the club. Here is the current ballot.  
 Please fill out and either send it in before the next meeting or bring it to October's meeting.

Feel free to nominate or write in someone else than listed.

WESTERN DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY  
 MEMBER BALLOT  
 October 10, 2024

Officer _____	Board Recommendation _____	Floor Nomination _____	Write-In _____
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Kelli Wold	_____	_____
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Pete Bergeron	_____	_____
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Melissa Cote	_____	_____
<b>TREASURER</b>	Leslie Lysenko	_____	_____
<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	Lori Bickford	_____	_____
<b>LIBRARIAN</b>		_____	_____
<b>HISTORIAN</b>		_____	_____
<b>FIELD TRIP CHAIR</b>		_____	_____