



**WEDNESDAY, December 4, 2019 7:00 p.m.**

**General Meeting**  
**Baldini's Casino, Second Floor**  
**865 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks, NV**

**Officer Installation**  
**Awards**

**“WEDNESDAY, December 11, 2019 7:00 p.m.**

**RGMS Board Meeting**  
**480 S. Rock Blvd. Sparks, NV**  
**Open to members**

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### ***RGMS, INC. MISSION STATEMENT***

The **mission** of the **Reno Gem and Mineral Society** is to create, develop, and encourage interest in the Earth Sciences and to locate and identify various material through field trips. As a **501C<sub>3</sub>** corporation RGMS qualifies for donation write offs of cash and materials. Donation receipts are available at the society's headquarters.

A General Meeting, open to the public, is held the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at Baldini's Casino, Second Floor, 865 S. Rock Blvd, Sparks, NV. Board meetings are open to all members and are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at headquarters. Annual membership dues: student: \$25, Individual: \$35, and Family: \$50. Digital editions of the newsletter are free to members. A full copy is available by USPS for \$21 annually. A shortened version is also available via USPS for \$12.

# ***THE CONGLOMERATE***

## ***DECEMBER, 2019***

**THE NEWSLETTER OF**  
**THE RENO GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY**

### ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

***Tom Nichols***

Our December Member meeting will be brief. There will be no presentation. We will induct our new officers, review any outstanding business and adjourn. After the meeting, we will head off to The Rock Building (TRB) at 480 So Rock to set up for the RGMS Christmas Party. The Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 7 at 5 pm at The Rock Building.

At the end of the year, the President designates the member that in the President's opinion has been most instrumental in the success of RGMS. This designation is called the President's Award. The President's Award plaque resides in TRB. Frankly awarding the President's Award to any single volunteer is an impossible assignment. RGMS succeeds because of our volunteers, which comprise a large percentage of our membership. I am very proud of RGMS. THANK YOU to every volunteer.

I have selected two members for this year's President's Award. One member is **Steve Norman**. Steve has held many positions in RGMS and contributes in more ways than I even know. He is probably best known as our Secretary. Steve also heads our educational efforts with the schools, libraries and other organizations. Did you know Steve is probably Eric's main support with TRB improvements? Steve is a major contributor to our Website/Tech committee. Steve is also one of Dan Ellis' main assistants with the JPOG. Thank you, Steve.

The other equally important member I have selected for this year's President's Award is **Daniel Ellis**. Dan has headed the Jackpot of Gems (JPOG) show for several years and has committed to that position through 2022. A few *weeks* before our 2019 show, he was told the Livestock Center was being torn down and we would have to hold the JPOG at the Convention Center. Fortunately, the message was wrong and our 2019 JPOG show was one of our most successful shows ever. However, imagine the stress Dan must have felt at that moment? Handling the pressure, the attention to detail, and the time spent organizing this event are remarkable. Oh, and Dan also hosts our Monday open house at TRB. Thank you, Dan.

Steve and Dan are not alone in contributing to the success of RGMS. Every volunteer hour makes a difference. RGMS is YOUR society. RGMS is undergoing major growth in members and activities and needs YOUR continued talent and support to remain successful.

December marks the end of the year. The beginning of the new year is near. Your officer and board positions have been elected and will officially start in the new year.

Note that New Year's Day 2020 is a Wednesday. Instead, we will hold our first Member Meeting of 2020 at Baldini's Wednesday, **January 8** beginning at 7 pm.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

*Donna Durham, Membership Director*

November brought absolutely beautiful weather and a great group of new members. I am pleased to introduce the new Members to the Reno Gem and Mineral Society! They are:

**Yann Ling-Barnes;**

**McCutcheon/Sargenti family – Gary, Lana and Mikayla**

**Jeff Sheasley and Elle Arsedo**

**Dennis and Pat Phelps**

**Keith Morse**

**Doug and Barbara Drake**

**Rod and Julie Sanders**

**Margaret Martini.**

A very warm welcome to you all!

We have also started renewing memberships for 2020.

Thanks to you all who jumped right in and renewed! Membership dues are remaining the same as last year. The 2020 Membership application is attached to the newsletter. Please fill out a membership application even if you are a returning member and mail it and a check to the rock shop or save the postage and come by and see me at the meetings. Cash and Checks are accepted in person and you will get a great big smile in the bargain.

Thank you all for your friendship and continued support for the Reno Gem and Mineral Society! AND

Happy Holidays!

## RGMS LIBRARY REPORT

*Juliet Hitchcock, Library Director*

Our library is a beautiful selection of books and reference materials for your reading pleasure. We are always interested in donations to add to our library.

The library will be open by appointment only.

You may contact me to arrange a time to visit our library;

"

"

Due to all the robo calls coming to my cell phone, please text me, stating that you are a member of the RGMS so that I may return your call. Thank you!

## SUNSHINE

*Bobbi Metzger, Sunshine Director*

Dear members, We are the best! Great year of meetings, field trips and rock camaraderie! No news for Sunshine other than **Lori Connel** is the new Sunshine chair to communicate with members. A very happy holidays to all and see you at the Christmas party!

## NEW OFFICERS

*Steve Norman, Secretary*

These are the 2020 officers to be installed at the meeting:

### Officers

President: **Dean Sizemore**

Vice President: **Steve Smith**

Treasurer: **Robyn Howard**

Assistant Treasurer: **Virginia Keeley**

Secretary: **Steve Norman**

Assistant Secretary: **Bonnie Poertner**

### At Large Board Members:

**Larma Volk**

**Janet Steeper**

**Lori Connel**

**Maggie Harbec**

**Kyle VanBreemen**

**Steve Durham**

## USED EQUIPMENT SALE

*John Peterson, Sale Coordinator*

Our annual 'Used Equipment Sale' is scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 2020. If you have equipment, etc. you would like to donate, please let me know and I'll arrange to pick it up.

## OFFICERS' REPORTS

The Board minutes are posted on the bulletin board at headquarters monthly. Treasurer's reports are available to any member on request.

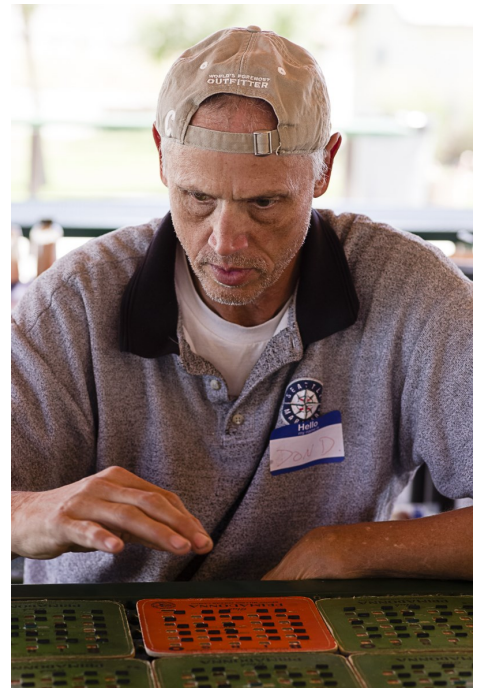
**Steve Norman**, Secretary; **Virginia Keeley**, Treas-

## HEADS UP

Because the first Wednesday of January is New Year's Day, the **January RGMS General Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, **January 8** at Baldini's, at 7 PM.



*PICNIC BINGO PHOTOS—A BIT DELAYED*  
*Photos by Barbara Days*



## MORGANITE—PALA CA

*D. W. Webb Varnum*



Marin.mineral.com

Morganite is pink beryl, and beryl is the mineral that emeralds and aquamarines are also made of. Its chemical composition is  $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18})$ , and it has a vitreous luster with translucent transparency. With a specific gravity of 2.71 -2.90, Morganite has a Mohs hardness of 7.5-8. Its crystal system is hexagonal. Its soft pink-violet color is due to the presence of manganese. Although it is normally faceted for use in jewelry, it can also be polished into cabochons. Pegmatites containing significant quantities of morganite are found in Connecticut, Maine, and Southern California in the US, and also in Brazil, South Africa, Afghanistan, and Western Australia. Recently morganite has become popular for engagement rings, in part because of its color, but also probably because it is a beautiful stone that costs about 1/10 the cost of a diamond.

Sources: Personal knowledge, Mindat.org, and WeddingWire.com

## EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

*Steve Norman*

Reno Gem and Mineral Society Education Outreach branched out into a new audience with an organization called OLLI which springs from the University of Nevada. Reno is one of 123 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes with Reno being one of the largest and most successful groups in the country. Society member **Lorrie Peterson** with assistance from **John Peterson**, and **Dale & Joanne Sworthout** in attendance. Lorrie presented on Nov 13 to about 40 OLLI members. She will also present to another group at the Redfield campus on November 21. Lorrie showed the most beautiful agates with the help of photography from Dale. I was sitting in the crowd and it was almost comical to hear the sighs from many of the enthralled spectators. Dale gave audience members an agate card photograph of some of Earth's most beautiful objects. Many questions from the audience were regarding where and how someone without a lot of knowledge can find some of these beautiful stones, and of course, the answer was by joining the Reno Gem and Mineral Society. I saw several people take information about the Society.

## HOLIDAY POTLUCK DECEMBER 7

*Denise Sizemore*

December is here! I hope you have marked your calendar to join us Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 5p.m. to 8 pm, for the 2019 RGMS Holiday Potluck, at 480 Rock Blvd. Come at 5 p.m. to mingle and make new friends, 6 p.m. start digging into some yummy food, and 7 p.m. dessert, gift exchange and special Holiday Door Prize.

If you haven't already, sign up at the meeting to bring your favorite side dish, salad, or dessert to share. RGMS provides main dish meats Ham and Turkey, coffee and water. Don't forget your table service of plate, utensils, and drink cup. There will be table stuff available if you forget, as I have in the past. A donation of \$1 to RGMS will supply paper plates and plastic tableware. BYOB please.

For the Gift Exchange, bring a wrapped gift, not to exceed \$10, labeled 'For Woman', 'For Man', 'For Child'. Have some fun with this!!!

Lastly, come join us after the December 4 General Meeting to decorate the Society Building. We always have fun with this. I will have more details at the meeting.

Remember many hands make light work, and many smiles make the Angels sing.

## JACKPOT OF GEMS 2020

*Daniel Ellis, Show Chair*

December is here and it is time to hunker down on these long cold nights with the hot cocoa close by. Please make it to our Christmas dinner on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to bring your own setting and your favorite drink. Come January, the Raffle Tickets will be for sale. The sign-up sheets will be there also. Please stop by and look them over so you can get the choice spot for your favorite job at our show.

Speaking of the show. The schedule is this:

Wed. April 1<sup>st</sup>, before the meeting we will **load the truck**. If you would like to show up a little early, the truck should be there by 5PM.

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> is **set up day** starting at 7AM. Bring your gloves so you keep your hands warm.

POT LUCK DINNER at 5 to 8 PM

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> is show day. 10AM to 5PM

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> show day 10AM to 4PM.

**THEN CLEAN UP & EAT THE REST OF THE FOOD.**

So please mark your 2020 calendar for **APRIL 3-4-5**. Till next year. Happy Holidays



## GARNET: A BEAUTIFUL SEMI-PRECIOUS GEM

D. W. Webb Varnum

Garnets come in many colors. The color and clarity of garnets often rivals that of emeralds and rubies, and in the past were often mistaken for those gems. The physical properties of garnets are fairly consistent throughout the various varieties. A garnet's hardness is between 6.5 and 8, and so it will polish very well and can be faceted to look like a precious gem although they are classified as semi-precious. Their crystal systems are isometric, their habit is rhombic, dodecahedron or cubic. Their cleavage is indistinct, their luster vitreous to resinous, and their streak is white. Garnets have a specific gravity ranging from 3.1 to 4.3. They are also slightly magnetic which can be used to separate them.

There are 6 major varieties of garnet and a dozen or so lesser types. **FIRST: Almandine**—its name in Latin means *Live Coal* and it is the most common type. As its name implies, it has a deep red color. It has also been called *carbuncle*. **SECOND: Grossu-**

Almandine  
Pinterest.comTsavorite  
Amazon.com

**lar**—this group has 2 sub-groups--

**Tsavorite**, a green garnet that looks like an emerald and that is named for the area of Kenya where it was first found Kenya

where it was first found, and **Hessonite** or *Cinnamon Stone*, a yellow to yellow-green garnet. Grossular garnet has the lowest specific gravity and hardness of all types and it is mostly found in metamorphosed contact zones of limestone.

**THIRD: Pyrope**—is red, like a ruby, and it is the type that in the past was often confused with ruby. Some rare pyrope garnets have a color-changing attribute similar to that of Alexandrite.



Pyrope

A pyrope sub group is called **Carbunculus** implying that it looks like a *piece of burning coal*. **FOURTH: Spessartite**—these garnets have a vibrant orange yellow color or a dark maroon to black. **FIFTH: Uvarovite**—this emerald green variety is found in the western US near serpentinite and chromite. **SIXTH: Andradite**—this form has three sub-



Demantoid

groups, yellow-green **Topazolite**, black **Melanite**, and vivid green **Demantoid**—probably the most valuable type of garnet.

Garnets all have similar chemical make-up  $(\text{SiO}_4)_3$ , with either  $\text{Al}_2$  or  $\text{Ca}_3$  in common:

Almandine  $\text{Fe}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$

Grossular  $\text{Ca}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$

Pyrope  $\text{Mg}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$

Spessartine  $\text{Mn}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$

Uvarovite  $\text{Ca}_3\text{Cr}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$

Andradite  $\text{Ca}_3\text{Fe}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$

Other species mainly cluster in three groups:

1. The Calcium group includes Goldmanite, Kimzeyite, Morpmotoite, and Schorlomite as well as Grossular, Uvarovite and Andradite.

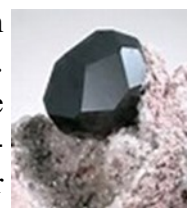
2. The Hydroxide group contains the Hydrogrossular garnets Hibsichte, and Katoite.

3. The Magnesium or Manganese group includes Knorringite (which does not form in nature), Majorite, and Calderite.

These varieties contain elements such as Vanadium, Hydroxide, Zirconium, Chromium, Yttrium, Manganese, Titanium, or Tin which are added to their similar chemical make-up and which determine their color and some of their physical properties. There are also lesser varieties including Henritermierite, Kerimasite, Menzerite, Monoite, Morimotoite, Schorlomite, Toturite that contain other elements..

In **Nevada** garnets can be found in many locations, some of them local.

The best-known location is outside Ely, Nevada at Garnet Hill. Almandine can be found there, and in lesser amounts dark maroon Spessartite.

Spessartite—  
Ely NV

These Almandine garnets polish well, but when faceted they tend to be dark black because of their high iron content. Most of these garnets are small, measuring  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and only a few are as large as 1 inch. They are usually found one to a vug (a hole in a rock where a crystal grows), but once in a while 2-4 occur in a vug. Some fossils can also be found at this location.

Continued next page

[Continued from p. 5]

Garnets can also be found in Nightingale, Nevada at the old Tungsten mine, mainly in the cut between the two large inclines on the west wall about 10 feet up the side. Some good specimens have also been found under ground, but **STAY OUT!** It is **VERY UNSAFE; I HAVE BEEN THERE!!!!** Another mineral that looks a lot like garnet is also found at Nightingale—



**Clinozoisite**. It is light brown with a hardness of 6.5. **Andradite** garnets can also be found there. I have a cluster 3 to 4 inches in diameter. Its color is light tan to dark red-black.



Andradite

East toward Lovelock there are some small green garnets on the north side of the road. A few very small valueless clear or yellow garnets can be found in the Copper Basin of Lander County; in in the Pilot Mountains of Mineral County, a mine called Garnet Mine also produced Tungsten, Molybdenum, and Zinc. There are other sites in Nevada, but I do not remember those others. You might find them in some of the rockhounding guides or in Mindat.org.

Sources: Mindat.org, Wikipedia, personal knowledge

Images: **D. W. Webb Varnum** unless otherwise identified

## *CFMS DIRECTORS MEETING* *VISALIA, CA* *NOVEMBER 9, 2019*

A quorum was established. Officers were present and most committee heads.

.....the March, 2019 meeting was approved.

There were no delinquent societies, but one, the Original California Searchers are disbanded.

A report was given on the 2019 CFMS Pomona show. 2020 will be in Lodi, CA hosted by CFMS June 26-28, 2018. Advanced registration forms are available with a deadline of June 1, 2020. I have Competitive Entry forms. The co-chairs are looking for volunteers and both **Sue Webb** and I volunteered for whatever was needed. The banquet will be Mexican and there will be a metal detector with prizes. **Frank Van Hecke** volunteered to send his 20 new exhibit cases to the show for those who wish to rent them. Heidi Hall agreed to pick them up and bring them. The 2021 show will be hosted by Antelope Valley in April, 2021.

The 2020 budget was approved.

The 2020 slate of Officers was presented and voted into office by acclamation.

CFMS has cab cases for North, Central and South that are available to bring to shows. The usual procedure is to contact the committee Director and request them. Then someone meets the director about half way to pick up the cases. These cases have a polish cabochon donated by each Society. **Ernie Kastenbein** polished our Wonderstone.

In 2020, **Sandy and Tony Fender** take over managing Camp Paradise and are talking about bringing in more crafts than has been standard.

**A new CFMS website is being prepared and is almost ready to be reviewed by the officers.**

Rules Committee, I am second chair and will be handling the registration in 2020 . A show of hands was asked regarding a judge's training seminar in Salt Lake City in April. A large number of competitive judges no longer travel to shows, which leaves the shows short.

**Lynn Bartland** reported on Paradise Gem and Mineral Society recovery after the fire. They are getting back on their feet and thank everyone for the money, equipment, storage and letters of concern. They are currently in need of a trailer to store their new equipment, a rock saw, a faceting machine, and some polishing machines. Their membership started with 25 after the fire and they are now over 60.

Opal Hill Mine reopened after it was reacquired by the family that claimed it for many years. The area has been thoroughly trashed by vandals. The family is steadily cleaning up the area and is offering the CFMS members a real deal at \$10/person access to the mine for what was called "real mining" rather than sifting through a tailing pile. This mine is close to Wylie Wells in Southern California. The mine had fire opal and across the road fire agate. I passed a business card on to **Eric Fendelander** of our society or you can email [eric@fendelander.com](mailto:eric@fendelander.com)

you are interested in contacting the family. There is a camp ground close to the mine.

CFMS has an agreement with the BLM to do trash clean up in the Wylie Wells area, so helping to clean up the mine may very well qualify. CFMS asks all society field trip leaders to notify the BLM offices that they will do a trash cleanup as a part of their field trips. The notification is an acknowledgment that CFMS is completing their end. Due to this agreement, the BLM in California will allow personal collectors into areas that were previously banned to all rock hounding, areas closed when Obama was president. Commercial collectors are still banned.

Respectfully Submitted by

**Jennifer Rhodes**, CFMS Representative for RGMS

## SCHOOL REPORT

Julie Hilsabeck, Director

If a class must be cancelled, each Instructor or Host will post a cancellation notice to the RGMS Facebook page. If you do not see a cancellation post, the class will be held as scheduled.

Want to take or teach a new class? Have any ideas or suggestions? "-"

or talk to her at the general meeting! All official information regarding scheduling and class details is published in *The Conglomerate*. Register and pay for classes at the general meeting. We accept cash or check made out to RGMS!

Children may register for classes only at the discretion of the teacher. Wear protective shoes or boots to work in the shop—NO open toe shoes, sandals or slippers. **Please Note: To register for classes you must either be a member or have \$1 million of liability insurance naming RGMS as the certificate holder. If you are not a member, unless you present a valid insurance certificate at registration, you must wait until the next general meeting after you join to register for classes. Your insurance is included in the membership fee.**

BE NICE! Each class using headquarters is responsible for leaving the premises clean and tidy. Any tools belonging to RGMS should be put away securely and headquarters locked.

**No classes in December!!**

## MONDAY OPEN HOUSE

Make your own projects! You must take at least 2 months of lapidary classes before you will be cleared to attend open house and must have your name on file as approved to work on your own in the shop. Speak to the lapidary instructors to be added to the list. Please be sure to follow shop safety rules. **At 8:45 please start clean-up so chaperones can go home.** Supervised by **Daniel Ellis**. Shop fee \$5/hour.

## BEADING AND STRINGING

Beading in 2020 may be offered quarterly on a **Saturday** morning. Next class (beaded bezel for cabochon) will be offered January 26. Class is taught by **Sue Webb**. \$2.50/hour payable at class or the meeting.

## CASTING

Casting is currently on hiatus until an experienced instructor is found. When offered and weather permitting, casting is taught in two classes held on Friday evenings. Classes enroll a maximum of 4-6 students. Sign ups will be taken at the general meeting when classes resume.

## LAPIDARY

Lapidary is limited to 4 new students, but a **daytime class** is now available. **For shop safety, an absolute limit of eight people may work in the shop at one time.** First time students **must** attend a one-time **shop safety seminar (11/12) on the Tuesday following the general meeting at 10:30 am or 6:30 pm.** Drop-ins are welcome on a first

come, first served basis. Registered and pre-paid students always take precedence over drop-ins. Materials for your first two projects are included in your class fee. Evening class taught by **Lloyd Raymond & Barbara Hartman, 7-9 pm**; daytime class taught by **Barbara Hartman and Julie Hilsabeck, 11am -1pm**, Tuesdays, \$5/hr.

## SILVER FABRICATION

In November **no beginning silver** fabrication classes are available, but advanced members may attend Thursday open house with Jill Atkins.. When offered, beginning classes are structured classes. The first two projects are specifically designed to teach you the fundamentals of silver fabrication (making jewelry). Therefore, you will not be able to do other projects until you complete the two projects. RGMS provides tools to use on your first two projects. There is a \$20-\$25 fee for the silver which we provide for the first project. Stones are not included; however, we do have some for sale. For these two projects, **only oval stones** will be used. Suggested size for the first project is 18 x 13mm, and 30 x 32 mm for the second project. The stone size does not have to be the exact size but should be very close. You can purchase silver from the instructors for the second project, or you can use our own. Upon completion of the two projects, if you wish to continue, you will need your own basic set of tools. **The tools that RGMS provides are for new students only.** Before purchasing any tools, talk with your instructors. Instructors: Jay Logue, Jill Atkins and Al Bolshazy. **Open House—no classes in December 6- 9 pm.** \$5 per hr.. No class 11/28.

## WIRE ART

Drop in to work with wire the second and fourth Monday. Classes vary by the month, so check at the general meeting to see what will be offered for April. Brass wire only and tools available to lend in class to new students. Taught by **Jennifer Rhodes** and **Sami Ellis**. 2nd and 4th Monday, . 7-9 PM \$2.50/hour (\$5/class), payable in class.

## MINERAL IDENTIFICATION

Must sign up. See Julie at the meeting.

## NO CLASSES IN DECEMBER!

**Lost Wax** coming in January 2020.

Potential for **Faceting** classes in 2020.

**Beading** will be eliminated unless January class attracts at least 4 students.





# DECEMBER 2019



Sun

Mon




Tue

Wed

Thu

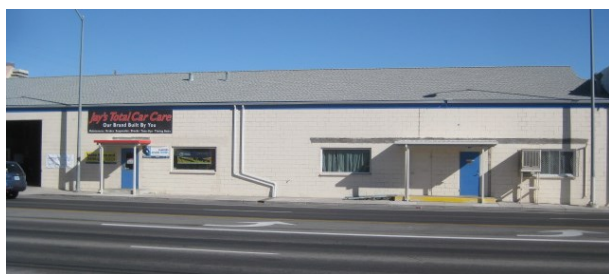
Fri

Sat

1		3	4 General Meeting 7 PM Baldini's Second Floor	5	6	7 RGMS Holiday Potluck 5-8 pm BYOB
8		10	11 Board Meeting 7 PM RGMS facility	12	13	14
15		17	18	19	20	21
22 Hanukah 	23	24 Christmas eve	25 Christmas Day 	26	27	28 -
29	30	31 New Year's Eve 				

## THE ROCK BUILDING, LLC

Linda Johnston, Manager



This is the building that is owned by The Reno Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. At the corner of Rock and Pittman in Sparks, our unit at 480 South Rock Blvd. has been headquarters to RGMS for over 30 years.

The Society was fortunate to purchase the building in November 2017. Since then, many renovations have been made. Although RGMS is now housed rent-free, the income from five other tenants has been paying for the improvements, and is now producing future funding for our Society.

Within RGMS headquarters, classes are held on many topics. Our Shop has lapidary and metal fabrication equipment and supplies. The multi-purpose room holds classes on a wide variety of arts and crafts. (See the School Calendar for upcoming classes.)

Headquarters also houses an extensive library and numerous related exhibits. Come to the 2019 holiday party and enjoy the warmth of our home.



## UPCOMING CFMS SHOWS

See additional information at [cfmsinc.org](http://cfmsinc.org).

## DECEMBER

**December 7 - 8: BARSTOW, CA**  
Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society  
Cora Harper Community Center  
841 S. Barstow Road

## JANUARY 2020

**January 18 - 19: EXETER, CA**  
Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia  
Exeter Veterans' Memorial Building  
324 N. Kaweah Avenue

## FEBRUARY 2020

**February 14 - 23: INDIO, CA**  
San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society  
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival

**February 22 - 23: VALLEJO, CA**  
Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society  
McCormack Hall, Solano County Fairground

**February 15 - 17: ANTIOCH, CA**  
Antioch Lapidary Club  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds  
1201 West 10th Street

## MARCH 2020

**March 6, 7 & 8: NEWARK, CA**  
Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley  
Newark Pavilion  
6430 Thornton Avenue

**March 7 - 8: VENTURA, CA**  
Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds  
10 West Harbor Blvd.

**March 13, 14 & 15: VICTORVILLE, CA**  
Victorville Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
44th Annual Rockhound Tailgate  
Stoddard Wells Road/Dale Evans Pkwy

**March 21 - 22: SAN JOSE, CA**  
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds  
344 Tully Road

**March 29 - 29: ANGELS CAMP, CA**  
Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society  
Calaveras County Fairgrounds  
101 Frogtown Road

**March 28- 29: ROSEVILLE, CA**  
Roseville Rock Rollers Gem & Mineral Society  
@the Grounds  
800 All American City Blvd

## APRIL 2020

**April 4 - 5: CHICO, CA**  
Paradise Gem & Mineral Society  
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds  
2357 Fair Street

**April 4 - 5: RENO, NV**  
Reno Gem & Mineral Society  
Reno Convention Center **new venue**  
4390 S. Virginia Street

**April 11 - 12: MARIPOSA, CA**  
Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club  
Mariposa County Fairgrounds  
5007 Fairgrounds Road

**April 25 - 26: LANCASTER, CA**  
Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds  
2551 West Avenue H

## JUNE 2020

**June 1 - 2: CAMBRIA, CA**  
San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club  
Cambria Veterans Hall  
1000 Main Street

## June 25-28

**81<sup>st</sup> CFMS SHOW and CONVENTION**  
**Grape Festival Fairgrounds**

**Lodi, California**

**Hosted by the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies**

## BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

*Steve Norman, Secretary*

Board meeting report: November 13, 2019. **Steve Norman**, Secretary. This is a brief summary; my full report can be viewed on the bulletin board at TRB or contact me for information.

President **Tom Nichols** led the discussion on the budget for next year. Money is allocated this year and next year for Website redesign into laptop and cell phone format. A procedure is being worked out to get the Website current and kept up to date.

Membership: Director **Donna Durham** announced 8 memberships: **Rod and Julie Sanders**; **Doug and Barbara Drake**; and **Gary, Lana, and Mikayla and Sargenti McCutchen/Sargent** from Reno, **Dennis and Pat Phelps**; **Jeff Shemsley and Elle Arsed**; **Yann Ling-Barnes** from Sparks, **Keith Morse** from Sun Valley, and **Margaret Martini** from Incline Village. Memberships were approved. Welcome to RGMS!

**Sue Webb** Conglomerate Editor, needs articles or pictures sent to [rgms.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.bulletin@gmail.com). She has an assistant, **Logan Alexander** and you may contact him at: [LOGANCALEXANDER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LOGANCALEXANDER@GMAIL.COM).

**Renée Samuels** Volunteer Director has the following positions in need of a volunteer: **Public Relations Director**, **Display Case director**, and **Dealer Chairman, Beginning Silversmithing**, and **Photographer**. T-shirts for volunteers are being designed in time for the Jackpot of Gems Show in April 2020.

**Denise Sizemore** discussed the annual Christmas Potluck scheduled for Saturday, December 7, starting at 6 PM. This is at the Rock Building facility. See Denise at the next General Meeting to sign up.

**Julie Hilsabeck**, School Director announced a busy class schedule. See Conglomerate calendar for details.

Field Trip Director **Rob Kendrick** reported the field trip to Monte Cristo had good attendance, and all found lots of good specimens.

**Dan Ellis** Show Director, explained progress on the next Jackpot of Gems on the first weekend in April. If you can help, come to the next Show Meeting at 6PM on Dec.2. **Eric Fendelander** was told an ore bucket that can hold 5 people has been donated. To donate anything, call him at: 303-725-3040.

Board approved two outstanding members for life memberships. They are **Barbara Hartman** and **Jim Welker**. Their nomination will be voted on in December.

The next General Meeting is December 4, 2019 at **Baldini's**. We will have a busy night of swearing in officers, society business and setting-up the Rock Building for the holiday party on Dec 7