



THE CONGLOMERATE

MARCH, 2020

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE RENO GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dean Sizemore

Happy March, hard to believe we are already starting our third month of 2020. Time does fly. We as an organization have had a busy few months preparing for the Jackpot of Gems coming in April. **Dan Ellis** is truly one of the hardest working people I know, and I can't wait to see the show at its new location. Dan and his team have gathered some beautiful items for the raffle, so make sure to get your tickets at the March and April meetings.

Tom Nichols and **Logan Alexander** along with the rest of the Tech Committee are getting close on the website, the time and energy spent has been tremendous and it will show when the site is up. I want to thank **Dave Terwilliger** who developed and has kept our old site running. As we've gone through meetings to get the new one running, I have developed a great admiration for the work he has done. Once the new site is up, it will be a fluid and ongoing project; many hands will be needed to keep everything on track and updated. To start, it will be a basic site and evolve from there as we continue to add content.

The weather is warming which can only mean one thing: field trips! I can't wait to start. **Rob Kendrick** and his team led us on amazing trips last year, and this year sounds just as amazing. Members have already been out on their own excursions and have found some great items they've been sharing. A group of us are heading to Arizona the last week of February to look for Fire Agate and other treasures and we look forward to sharing our finds at the March meeting. Please don't forget to join our Facebook group and share your finds and projects.

There are still very important positions that we need filled. Please consider volunteering; whether as a leader or an assistant, we need you! It doesn't matter if you've ever done something like this; if it interests you at all please speak with **Renée Samuels**, our Volunteer Coordinator and she will help you out. As I typed Renée's name I thought about how much work she puts in and how good she is at her position. I could say that about all of the individuals that lead here; they put in more hours than you can probably imagine, which is why you stepping out of your comfort zone or just stepping forward is so important. We need members as Assistants to lighten the load our current volunteers have. I promise you this right now: you will not regret volunteering. We have a great group of passionate leaders who work hard and have fun.

Continued, p. 2

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 7:00 pm
General Meeting
Baldini's Casino, Second Floor

Neal Cobb
"The Comstock"

"WEDNESDAY, March 11, 2020 7:00 p.m.
RGMS Board Meeting
480 S. Rock Blvd. Sparks, NV
Open to members

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 2 Pres. Msg continued, Lib. Rpt, Off. Rpt,
Subscrip. Info, Membership, Sunshine, Used Equip Sale

Page 3 Program, JPoG, Potluck, Field Trip, Ed.
Outreach

Page 4 .Board Rept, Min. of Month

Page 5 .School Report

Page 6 Calendar,

Page 7 Shows

Page 8 Fallon Range Update

Page 9 Register Off Road Vehicles

Page 10 Officers & Committees

Unnumbered:

Membership Application

Exhibit Application

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(3)** 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 usually 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.

Pres. Message, Cont. from p. 1

I have enjoyed my first 2 months as President. The staff is very supportive, and I thank all of them and the Past Presidents for their guidance. I wish everyone a great March and look forward to seeing you at the Meeting on the 4th.

SUNSHINE

Lori Connel, Sunshine Director

RGMS members- For the most part, the rain and snow didn't happen for the Reno and Sparks area. I guess that could be good and bad for us rock hounders. The time is sure flying and we'll be out combing the deserts and mountains very soon if not now. I would like to ask all of you to keep your prayers and good thoughts for several of our members facing some minor and significant health issues. **Bobbie White** is still recovering from hip damage. **Pete Rivera** is recovering from some major hip issues. **Sue Webb** is recovering from surgery, her recuperation is coming along and she thanks everyone for the good wishes and concern. **Sam Macaluso** continues on his challenging road ahead. He is hopeful things are going to improve. He could use all of our digital hugs and prayers as he goes down this difficult road. I'm happy to report that **Dave Terwilliger** is back from Denver and has completely recovered. **Pat Siefert** is home from the hospital and recovering.

I would like to end with a quote from C.S. Lewis.

"Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another, "What! You too? I thought I was the only one."

The commonality of the life challenges we share, assure us that we are not alone in the world. Value your friendship and try to show it each day by talking to at least one friend each day about how much you value your relationship.

P.S. My phone number is and my email is:

Let's continue to Rock this Society!

USED EQUIPMENT SALE

John Peterson, Sale Coordinator

Our annual 'Used Equipment Sale' will be held at the Rock Building (480 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks) on Saturday, March 21, 2020, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you have material (equipment, gems, minerals, etc.) you want to sell, I will have the doors open at 8 a.m. on March 21. The material you bring to sell should be related to our hobbies (lapidary, beading, wire wrap, silversmithing, etc.). Some items will be sold by silent auction which will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sellers, this is one of our annual fund raising events and we hope you'll donate 10% of your sales to RGMS.

If you have material you want to donate, please let me know and I'll arrange to pick it up.

If you're not selling --- bring \$\$\$ so you can buy !!

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; either call my cell: or email

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!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Donna Durham, Membership Director

The new members for February are a great Valentine's day gift for the Reno Gem and Mineral Society! I would like to extend my warmest welcome to **Roger Conn, Starry Bush-Rhoads, Candice Gray, Thomas Kruse, Ray Haag, Chris Henry, Martha Johns, Summer Kaufman, Wade Lavery, Rebecca Matson, Deke and Lindsey McBride and children Mia Carlton and Dexter McBride, Ken Ray, Douglas Swanson, Victoria "Ria" White and Ana and Thomas John.**

A great big Reno Welcome to you all!

Membership renewal is going great guns! If you have not had the chance to renew yet it is really easy! Just fill out the membership application attached and mail it with a check to the rock shop or make it easier still and save the postage by coming by to see me at the meeting. Cash, Checks and Charge cards are now accepted in person and truth be told, I just love meeting you all!

Thanks to our outstanding group of members for your friendship and continued support for the Reno Gem and Mineral Society!

CONGLOMERATE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2020

Digital edition: no charge to members

Shortened edition by USPS: \$1 per copy or \$12 annually, in advance

Full edition by USPS: \$1.75/ copy or \$21 annually, in advance

Full edition copies at the meeting: \$2 except to guests. Free to guests.

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; **Robyn Howard**, Treasurer

MARCH 4TH 2020 GENERAL MEETING:
THE COMSTOCK

Steven Smith, VP

Please join us as we welcome **Neal Cobb**, local historian, who will present "The Comstock." Neal will talk about Virginia City and surrounding area with the special designation of Historic District. He will share photos of the inside and outside of historic buildings, celebrations, parades, art and drilling contests and more.

2020 JACKPOT OF GEMS
POTLUCK

Denise Sizemore, Social Director

Can you believe it??? We are already heading into the 3rd month of 2020! WOW!!!!

Come on over and join us for some good food, good friends and good laughs.

Mark your calendars:

April 1st 5 P.M. *RGMS Load Truck/Setup Building*

April 1st 5 P.M. *Bring your yummys for Potluck*

April 3rd, 6 P.M. *JPOG Potluck @ RGMS Building*

and don't forget....

April 5th, 6 P.M. *JPOG Leftover Feast @ RGMS Building*

Signup sheets for hors d'oeuvres, Salad/Side Dish, Main Dish, or Dessert will be available at General Meeting, the RGMS Building, or send me an email, Please let me know, if possible, what you will be bringing, so I can fill in any holes.

Don't forget to bring your table setting, and beverage. If you do there will be disposable plates and utensils for a \$1 donation.

Thank you and see ya there!!!

EDUCATION OUTREACH

Submitted by Steve Norman

Reno Gem and Mineral Society Education Outreach was busy in January and February. The team has visited five schools and 17 classrooms explaining the World of Minerals to 406 Washoe Country students. The team consisting of **Sven Sanders**, **Rachel Carrol**, and **Steve Norman** went to Anderson, Westergard, Huffaker, Spanish Springs and Mt. Rose Elementary Schools. Sven taught the children about the many ways quartz is used in our modern world and has some great rhyolite samples for the student to observe. Rachel showed the children many fossils including shark teeth and a megalodon adult tooth which is huge. Steve Norman provides information on common minerals used in homes and schools. Each child receives a gift, so if anyone has some material that is colorful or materials that can be tumbled as a donation, I have my tumbler running.

MARCH FIELD TRIP REPORT

Rob Kendrick Field Trip Director.

As spring approaches, so does our anticipation of field-trip season build. I would like to announce our first overnight trip for 2020 is to Gabbs. This trip is planned for May 15-17. More information and directions to the campsite will be available in the May *Conglomerate*.

As with any of our field trips, weather can play a big part in them. Trips have been cancelled in the past due to weather; therefore, if the weather looks bad and the trip needs to be cancelled, we will post on Facebook and send an email blast, and hopefully be able to post on our new, upcoming website!

Trips scheduled to date:

April 18 Wonderstone Mtn. (day trip)

May 15-17 Gabbs

June 6 Lovelock (day trip)

August 14-16 Black Rock

I have also been in contact with the Otteson turquoise mine in Tonopah NV about a group tour to the mine and I am still working on a date for this trip. The cost is \$150 per person or \$250 per couple for a 1/2 day.

Look for information for the Wonderstone Mountain trip in next month's *Conglomerate*. If you have any questions or trips you would like to see (or lead) you can reach me at our new Field Trip gmail account:

JACKPOT OF GEMS 2020

Daniel Ellis, Show Director

Hello everyone. Would you believe 33 days till the show?

Yes. March has 31. On April 1st at 5PM we will be loading our truck for the weekend show 2 days later.

As you know by now, the volunteer committee is giving a t-shirt to all of the volunteers who work at the show this year. So make sure that on the sign up sheet you put your size down, please. We will give you your shirt when you come and check in with us at the show.

Raffle tickets and sign-up sheets will be at the general meetings. Please stop by and do both at the same time.

The date is April 1st at 5PM to load the truck and set up the Rock Building for the Pot Luck on Friday at 6PM.

Friday, April 3rd at 7AM is the set up at the Reno Convention Center.

April 4th and 5th is show time. 10AM to 5PM.

Then we take it all down till next year.

Contact Julie Hilsabeck to schedule **ALL USES** of the Rock Building. She manages the schedule to avoid scheduling conflicts such as we had in January. Julie can be reached at _____

FEBRUARY BOARD REPORT*Steve Norman, Secretary*

Board meeting report: February 12, 2020.

Steve Norman, Secretary. This is a brief summary; my full report can be viewed on the bulletin board at the Society's facility or contact me for information.

President **Dean Sizemore** appointed an Audit Committee to review the financial records from last year.

Calendar reminder: Equipment Sale at The Rock Building on March 21, 2020 from 10 AM till 2 PM.

Membership: **Donna Durham** announced 14 new memberships: **Roger Conn, Starry Bush-Rhoades, Ray Haag, Chris Henry, Summer Kaufman, Dexter McBride & family—Deke, Lindsey & Mia Carlton, and Ana & Thomas John, from Reno, NV. Kruse Gray of Silver City, NV, Martha Johns, Wade Lavery, Rebecca Matson & Douglas Swanson of Sparks, NV; Ken Ray from Incline Village, NV, and Victoria "Ria" White of Carson City, NV.** Memberships were approved. Welcome to the Reno Gem and Mineral Society!

Volunteer Director **Renée Samuels** request reporting volunteer hours to her. The Society has positions opened. Display Case organizer for the Show in April, Dealer Chairman for next year 2021, Beginning Silversmithing instructor and also, Librarian, Historian, and Facebook facilitator.

Steve Norman reports presentations at five schools last month and three scheduled schools later on this month as part of the Society's education outreach.

Social Director **Denise Sizemore** reports next event will be the Jackpot of Gems potluck where show vendors and volunteers get together for some good food and fun. Everyone is invited for some great food and fun. The potluck will be Friday, April 3 starting at 5:30 with dinner at about 6 PM.

Shop Director **Chuck Jackson** reports two new lapidary machines on order that will be delivered soon. Chuck also has contracted a good deal for saw oil.

School Director **Julie Hilsabeck**, announced full classes of lapidary and silver fabrication. See Conglomerate calendar for details.

Dan Ellis Show Director, has volunteer sign-up sheets with many ways to help out. It is a great way to meet people, have fun and help out the Society. There is a free t-shirt to thank you for your service. Truck will load April 1 at 5 PM before the General Meeting. Show set-up is Friday, April 3 starting at 7 AM.

Past President **Nichols** discussed the website which is scheduled to launch in late February or early March.

President **Sizemore** introduced **Michael Price** from the Metal Detecting Club. Mr. Price explained the Rye Patch Nugget Shoot-Out and how we may be able to help them with the event.

The next General Meeting will be Wednesday March 4, 2020 at Baldini's Sport Casino on the second floor in the Sierra Room at 7 PM. The program will be **Neil Cobb** a historian, explaining the glory days of mining in Virginia City.

A MEMBER OF CFMS AND AFMS

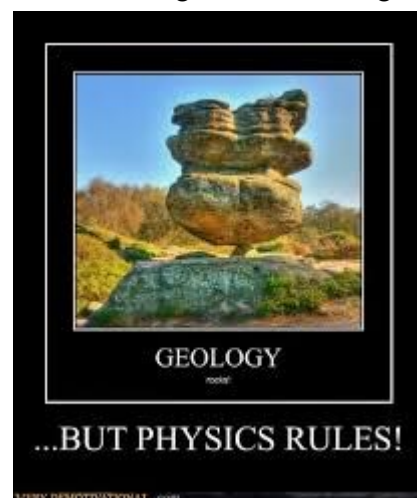
MINERAL OF THE MONTHRED QUARTZ*Webb Varnum*

Red Quartz (SiO_2) is crystallogically the same as regular quartz, but a thin layer of hematite near the surface causes the red color. Sometimes it is iridescent. Depending upon the impurities included, quartz can come in many colors:

violet produces Amethyst, orange results in citrine, and rock crystal lacks impurities and is clear. Varieties also produce pink, green, brown, and black crystals. Two varieties are macrocrystalline which produces large crystals, and cryptocrystalline varieties of quartz which produce agates and jaspers in all colors of the rainbow. Further, turquoise is a silicate with 5 or 6 water atoms in the molecule.

With a vitreous luster, quartz has a hardness of 7 on the Mohs scale, and a specific gravity of 2.65-2.66. Its crystal system is trigonal. Quartz in its many varieties has been valued for over two thousand years. It is abundant in all forms of rock—igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary. Industrial uses include providing silicon for glassmaking, frequency standards, and optical instruments. It is a silica source for concrete setting, and when constituted as sand, acts as filtering agents. Quartz is a major component of sand..

Sources: personal knowledge and Mindat.org.



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? E-mail **Julie Hilsabeck**.

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.

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**. 6-9 PM Shop fee \$5/hour.

BEADING AND BEAD WEAVING

Must sign up. Beading in 2020 may be offered quarterly on a **Saturday** from 10-2. Next class will be offered in April. 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.

KNOTTING AND STRINGING

Learn to string natural stones and beads beading wire, use silk for knotting pearls and craft wire for wire linking as well as stretchy for bracelets. The different tools involved in each project as well as different gauges of craft wire will be explained. You will be supplied with all you need to make bracelets. \$20.00 material fee. First and third Mondays, 7-9 PM. \$5 course fee. Taught by **Laura Jackson**

LAPIDARY

Must sign up. 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

Must sign up. 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.**

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, 6-8 PM \$2.50/hour (\$5/class), payable in class.

March.	Bangle Bracelet with decorative Wrap
April	Cage that Opens
May.	Standard Cab Technique incorporating wire weaving in decoration
June	Basket weave Technique

Continued, page 6



MARCH 2020



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2 House 6-9 PM	3	4 General Meeting 7 PM Baldini's Second Floor	5 Silver Fabrica- tion 6-9pm	6	7 Lost Wax 9-4
8 Lost Wax 9-4	9 Open House 6-9 PM Wire Art 6-8 PM	10 Lapidary 10am-1pm 10:30 Safety 7pm-9pm 6:30 Safety	11 Board Meeting 7 PM RGMS facility	12 6-9pm	13	14 Lost Wax 9-4
15 Lost Wax 9-4	16 Open House 6-9 PM Knotting & Stringing 6-9 pm	17 Lapidary 10am-1pm 7pm-9pm	18	19 Silver Fabrica- tion 6-9pm	20	21 Lost Wax 9-4
22 Lost Wax 9-4	23 Open House 6-9 PM Wire Art 6-8 PM	24 Lapidary 10am-1pm 7pm-9pm	25	26 Silver Fabrica- tion 6-9pm	27	28 Lost Wax 9-4
29	30	31 Lapidary 10am-1pm 7pm-9pm	4/1 Load the Truck 5 PM	4/2	4/3 JPOG POTLUCK 6 pm	4/4 JPOG

- July. Incorporating two Freeform cabs in a Standard Cab Variation
- August. Floating Stone Technique (can be cab ochon or faceted gem)
- September Overlapping Wraps
- October Standard Cab Variation using Beads
- November Christmas Ornament

MINERAL IDENTIFICATION

Must sign up. See Julie at the meeting. 3rd and 4th Wed. in April and October. For a small fee, identification kits are available for purchase ahead of the class.

LOST WAX CARVING

Next class will be on March 8 Cost is \$50/month
Please note this class is on Saturdays and Sundays!
Bring your lunch and beverages.

OTHER

Potential for faceting classes, enameling, and precious metal clay if there is enough interest. Speak to Julie at the General Meeting if you are interested.



Contact Julie Hilsabeck to schedule **ALL USES** of the Rock Building. She manages the schedule to avoid scheduling conflicts such as we had in January. Julie can be reached at [or](#)

UPCOMING CFMS SHOWS

See additional information at cfmsinc.org.

MARCH

March 6-8; Newark, CA

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavilion
6430 Thornton Ave

March 7-8; Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds

March 13-15; Victorville, CA

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
Stoddard Wells Rd/Dale Evans Pkwy

March 14-15; Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds
900 N Broadway

March 21; Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
123 W Alvarado Street

March 21-22; SAN JOSE, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Road

March 28-29; Angels Camp, CA

Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
101 Frogtown Rd

March 28-29; Roseville, CA Update

Roseville Rock Rollers

@the Grounds

700 Event Center Drive

March 28-29; Torrance, CA

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society
Ken Miller Recreational Center
3341 Torrance Blvd

APRIL

April 3, 4, 5; Vista, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
2040 N Santa Fe Ave

April 4-5; Chico, CA

Paradise Gem & Mineral Club
Silver Dollar Fair Grounds
2357 Fair Street

April 4-5; Reno, NV

The Reno Gem & Mineral Society, Inc
Reno Convention Center
4390 S Virginia St.

April 11 - 12; MARIPOSA, CA

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5007 Fairgrounds Road

April 18-19; Paso Robles, CA

Santa Lucia Rockhounds
Paso Robles Event Center
2198 Riverside Ave.

April 25-26; Arcadia, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society
Arcadia Masonic Center
50 W Duarte Rd

April 25-26; Lancaster, CA

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Avenue H

MAY

May 1-3; Yucaipa, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Yucaipa Blvd and Adams Street

May 2-3; Jackson, CA

Amador County Gem & Mineral Society
Kennedy Mine
Off Hwy 49-88, 12594 Kennedy Mine Rd

JUNE

June 23-28; Lodi, CA

81 st CFMS Show & Convention

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Grape Festival Fairgrounds
413 E Lockeford Street

June 27-28; Culver City, CA

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Veterans Memorial Auditorium
4117 Overland Ave

AUGUST TO NOVEMBER

August 15-16; Tehachapi, CA

Tehachapi Valley Gem and Mineral Society
500 East "F" Street

September 12-13; Arroyo Grande, CA

San Luis Obispo Gem and Mineral Club
South County Regional Center
800 West Branch Street

September 26-27; Lancaster, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Ave H

September 26-27 th ; Lodi, CA

Stockton Lapidary And Mineral Club
Earth Treasures Gems Minerals, & Jewelry Show
Lodi Grape Festival Grounds
413 E Lockeford St

October 10-11; Trona, CA

Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Society
13337 Main Street

October 11; Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
123 W Alvarado St

October 16-18; Knoxville TN

AFMS and SFMS Show & Convention

Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society
TBA

October 31-Nov 1; Sacramento, CA

Sacramento Mineral Society
6151 H Street

November 14-15; Yuba City, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
442 Franklin Hall

NAS FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Summary by Al Bolshazy, RGMS ALAA representative

On January 26, 2020, the representatives from NAS Fallon presented their final environmental impact study (EIS) to a crowd of over 200 people. Capt. Evan Morrison is the Commanding Officer of NAS Fallon. Alex Stone is the EIS program manager of the US Pacific Fleet. I want to provide one website that has all the detailed information about the expansion of NAS Fallon: [.](#)

I will give you an overview of the meeting and keep it as brief as possible. I know a lot of this will not make sense but if you go to the above website it will give you a clearer understanding of this gigantic land grab. If I were to go into much more detail, this summary would be hundreds of pages long. The initial environmental impact study was composed of two volumes comprising approximately 3000 pages. Now, they have reduced it down to a pamphlet of 30 pages.

There were approximately a dozen representatives, each standing by various pictures and maps of the areas the Navy wants which totals over 600,000 plus acres. Each representative could talk only about their specific map or pictures, and it seemed as if they had a “canned” speech about their area. They were very nice but very unresponsive to questions outside of their specific area.

Mr. Stone was the main speaker. He talked as though Congress has already approved their request. He talked about how the government intends to close off all of these areas to the public. (From Dixie Valley to a couple miles north of Gabbs, Nevada); how they intend to close off areas to the Native Americans’ sacred sites. Oh yes, he did say they would escort the Native Americans to their sites once a year for a few hours. In my opinion, this is outrageous! What about our treaties with Native Americans giving them access to their native lands?

He talked about how they responded to our concerns and made some adjustments to one of the major areas (B 16). This is the area that extends down towards Gabbs Nevada. He then went on to talk about the 15 areas of potential environmental impact mitigation.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Geological resources | 2. Land use |
| 3. Mining and mineral resources | 4. Livestock grazing |
| 5. Transportation | 6. Airspace |
| 7. Noise | 8. Air quality |
| 9. Water resources | 10. Biological resources |
| 11. Cultural resources | 12. Recreation |
| 13. Social economics | 14. Public health |
| 15. Environmental justice | |

While listening to Mr. Stone talk about each one of these areas of mitigation, my understanding of his overall answer was “We’re Gonna”! “We’re Gonna” find an answer to that problem later. When talking about noise mitigation one resident of Gabbs, NV said, “they fly over my house so close I can see their faces. Just think, if they do that now what will it be like when they’re just a couple miles from my home?”

When asked questions by the audience, the answer was “We’re Gonna” work on that but we don’t know how yet. I got the distinct feeling that once approved by Congress the solution will just go away. To me it felt like there was very little effort made to find the proper solutions to questions on mitigation issues as the answer was “We’re Gonna”.

Closing off thousands of acres to not only our Nevada citizens, but also those from every other State who visit Nevada. This area is popular for recreation, off road vehicle activities, collecting minerals found nowhere else in the world,, camping, hunting, etc. Also the area is important when looking for essential minerals for our national security as this is a highly mineralized area.

Of the 15 areas of mitigation, I heard no solution to the problems, just “We’re Gonna”. To find an answer and have a positive solution is something that should be done before any approval is given by Congress. I doubt we will hear anything more about solutions once this is approved by Congress!

There is another solution to this land grab. Why can't the Navy cooperate with the Air Force and use their 2.2 million acres of military training area and share this training range? The Navy would keep what they have now saving millions and millions of dollars from the taxpayers to convert the land to a training area. That was suggested at this meeting but fell on deaf ears. In my opinion, this is the best solution. Our military is our military comprising of all branches not just one.

Now we have the final EIS report. To them this is a done deal. But wait; we do have a recourse. If all of us were to contact our representative in Congress and our Senators and express our opposition to this excessive land grab, request they deny their request, perhaps some solutions will be found. This is our only viable course of action. Our own Nevada Legislature has approved two resolutions opposing this land grab.

So please, write, email, call your representatives, your Senators, even the President of the United States and object to this takeover. With this takeover my personal opinion is that the state of Nevada will become a military state, and we the citizens of this state will be confined to our cities and no longer be able to enjoy our backcountry.

So please go to the website [and take a look](#). This will give you a better understanding of all the implications involved in this land grab. Again, we are losing over 600,000 plus acres, acres we can no longer walk on

OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE

Synopsis by Al Bolshazy, RGMS ALAA Representative

To learn more about Off Highway Vehicle registration go to this site: OHV.NV.GOV This site will give you all the information you need to know about registering your off road vehicle. Here is a synopsis of the information.

Off Highway registration is very straight forward.

1. Obtain the registration form from the above site or from the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- 2). Take the completed form to an Official Off Highway Vehicle dealership or any Sworn law enforcement Officer. They will verify the VIN number. Note: The DMV office will NOT verify the VIN number.
- 3). The registration is done by mail only. You can send a check or money order to the Department of Motor Vehicles or take it to the Authorized Off Highway Vehicle dealership and they will finish the registration for you for about \$2.00.

The fee structure is listed on the above site and ranges between \$21.00 to about \$44.00 or so. If you are mailing your registration form in, send it to::

DMV
555 Wright Way
Carson City, NV 89711

Where can you ride your OHV? On the site above click on the Trial Maps and it will show you several sites where you can ride your vehicle. If you are riding in an area controlled by the BLM, check with the BLM office that controls that area. Normally it is not a problem.

In conclusion, do the following to register your Off Highway Vehicle and where to ride:

- 1). Download the registration form and fill out
- 2). Have the VIN verified.
- 3). Send in your completed form or take it to an authorized dealership.
- 4). Check the OHV site and find out where you can ride and or check with the BLM office in the area you want to ride.
- 5). Most important: WEAR YOUR SAFETY EQUIPMENT!!!!

Have fun and be safe.