



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

This Months Funny:

You might be a Rockhound if:

You own more pieces of Quartz than underwear.

Your wife has ever had to ask you to move flats of rocks out of the tub so she could take a bath.

Work Doesn't give you time off to attend the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and you go anyway!



THE AMMONITE

Affiliated with RMFMS & AFMS

Next meeting:

Annual Christmas potluck and Gift exchange

6:00 p.m.

December 12, 2024

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	kelli@dakotastar.org
Vice President:	Vacant		
Secretary:	Melissa Russell	605 418-9001	melissatphoto@gmail.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	Lori Bickford	605 381-9143	bickfordlori020@gmail.com
Librarian:	Cole Burrington	605 924-4575	cole.burrington0575@gmail.com
Editor:	Debbie Vick	605 877-6957	dlvick@live.com
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Field Trip Chair:	Julie Lundin	605 391-1516	julielundin@hotmail.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 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

December Minutes

Kelli called the meeting to order at 6:11pm. There were 30 members and 1 guest attending. Kelli opened the meeting informing members this was a short meeting so we could begin enjoying our holiday potluck and party.

Kelli asked if there was a motion to approve November 14th's meeting minutes. Rob W motioned to approve and Debra seconded. Motion passed.

Leslie reviewed treasurer's report. Rob W motioned to approve and Julie L seconded. Motion passed.

Debbie V. informed the club members that we will start show committee meeting in January. Currently we have 13 paid vendors for our 2025 show.

Debra B informed the club that there is a sign up for t-shirts if you want one. We have short sleeve, long sleeve and hoodies with the club logo on back. Long sleeve and hoodies will have "WDGMS" going down one sleeve. Please see Debra if you want one. Order will go in soon but will not have for Christmas.

Don B explained the 50/50 raffle. This was a first for the club. 50% of the money goes to a lucky winner and the other 50% goes to the club as a form of a fundraiser.

A postcard was received from Myesa. If anyone would like to read it, please see the secretary.

Julie L motioned to adjourn meeting, Rob W seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:14pm.

President's message

Thank you to everyone that attended the Holiday Party (Rock BINGO). The food was wonderful, with lots of laughter and fun.

A reminder that we are needing volunteers for the Gem and Mineral show in July. The club will be celebrating **50 years**. Contact Debbie Vick with any questions about the show.

Can't believe the year is over. A special thank you all that helped make the club become very successful!

Let's make **2025** even better.

Treasurer Notes:

The Annual Report has been filed with the Secretary of State so we are in "Good Standing". All bills have been paid for 2024 and we start 2025 with a healthy balance.

The deposits right now are DUES which, thanks to the amazing booth at the Show last year, our membership balance is better than the last 10 years!

The show account is equally healthy.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

Welcome new members: PAMELA OWEN and DARREN & REBECCA HENDERSON.

Mickey Snook is home & always glad to receive phone calls from his rock club friends. P.S. his health is now really declining and cannot talk too much. Cards will be appreciated!

LeRoy Kropuenske hasn't been feeling too well. LeRoy is our Kids Area "superman"! He is a generous fountain of fun facts and stage props with never-ending energy and we sure wish him the best.

FIRST SHOW MEETING!!

The first show meeting of the year will be January 7, 2025 at 6 pm at Deborah Vick's place. We will be discussing a few basic and important topics. First will be the location of the remainder show meetings. Second and most important will be PUBLICITY! We need to start getting the word out there. Finally the delegation of tasks with the show committee.

We need volunteers! If interested please come. Contact Deborah at 605 877-6957 for more information and directions to her place.

*****URGENT NEWS*****

The club's Vice President has stepped down. We are needing a volunteer to fill that position. Anyone that is interested please contact Kelli at 605-381-6418.

Thanks, and I hope someone will consider the taking the Vice President position.

December's Holiday Potluck and Party was a success. Here are some photos of the festivities.



As editor I was given copies of some older issues of the Ammonite. I have been reading them and will be sharing articles and information from the club's past.

Since it is the Club's 50th Anniversary I found something very interesting to share from the June 2015 Ammonite.

This is back when Annette Rathert was the club's Historian. (THANK YOU ANNETTE!)

1985: Our Club had 58 members. The club case entered the RMFMS show and Guy G.s "Spheres" was judged "Best of Show" there. Kelli W. joined the club. We gave \$250.00 to the SDSM&T scholarship. Larry Costigan was a dealer. Hot Springs discontinued having annual shows. Jan B. joined in late 1984. Jan B. and Jan & Paul G. represented club at RMFMS.

1986: 62 Adults and 6 juniors. Art P. moved to hold the RMFMS show here in 1989, but 100% of members voted it down. Jan B. was editor, but no name on the newsletter. Bought mobile home for club house placed on Estes property. It needed a lot of work.

1987: 69 Adults. Bill Roberts died in his office at SDSM&T 12 days after his wife died. National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame was dedicated in Murdo on June 15 with June Zietner collection. Newsletter title: "Western Dakota Newsletter" - Editor Paul G.

1988: 60 Adults/4 juniors. On April 1st, Al Albrecht moved to rename the newsletter "**The Ammonite**" and Marina E. second it. First issue was in May and Jan B. - Editor. Tom W.s display was named "Best of Show" at our 8th annual show.

Might I add in **2015** Jan B. was seeking to replace herself as editor because of declining health.

List of upcoming events:

January Guest speaker: Debbie Vick on showcases and competing for all ages

January Field Trip: Paleontology Dept at the School of Mines

February Guest Speaker: John Masterson on agates

February Field Trip: TBD

March Guest Speaker: Tom Wooden

March Field Trip: TBD

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.

January/February is a time where Arizona is where to be for annual rock and mineral shows and sales. There is only one other show closer to home.

Mid-Winter Swap Gem & Mineral Show - 01/19/2025

Start Date: 01/19/2025

End Date: 01/19/2025

Hours: 11:00 - 5:00

Venue: Lincoln Firefighters Reception Hall

Address: 241 Victory Lane (off Sun Valley Blvd)

Lincoln Firefighters Reception Hall

Lincoln, NE -

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