



# THE CONGLOMERATE

JANUARY 2021

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE RENO GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

**ATTENTION!**

**RGMS AUCTION DETAILS**

**DON'T MISS OUT**

Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021  
General Meeting **Zoom**

**7 pm on line**

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 13, 2021  
Board Meeting

**7:00 at the Rock Building and by Zoom**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Page 2 , Pres. Msg. Auction,
- Page 3 By-Laws
- Page 4 .Byl-Laws, Sunshine
- Page 5 Field Trip
- Page 6 Zoom Invitations
- Page 7- Faceting, Mineral of the Month
- Page 8 Inhibiting Corrosion on Metallic Stones
- Page 9 2020 Award photos
- Page 10 School Report
- Page 11 Calendar
- Page 12 Shows
- Page 13 Officers and Directors

## 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 the Rock Building, 480 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks, NV. Annual membership dues: student: \$25, Individual: \$35, and Family: \$50.

## CONGLOMERATE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2021

**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.

The Reno Gem and Mineral Society is presenting more Auction items. Get those items you missed at Christmas. We recommend that viewers **use Chrome or Mozilla/Firefox** browsers to enter the 32Auction site. It is not recommended to use Microsoft Edge.

**The dates for the January auction are January 11-15. Here is the link to get there.**

[https://www.32auctions.com/RGMS\\_Jan2021](https://www.32auctions.com/RGMS_Jan2021)



**Also, watch for our February auction; February 8-12. Just in time for Valentine's Day!**

[https://www.32auctions.com/RGMS\\_Feb2021](https://www.32auctions.com/RGMS_Feb2021)



## 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

## PRESIDENT'S JAN, MESSAGE

Dean Sizemore, President

Happy 2021, I hope this finds you all safe and having finished a great Holiday Season. We have just completed a challenging year and as an organization we came through in great shape considering all. Our Directors and Board Members worked hard throughout the year to make sure of that.

I am so grateful for the Members who have supported me during 2020, I could not have preformed my duties as President without this amazing group.

While we were completely closed, I had help cleaning the building, keeping all in shape and moving forward. Once we were able to open, our Monday Open Houses took off quickly and are quite full. **Sue Webb** and **Al Boshazy** stepped up and began offering classes again at our building which provides plenty of room for distancing and we have a supply of masks for those that do not have them. We have some new and continuing classes starting up this month and I'm so excited about that. We now have 4 new cabbng machines, 2 running and the other 2 close.

We will be having our second Zoom General Meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup>, please watch for the link on p. 6 and through email blast and on Facebook. We had our first in December and it went very well. For those of you that do not think you are very technical, I promise you it's easy to do. At any time you can email me and I can call and step you through it beforehand.

During our General Meeting I was pleased to give out many awards for 2020 to recognize everyone's hard work. The following were for recognition of their hard work: **Julie Hilsabeck**, **Al Boshazy**, **Lori Connel**, **Chuck Jackson**, **Denise Sizemore**, **Robyn Howard**, and **Sue Webb**. I also presented **4 President's awards**, **Eric Fendelander** for his outstanding work keeping our building repaired and upgraded, **Linda Johnston** who worked with tenants and managed the building and finances that are now allowing us to begin planning and work on the new shop and meeting spaces, **Tom Nichols** who worked more hours then I can imagine to bring our website from thought to fruition and last **Logan Alexander** who worked with Tom cataloging hundreds of photographs, designing graphics and working on the website.

As we start the new year, we have 3 openings on our Board At Large, in February we will be presenting the complete Officer and Board list to our member-

*Continued on p. 3*

## RGMS SILENT AUCTION

Robyn Howard, Treasurer

Regarding RGMS December 2020 auction (32auctions) I wanted to share with everyone the results of our latest 32auctions sales.

- 17 items sold on the auction site of 52 items listed
- **Eric Fendelander** brought in extra rocks to fill 2 tables and we sold about 3/4s of those rocks
- **Denise Sizemore** sold 7 items for a total = \$224
- Total Sales for the Society = \$589

Thank you to all that supported and donated to this event. Our next auction will start January 11th Monday at 9AM ending Friday January 15th at 1PM with pick at the rock building between 10 and 3PM Saturday January 16th. During last Saturday's pick time we also took in \$200 for new membership and renewals. Stop by the rock building January 15th to visit with us, renew a membership, bring a friend and buy some rocks! Don't forget your masks.

Anyone wanting to donate/sell handmade items, cabochons etc. on our auction site, please send an email to me ([rgms.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.treasurer@gmail.com)). We need a good photo of the item, description and price. If you decide to sell an item we ask for a 10% donation of total sales to the society (same as the craft fairs). Information must be submitted by January 6th to be entered into the January auction. The next 2 months we are focusing on Valentine's Day.

Please spread the word about our auctions to family and friends. Keep up to date via our wonderful new website and facebook.

I hope this helps a little and you all have had a wonderful safe and happy holiday.



Picking up items purchased at the auction—photo by Steven Smith

ship for voting. Our Officers have all agreed to continue for a second year with your approval, if there is anyone who is interested in any position for the upcoming year please contact me at [rgms.president@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.president@gmail.com) so we can present for voting in February. Officers and Board Members are required to attend the monthly Board meetings per our By-Laws. In February we will also need the voting of the General Membership for a Member who has been presented to the Board for a Lifetime Membership, the Board voted to advance the Nomination to the General Membership for approval and I will announce that in February.

For 2021 we need to also fill the following positions: Membership Director, Volunteer Coordinator, Used Equipment Sales, and Social Media Assistant. We have a few changes—**Tricia Vaillancourt** has stepped in as Librarian and **Kathy Boyne** is working as her assistant. The library looks amazing and is open Mondays during Open House, we would appreciate any donations of books for the Library.

Please look for By-Law Amendments in this Conglomerate, changes have been presented to the Board, a Committee was assigned to finalize these, and we need the votes of the complete membership to allow these changes.

Lots going on and I couldn't be prouder of the Members who have worked so hard during 2020 and I am looking forward to an exciting 2021.

## *PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RGMS BY-LAWS*

This document lists the proposed changes to the By-Laws of The Reno Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. as of January \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.[Ed: The full text of the by-laws is available as an attachment to the email to which the digital copy of this newsletter was also attached.]

The purposes of these proposed amendments are 1) as a guideline for future emergencies, such as the pandemic, relative to meetings and voting please pay particular attention the voting on By-Laws Amendments), 2) to change the process for new members from a vote of the Board to accept the new members at the beginning of the following month to immediate granting of membership upon receipt of the completed application and payment, 3) to change the process of reinstatement to a vote of the Board, and 4) to clarify and broaden the previous commission position of Web Site Director to Technical Director, including coordination of Social Media and a Data Repository (without adding even more directors every time these technologies change). [Changes are in boldface and underlined.]

### **Proposed amendments to the By-Laws of The Reno Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. (12/20):**

#### ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

##### Section 1. GENERAL

Membership is open to adults (with provision for Juniors as outlined below), excluding those who have been expelled from membership (see Sections 9 and 10 below). **Membership is granted upon receipt of the completed application and payment of annual dues.**

##### Section 10. REINSTATEMENT

Any member who shall have been **expelled** from membership for any reason, may apply for reinstatement as a member. **Application for reinstatement of membership must be accepted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at a regular Board meeting.**

#### ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

##### Section 4. QUORUM

The presence of **sixteen (16)** members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting the business of the Society.

#### ARTICLE V COMMISSIONS

##### Section 1. GENERAL

- r) Technical Director**
- s) ~~Web Site Director~~

*Continued on p. 4*



By-Laws Amendments, continued

ARTICLE VII  
MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

**Section 7. STATES OF EMERGENCY**

**In the event that the general membership of the Society cannot meet in person, the organization can meet, at the option of the elected officers of the Society, via video, electronic or audio conferencing, to conduct the regular business of the Society.**

**When required, such as members' voting for annual election of officers and Board members or amendment of the By-Laws, members will have the option to vote electronically via email or by mail. Ballots will be distributed in the "Bulletin", and an email address specifically for voting will be used to collect the email votes. A quorum is defined as twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership, whether votes are cast via email or delivery to the Office of the Society. The voting will close at the end of 14 days after publishing of the ballots in the "Bulletin". If a quorum is not achieved, the Board of Directors' votes shall prevail.**

**The Nominating Committee (see Article IX) will be responsible for collecting, tallying and reporting the results of each vote. Results will be posted to the website and in the subsequent "Bulletin" issue.**

ARTICLE VIII  
MEETINGS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. MEETINGS **FREQUENCY**

A meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at least once a month, at which time current business of the Society shall be discussed and/or transacted. **If all Board of Directors cannot meet in person, at the option of the elected officers of the Society, it is permissible to hold these meetings in person, electronically via video and/or audio conferencing, to conduct the regular business of the Board, including voting.**

ARTICLE IX  
ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

**Section 4. STATES OF EMERGENCY**

**In the event that the above-referenced calendar for nominations and elections cannot be met, the Officers and Board of Directors shall continue in their positions until the nominating and elections process can be completed. The Board of Directors will determine the earliest possible election.**

ARTICLE XI  
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended, repealed, or new By-Laws adopted at a regular or special meeting of the membership for this purpose called for by the Board of Directors. **A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members in good standing who are present at such meeting will be required to effect any proposed changes. All members shall be notified in writing of the proposed amendment at least thirty (30) days prior to such a vote where the proposed amendment or changes will be adopted. Members will have the option to vote electronically via email or by mail. Ballots will be distributed in the "Bulletin", and an email address specifically for voting will be used to collect the email votes. A quorum is defined as twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership, whether votes are cast via email or delivery to the Office of the Society. If a quorum is not achieved, the Board of Directors' votes shall prevail.**

**SUNSHINE**  
*Lori Connel*

Dear RGMs members, it sure has been a rocky year for all of us. I think the saving grace for a lot of us has been getting out and rock hounding. I wanted to take the time to recognize and thank the RGMS Board members as well as all of our members for making this such a fun and progressive society. We really

need this right now. With that said, keeping our friends is also critical. People need to be restored, renewed, and revived. This Society certainly does this. If you are able, please dial in for the Zoom meetings. It certainly helps to stay in touch and keep on top of "what's happening in the society". For those members that cannot get out as much, please give your friend a call or a visit. You'd be surprised on how much that helps.

*Continued p. 6*

**FIELD TRIP  
WONDERSTONE MOUNTAIN  
JANUARY 16, 2021**

*Steven Smith Trip Leader*

Come join us for our first 2021 Field trip. [Rain or snow we will cancel] This is a family friendly area for rock hounding. Easy access on dirt roads with two wheel drive vehicles to site, and lots of wonderful Wonderstone.

Open to members in good standing and family members names on file. Check-in on arrival at the Fox Peak Gas station, 615 E Williams Ave at the east end of Fallon on Highway 50. Meet at 9am, sign in and leave for site at 9:15. Please review Field trip guidelines prior to arrival.



Colorful Wonderstone jasper—Image from Pinterest



Wonderstone Mountain— Image from Back Yard Biology



Steven Smith @ Wonderstone Mtn. photo by Steven Smith



Fox Peak photo by Steven Smith



Left: Grimes Point sign  
Right: Shadow @ Wonderstone Mountain parking area  
photos by Steven Smith

YOU'RE INVITED  
JANUARY RGMS MEETING

Dean Sizemore, President

All members are encouraged to log in and participate when appropriate.

Topic: My Meeting

Time: Jan 6, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85097289601?pwd=bmlBQ0EwK3QwWkRUZDg1cUZZeGdSdz09>

Meeting ID: 850 9728 9601

Passcode: 581190

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,85097289601#,,,,\*581190#

US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,85097289601#,,,,\*581190#

US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 850 9728 9601

Passcode: 581190

Find your local number: [https://](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85097289601)

[us02web.zoom.us/j/85097289601](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85097289601)

*Sunshine, continued*

As you all know we are still keeping touch with **Ike Isaacson, Bobby White, Sam Macaluso**. They certainly need our continued prayers and virtual hugs. If you know these fellow rock hounds, I'm certain they'd love to hear from you. Mark Twain said it best, "The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up". Because I'm relatively new to the society, I don't hear a lot of information on folks that might need an encouraging phone call. If you hear of anyone that might need or welcome

YOU'RE INVITED  
JANUARY BOARD MEETING

Dean Sizemore, President

The board meeting is January 13 at 6 pm. Any member may log in, but only board members may participate.

**Dean Sizemore** is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting

Topic: Board Meeting

Time: Jan 13, 2021 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86532371487?pwd=T1grbmtQNHdYZldqdm42dXBwV1o4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 865 3237 1487

Passcode: 332131

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,85097289601#,,,,\*581190# US

(San Jose)

+12532158782,,85097289601#,,,,\*581190# US

(Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 865 3237 1487

Passcode: 332131

Find your local number: [https://](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86532371487)

[us02web.zoom.us/j/86532371487](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86532371487)

that special call, please let me know. I'd love to be able to reach out to them.

Eric and I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. We are hoping that 2021 will be a better year.

Lori Connel

775-233-5693



## ***FACETING: AN INTRODUCTION*** ***#1 OF 3 ARTICLES***

*Les Flynn*

From Edward J. Soukup's book, "Facet Cutters Handbook", copyright 1962, faceting is described as follows: "In faceting, we take a piece of transparent gem material and cut and polish facets on its surface at definite angles to bring out its hidden beauty and brilliance which would be quite lost if it were cut as a cabochon.

"Material other than transparent is also faceted and some of the deeply colored gem materials are cut not so much for brilliance as for color. Examples are emerald, ruby, and other richly colored stones."

When demoing faceting, a frequently heard concern is: "Faceting is too immersed in math and mystery and is hard to do." In truth, it could be if you desire to delve deeply into theory and gemstone design. But it is easy to learn to facet with today's modern faceting diagrams and faceting machines.

Faceting diagrams are the recipe that you follow to cut a gem into a desired shape. They may seem complicated when you first look at them. After your first stone, the diagram makes logical sense. Faceting machines look very complicated but are actually easy to understand and use.

Remember, faceting is the art of placing small, flat windows (facets) on (usually) transparent gemstone material we call "rough". The goal of the gemstone faceting design chosen for a particular piece of rough is to get the largest finished stone that maximizes the color and optical characteristics of it.

The faceting machine has settings that allow the orientation of the rough in three dimensions to properly place each facet. These settings come from the faceting diagram.

It is recommended that students start with a simple faceting diagram called the Simple Jack. It allows a new faceter to learn the faceting machine and a simple diagram. The most critical skill to learn is patience and not press the stone too hard on the lap. (Soukup defines a lap as follows: "Lap is the name given to the horizontal disc upon which the gem stone material is cut or polished.") Pressing too hard doesn't make the stone cut faster; it only changes the geometry of the cut. This means that the facets will not line up as expected. It takes about 2-3 stones before that skill is developed. After the Simple Jack, there is a recommended sequence of designs that build additional skills.

Plain yellow Sunstone is a good starter rough because it cuts fairly fast and polishes easily. It is also not expensive. Many want to cut the quartz (amethyst, citrine, smoky quartz, etc.) family because it is plentiful and not expensive. Natural quartz can be a challenge because of inclusions and occasional polishing issues.

There are also inexpensive synthetic gems that cut beautiful stones. Synthetic ruby and sapphire give practice before cutting natural stones from Montana or North Carolina.

Does it take longer to cut a sapphire compared to a Sunstone? A little, but not significantly. The diamond laps are much harder than the rough. As a matter of fact, softer rough can be more difficult to cut because there is a tendency to overcut a facet. The biggest factor in time to cut is the size of the rough.

## ***MINERAL OF THE MONTH*** ***AUGELITE*** *Webb Varnum*



**Augelite** [Al<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)(OH)<sub>3</sub>] is the result of hydrogen metamorphism of phosphate-bearing rocks via high temperature hydrothermal veins. It is found in phosphate-rich granite pegmatites and phosphatic iron-stone rocks. Augelite occurs in several colors such as colorless, white, pale yellow, light green, blue, or pink. It has a vitreous-resinous-pearly luster, a white streak, and a hardness of 4.5-5. Its crystal system is monoclinic and it is generally transparent. It is brittle with perfect cleavage and an irregular fracture. It is a little soft for jewelry but functions well as a display piece. It occurs in Nevada near Carlin at Maggie Creek and at the Carlin gold mine, both off limits to the general public. Source: *Mindat.org*, *Wikipedia*,

## INHIBITING CORROSION ON METALLIC STONES AND ARTWORK

Noel H. Runyan Dec. 16, 2020

from the *Breccia*, newsletter of the Santa Clara Mineralogical Society

Many artists and rock hounds have tried to inhibit corrosion or tarnishing of specimens by coating them with lacquer or acrylic paints. Unfortunately, most of these coatings may discolor with exposure, and their glossy appearance may be undesirable.

### Preventing Corrosion with Benzotriazole (BTA)

As an alternative, BTA coatings are invisible, clear, do not discolor, and do not peel or flake off. According to the literature, BTA has been successfully used to inhibit corrosion on copper, copper alloys, zinc, nickel and iron.

I have had very good results using BTA on copper. A few years ago, after cleaning copper parts with Brasso, I was disappointed to find that they were significantly tarnished only six months later. So, I once again cleaned the pieces with steel wool, washed them with ammonia, followed by vinegar, followed by a baking powder solution to neutralize and finally a cleaning with isopropyl or ethyl alcohol solvents.

When dry, I dipped the copper parts in a solution of 1 gram of BTA dissolved in a half gallon of distilled water. After a few minutes, I gently wiped the surfaces dry with a soft cloth. The BTA has kept the copper completely tarnish free for a year and a half, so far. The BTA forms an extremely thin and clear, molecule-thick coating on the metal surface. For metal surfaces that will be subject to mechanical rubbing or wear, I have additionally coated some of the BTA-treated surfaces with an overcoat of Everbrite ProtectaClear.

Another alternative clear coating recommended by some artists is Incralac, a lacquer for copper and brass that has some Benzotriazole already mixed in to discourage tarnish under the lacquer.

### Protecting Meteorites

I found an interesting corrosion prevention treatment reported in an article, "Galvanic Cleaning of Meteorites" by Ray Pickard, of the Bathurst Observatory, Australia, in August 2005 (<http://www.meteoritemarket.com/Galvanic.pdf>). This interesting approach is similar to cleaning silverware by loosely wrapping a specimen in aluminum foil and immersing it in a solution of sodium carbonate (but

not baking soda). This galvanic cleaning approach appears to work well on iron specimens that are exhibiting green weeping from ferric chloride.

### Ammonia Treatment of Iron Stones

According to reports from some rock hounds, stones with green-weeping ferric chloride problems may have the ferric chloride deposits converted into iron oxide by treating the stones with ammonium hydroxide. This can work for some iron meteorites. It would be safest to try exposing the iron specimens to ammonia fumes first, before trying to directly soak them in liquid ammonium hydroxide.

### Sealing the Surface of Specimens

Some folks report successfully limiting meteorite corrosion by "sealing" the surface with oils or plastic coatings. I would encourage folks to consider using water glass (either sodium or potassium silicate) to seal or passivate meteorites, metallic stones, or metal artworks. Water glass will not discolor with age or exposure to sunlight.

Normally, when water glass is dip or brush coated on rocks or metal objects, it will seal the surface after it dries. However the silicate coating that results is in a form that is still fairly water soluble and is vulnerable to exposure to moisture.

If you have ever used water glass to glue stones together or onto dop sticks, you know that the glue can be soaked in water to soften it and break the bonding. To avoid this softening, you can force the water glass to dry in a polymerized form that stays hard and does not soften or dissolve when exposed to water.

To make the water glass dry in this more desirable polymerized form, you can add a mild acid catalyst such as a little citric acid. A variety of other household acids can be used as an alternative catalytic additive. You can mix a little acid into the water glass before coating the specimen, or paint the acid over the still wet surface of a specimen that has already been coated in unadulterated water glass.

**Stabilizing Stones with Water Glass** I'm also now doing some research and some experiments on the use of water glass to stabilize soft, porous or cracked stones. My literature searches show that some folks have found that water glass can be infused and polymerized in certain stones successfully. When I finish my experiments with water glass, I will be glad to share my findings in another newsletter article.



PHOTOS BY RGMS PHOTOGRAPHER AND VICE PRESIDENT STEVEN SMITH

2020 AWARDS (THERE WERE OTHERS)



Julie Hilsabeck—Recognition Award



Eric Fendelander—President's Award

SCHOOL REPORT

Julie Hilsabeck, Director

Want to take or teach a new class? Have any ideas or suggestions? E-mail **Julie Hilsabeck** [RGMS.school at gmail.com](mailto:RGMS.school@gmail.com) or talk to her at the general meeting when meetings resume! 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. Non-members must present a valid insurance certificate at registration. Otherwise, you may not register for classes until the next general meeting after you join.. Your insurance is included in your dues.**

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 (12:45) please start clean-up so chaperones can go home.** Supervised by various members. 11AM-1PM; 7-9 PM Shop fee \$5/hour.

**BEADING AND BEAD WEAVING**

**Must sign up.** Beading during Covid-19 restrictions may be offered on a **Saturday** from 10-2. Class is taught by **Sue Webb**. **Projects: January 9—Valentine project \$2.50/hour (\$10/class) payable at class.** To sign up for January, email Sue at [rgms.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.bulletin@gmail.com). She will email you info about the project so you can get your beads.

**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 up at the general meeting when classes and meetings resume. Inactive during Covid.

**KNOTTING AND STRINGING**

**Must sign up.** The class begins with the basics of jewelry making--learning about the materials, findings & tools which will also help with knowing how to repair jewelry. Students will also learn how to create some amazing pieces, either for personal use, for gifts, or even as a way to start your own business. Come let's create together. Jan. 11 10-1. \$5 course fee. Kits \$20. Taught by **Laura Jackson** [nvjackson@aol.com](mailto:nvjackson@aol.com)

**LAPIDARY**

**Must sign up.** Lapidary is limited to 4 new students, but a **daytime class** will be available when classes resume. **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 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. Inactive during Covid.

**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. Thursdays. 6-9 PM Instructors: **Jay Logue, Jill Atkins and Al Bolshazy.** Inactive during Covid

**BEGINNING WIRE WRAPPING**

1-20 and 1-27-21 Class fee \$20.00, Kit fee \$20.00  
10:00am to 12:00 Class will start with the tools and their uses, materials, and examples of what you can do with wire weaving both with and without stones. Previous experience is not necessary. Our goal will be to learn about the tools, wire, incising your stone and the basic figure eight wire weave bale. The kit fee includes the Labrador stone and wire needed to complete your pendant. Tools will be available for use in class. Contact Denise Sizemore at [wraptordesigns@gmail.com](mailto:wraptordesigns@gmail.com) to register and reserve your kit. Pre-registration required.

**JEWELRY MAKING 101**

1-20 and 1-27-21 Class fee \$30.00 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm Class will be conducted via Zoom meeting and in person at the Rock Blvd building. Handouts will be provided covering the various aspects of jewelry making. Contact Robyn at [rgms.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.treasurer@gmail.com) to register.



# JANUARY 2021

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

					1	2
3	4 Open House 7-9 pm	5	6 ZOOM Holiday Meeting	7	8	9 Beading 10-2
10 Knotting Stringing, Beading, 10-1	11 Open House 7-9 pm Auction begins 9 am	12	13 Board Meeting? 7-9pm	14	15	16 Pick up Auction items 11-3 pm Wonderstone Field Trip
17	18 Open House 7-9 pm	19	20 Wire weaving 10-12 Jewelry 101 6-9	21	22	23
24/31	25 Open House 7-9 pm	26	27 Wire weaving 10-12 Jewelry 101 6-9	28	29	30

**MINERAL IDENTIFICATION**

**Must sign up.** Email Julie and watch Calendar and Website. If offered, 3rd and 4th Wed. in April. For a small fee, identification kits are available for purchase ahead of the class. Taught by **Webb Varnum**

**LOST WAX CARVING**

Cost is \$50/month **Please note this class is on Saturdays and Sundays!** Bring your lunch and beverages. Nott offered in summer.

**OTHER**

Potential for **faceting** classes, beginning **enameling**, and **precious metal clay** if there is enough interest. Email Julie 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 [RGMS.school@gmail.com](mailto:RGMS.school@gmail.com).

**ATTENTION**

As incidents of Covid 19 continue to occur in Nevada, the RGMS will hold only those activities that can occur within the guidelines set by the governor. Keep checking the Conglomerate, Facebook, and the Website for current status of all activities. We hope things will settle down soon so we can get back to having fun.



**WRAPTOR DESIGNS**  
WIRE ART JEWELRY BY DENISE SIZEMORE

---

CELL : 775.378.1705  
EMAIL: WRAPTORDESIGNS@GMAIL.COM  
FACEBOOK: WRAPTOR DESIGNS BY DENISE



UPCOMING CFMS SHOWS

See additional information at [cfmsinc.org/shows-2/](https://www.cfmsinc.org/shows-2/)

No shows are currently scheduled for December 2020 or January 2021.

**2021 Shows**

**February 20-21, Antioch**

Antioch Lapidary Club  
Jewelry, Gem & Rock Show  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10th St., Antioch  
Contact: (925) 301-6957, [brenda.miguel@yahoo.com](mailto:brenda.miguel@yahoo.com)

**February 27-28, Vallejo**

Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society  
56th Annual Gem & Mineral Show  
Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Dr  
Contact: (415) 254-1506, [dduhonvgms@gmail.com](mailto:dduhonvgms@gmail.com)

~~**March 6—Ventura, CA—CANCELLED!!!**~~

~~Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd, Ventura 93001  
Contact: (805) 312-8467, [info@vgms.org](mailto:info@vgms.org)~~

**March 13-14, Arcadia CA**

Pasadena Lapidary Society  
“Inspiration Unearth”, 62nd Annual Tournament of Gems  
Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd.  
Contact: Ellen Ferrell 1-727-512-0381  
Email: [ellenbf207@aol.com](mailto:ellenbf207@aol.com)

**June 12-13, 2021, Escondido CA**

Palomar Gem and Mineral Club  
340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido CA 92025  
Website: [pgmshow@palomargem.org](mailto:pgmshow@palomargem.org)

**DUES ARE DUE**

Don't forget to pay your 2021 dues, You will continue to get the *Conglomerate* for the rest of 2020, and for January of 2021, but unless your dues are paid by Jan. 15, you may not get the February and subsequent issues. To pay dues for 2021, go to the membership page on the new Website ([renogms.org](https://renogms.org)) and download the membership app page, write your check, and send it in or put it in the slot at the Rock Building at 480 S. Rock Blvd.

**Note:** If the listing does not show a cancellation, it is best to check with the show chairs to be sure it is still being held. See the CFMS Website for additional information.—<https://www.cfmsinc.org/shows-2/>