



# THE CONGLOMERATE

## MARCH 2021

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE RENO GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

**Wednesday, Mar. 3, 2021**  
**General Meeting Zoom**  
**7 pm on line**  
**WEDNESDAY, Mar. 10, 2021**  
**Board Meeting**  
**6:00 at the Rock Building and by Zoom**

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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 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,

### 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.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*Dean Sizemore*

Happy March to everyone; hard to believe it's already the third month of 2021. I hope this finds you all well and happy.

We've had a great February at RGMS. Our auction is doing very well, and the new lapidary equipment is working well and allowing for projects to be completed sooner. I was pleased at the February Auction pick-up day to meet a couple from California who stopped by after seeing our website and all the different events we have going on. They toured the shop in hopes of building one of their own and commented that their group was just hanging on, and they were impressed with how active we were staying during all this. I'm so thankful to the field trip leaders, teachers and volunteers for Mondays open houses who have worked very hard to keep our group active and give our members something to do during COVID.

We had our second General Meeting of the year; turn out is improving every month and we look forward to March's General Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM via Zoom. Just a reminder, the General Meeting is via Zoom only, we don't have the room at the Rock Building to allow for in-person meetings. We are hopeful that we will get back to Baldini's soon.

Continued, p. 2

President's Message (Cont. from p. 1)

Membership renewal is going well. If you haven't renewed yet, you still can at any time. Membership is required to attend field trips, open houses and classes. **Steve Smith and Eric Fen-delander** have many field trips planned for this year, lots of opportunities to obtain great specimens.

We had **Larry Robbins**, President of the GPAA visit us at the February board meeting to give us a presentation on the Rye Patch Nugget Shoot. We are very excited to be co-sponsors with them and other organizations for the event. It will be held in September in Rye Patch. We'll have more information as we get closer. We will be looking for prize and monetary donations for the event. If you have a company or work for one that would be willing to donate, if you could speak with them about donating please let us know.

Please make sure to vote on the new by-law changes that were printed in last months *Conglomerate*. The ballot sheet is in this months *Conglomerate*. You may also vote via email [rgms.vote@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.vote@gmail.com).

Next months edition will have voting for Officers and one Lifetime Membership. We need at least 2 new board at-large members, and we welcome anyone who would like to be considered for any position, so please put your name forward.

### **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.

### **SUNSHINE**

**Lori Connel, Director**

Hi rockhound folks. Well, it's getting time to get out there and rock hound. Most of the days so far have been beautiful and I have been seeing lots of pictures on Facebook and email of some of our finds.

I know our Vice President **Steve** and Facility Director **Eric** have been scheduling lots of trips, so stay in touch by checking our website and email blasts. If you haven't renewed your membership please do so quickly.

We have several members who need our continued prayers and virtual hugs. **Dean Sizemore**, our President has been challenged with some severe health issues as well as **Sam Macaluso** and **Drew Van Hoven**. Unfortunately, as we age, we are confronted with challenge after challenge. However, as we know, we are the strongest, most capable people and we deal with it. I believe part of our strength is the desire to rock hound and score the big find. The communication with our friends, especially rock hound friends, is also key. So, pick up the phone and call a few of your friends. You will certainly brighten their day as well as your own. Let's stay connected.

If anyone needs a cheery phone call, please let me know. I would love to call them or send them a special card from all of us. Remember to get your virus vaccine as soon as you can. We need to get back to normal fast.

Take care,

*Lori*

***BY-LAWS RATIFICATION  
PLEASE VOTE***

**Please Vote**

This document lists the proposed changes (in red) to the By-Laws of The Reno Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. as of February 1, 2021.

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 to 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 (to avoid adding even more directors every time these technologies change).

**Proposed amendments to the By-Laws of The Reno Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. (1/21):**

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 50% + 1 of filled positions of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting the business of the Society. In states of emergency, the required quorum may be determined by the President.**

ARTICLE V  
COMMISSIONS

Section 1. GENERAL

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

Section 20. TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

The Technical Director shall maintain and keep Society's Web Site and Facebook sites up-to-date, coordinate with the PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR for web advertising via online media such as Web Site and "Social Media", and maintain and coordinate RGMS data stored online. The Technical Director may appoint committees as required to accomplish these and future technical needs of the Society.

**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 and/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. All votes must be received within 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.

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.

**ED: The ballot is at the end of the Conglomerate. If you don't have your bylaws any more and need to refresh your memory, just let me know and I can send you a digital copy. I can also send paper copies, but they will be \$2 each, payable to RGMS.**

**MEMBERSHIP****Virginia Keeley, Acting Director**

RGMS has welcomed 26 new members since Covid struck despite not being able to meet in person. They are

Albrecht, Diane  
Arroyo, Sierra  
Coolbaugh, Mark  
Ennis, Jonathan,Maria,Anthony,Timothy  
Gillett Carolanne,Lily,Levi,Nate  
Iverson/Loupee Todd,Hilary,Kayla,Claire,Erik  
Johnson William D.  
Klanprachar Andra & Bankie  
Millard (Bibbey) Jerri Ann,Edward,Aidyn  
Moore James, Lori  
Morris David S.  
Reese Edward & Martha  
Reese Todd, Cari, Aiden  
Reimers Scott & Arianna Reiknights  
Riffel Tahlia,Rene,Brenda  
3 Shaffer Stacey,Josh,Barrett  
Sousa Adam,Kevin Cote, Holly Hugh  
Wirtanen Amanda & Carl Leffler

If we've missed anyone or if we've misspelled your name(s) or gotten it backwards, please let Sue know ([rgms.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.bulletin@gmail.com)) so she can correct the problem in the April *Conglomerate*.

**FIELD TRIPS****Steve Smith, VP, filling in for field trip director**

Here is our schedule for upcoming Field trips for RGMS Members in good standing.

Watch for future trip details in the conglomerate.

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| April 24 <sup>th</sup> | LoveLock  |
| May 1                  | Gabbs   |
| May 8 &9               | Gabbs   |
| May 22 & 23            | Austin  |
| June 5                 | Verdi Quartz mnt.   |
| June 12 & 13           | Montecristo mnt   |
| Aug. 27-30             | Blackrock   |
| Sept. 17-19            | McDermitt   |
| Sept. 25               | Ryepatch Metal Detecting Shoot out and Possible Crystal hunt. |

See Wonderstone trip photos on p.6

**MALACHITE IS SOFT BUT BEAUTIFUL****Nick Smith, 3 Rivers (IN) GMS**

From the *Strata Data*, June 2020 via *MWF News*, December 2020, #597.

Have you ever seen a penny that has a bit of green on it and wondered what the green is? It is the mineral malachite. Malachite is a basic copper carbonate. The name most likely is because of its green color. The Greek word *malache* means "green." A second possibility of the name is the Greek word *malakos*, which means "soft," due to malachite being a considerably soft mineral ( 4 out of 10 on the Mohs scale.)

Malachite often forms from stalactites when copper-rich water drips down. More water present results in a lighter color seen in [this] pendant. It rarely forms crystals. Malachite often occurs with other copper minerals such as chrysocolla.



Creative Com-

Russia used to be the main source for malachite, with huge blocks being mined. Now the Democratic Republic of the Congo is the main source.

Because of its softness, malachite is not the best gem to facet, but it does cab well with patience and time. Malachite has often been used for decorative purposes. Many royal palaces and religious buildings have inlaid walls of it. One such place is the Hermitage Room of the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg, Russia. When working with malachite, the lapidarist should best utilize the eye-like patterns. Bowls and boxes are most commonly made, as well as spheres and eggs.



-ncnd/4.0/legalcode).

Sources: Jones, Bob (January 2020), "Malachite: Examining the 'Halcyon Days' of this Versatile Mineral." *Rock and Gem Magazine* (volume 50, Issue 1) pp. 50-56.

Schumann, Walter (2013). 192. *Gemstones of the World*. Sterling. New York.

A portion of the Malachite room in the winter Palace in St. Petersburg. Photo by deepgoswami via Creative commons (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-ncnd/4.0/legalcode>).

*WONDERSTONE FIELD TRIP.  
A GREAT DAY  
Steven Smith*

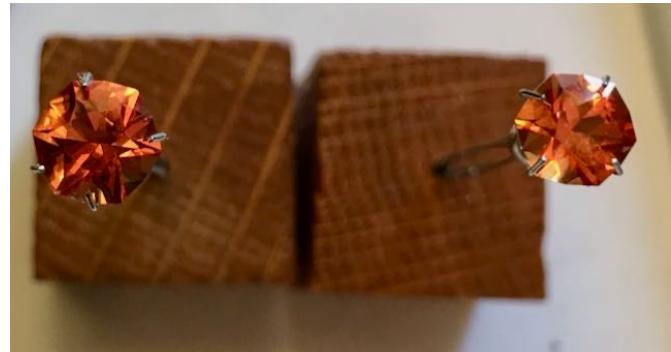
Over twenty-five RGMS members were social distancing at Wonderstone mountain in January, for our first field trip of 2021. I was able to find buckets of great rocks. It was a great day to be out with RGMS members doing what we like to do. We are planning our next outing for the Lovelock area in April, weather permitting. I hope you will be able join us for our next adventure. Look for the date elsewhere in this March *Conglomerate* and enjoy these photos.



***FACETING: GEM EXAMPLES***  
***#3 OF 3 ARTICLES***  
***Les Flynn***

Included here are some gems I have recently cut and set in jewelry. The designs were done in conjunction with, or by, Jill Atkins of Atkins Designs. I've also included some loose stones I cut.

The first are a pair of synthetic padparadscha sapphires cut to be used as earrings or another design that requires a similar sized pair. They are about one carat each, cut in a hexagonal shape. Natural padparadscha sapphires are rare and expensive.



*Padparadscha sapphires*

The next one is a synthetic padparadscha sapphire cut in a pear design at 4.5 carats. The cab it's sitting on has pyrite in it. It was cut and polished and made into a pendant with a wire necklace (not shown) by Jill Atkins.

Synthetic Padparadscha sapphire is generally available and not too expensive. I have found that it can disappear from the market for a while. So I buy it if I am running low.



*Padparadscha Pear cut Synthetic sapphire*

Jill made this for my grandniece's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. It is a 9 carat synthetic spinel in an aquamarine shade of blue. Aquamarine is the birthstone for March.

I frosted the lowest facets on the pavilion (bottom) of the stone to form a star. The design replicates an old image of a comet.

Synthetic spinel is generally available and not very expensive. It is available in various colors so it is easy to get the color the gem you want to use in a design.



*Synthetic spinel*

of

This is a quilt block design donated to the Reno quilt Guild for fund raising. It has a 15 carat Nevada citrine from the Schurz area.

*Nevada Citrine*

This is a different quilt block with a 12 carat synthetic pink sapphire.

*Pink Synthetic Sapphire*

Buying synthetic rough can be a challenge, just like natural, over the Internet. The synthetic Alexandrite really is a beautiful stone. Alexandrite is normally color-changing, but this stone doesn't display that characteristic. It does have a gorgeous red undertone to the blue.

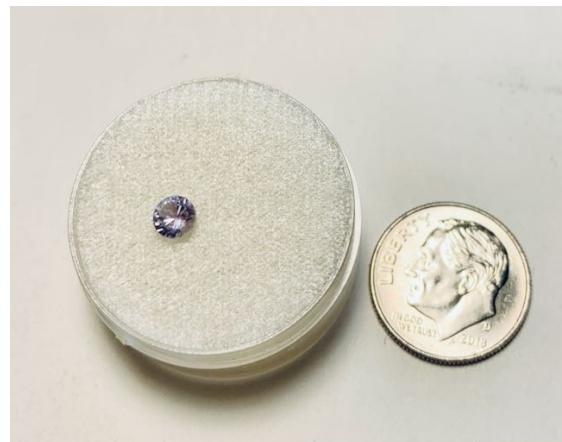
It is used in a cushion design and weighs about 14 carats.

*Alexandrite colored synthetic sapphire*

Continued on p. 9

Next is a sapphire that I panned up in Montana that weighs 0.31 carats. It shows both pink and blue tints depending upon the light. It is a good side stone. I have others like it to cut.

It is much faster to cut a small stone. A problem for some cutting a small stone is it can pop off the dop. The key is not to press on the quill of the faceting head when cutting. You must allow the machine to do the work.

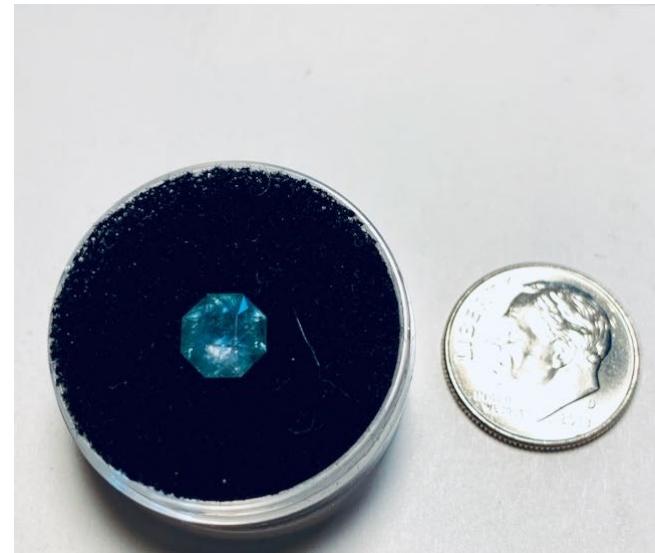


*Montana sapphire*

A small stone means starting with a finer grit to cut. Each facet will be smaller, so you don't want a design with a lot of facets.

Another sapphire from Montana weighs 1.42 carats. It displays some of the issues of natural stones. You can see inclusions and silt. The silt is what causes the star in star sapphires. I am considering heat treating this stone. It will clear the silt and probably make it darker.

I used a hexagonal cut to match the shape of the rough to maximize the yield.



*Montana sapphire*

An oval cut is an advanced cut because it is really a modification to the standard round brilliant, stretching some of the facets. There are a lot of changes in the mast height and cutting angle so it takes more time to cut. An oval stone will probably cost more.

This is a synthetic pink sapphire weighing 2.3 carats. I included a piece of the rough from which it was cut.



*Oval pink sapphire*

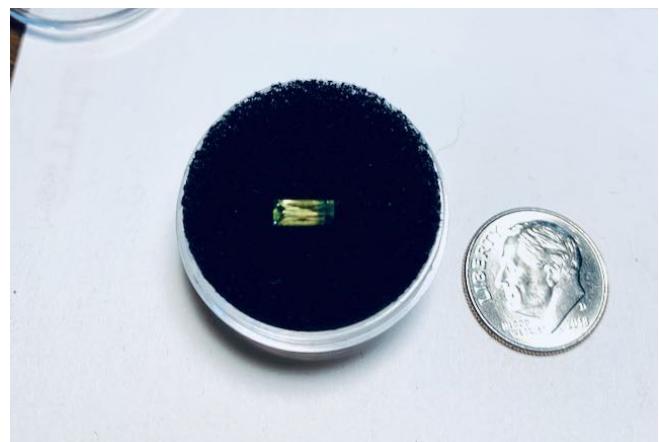
Continued, p. 10

The Australian Sapphire weighs 0.39 carats. You will notice the ends are blue and the center is yellow. How the stone will look depends on orientation of the rough.

I needed a special cut for a cousin who lost a sapphire from an heirloom ring. I had to match the design and the size so it would fit the ring. This was a test cut to ensure that it would fit.

The one I cut for the ring was oriented to only show the blue. I couldn't make a mistake as I had very little natural dark blue sapphire. It worked out well.

All images by Les Flynn



Australian sapphire

## PROSPECTING 101

*Eric Fendlander*

People ask me- how did you find that? It's simple, really. I look for something different, a change in color, a vein or ribbons of color shooting through the rock.

Austin Nevada is a perfect example. Blue Agate has filled Geodes, some of them 12 inches in diameter with thick blue interiors or a "star" of blue and white. The area where I find these beautiful blue Agates has to do with a clue from the past. These Geodes are not on the mountain where you'd expect to find them. Instead, they are where the mountain used to be, or where the hot springs that formed them were, a long time past.

In the Reese River Valley, west of Austin, these areas that formed the Geodes are gone, washed into the valley millions of years ago. Lucky for us, the Geodes are heavier than the host rock that washed away. So where do you look? In the least likely location, the flats of the valley. There are Geode beds on the West side of the mountain, but not the size or beauty found in the flats.

On a recent field trip this January we found some 5 inch Geode stars just 15 feet off the road! Unfortunately, while the temperature was comfortable, the previous snow storm had blown snow into every ditch and low spot. Despite this setback, I still filled a 3 gallon bucket with pieces ranging from 5 inches to some all blue slabs an inch thick, ideal for lapidary.

So next time you go rockhounding, stop, take a physiological brake and look around. Be sure to look where the grader has pushed the dirt into the field. This tends to be the best area for arrow heads, spears and great mineralogical specimens. My best finds have been where there should have been nothing there. The saying "Gold is where you find it" applies to everything in nature. Mother Nature has tossed, turned, melted, crushed, and moved every rock on this planet.

Get out, join us on field trips, and look. You'll be surprised what you can find.

**NOTE FROM THE TREASURER  
FEBRUARY AUCTION RESULTS****Robyn Howard, Treasurer**

Our February auction was successful with a total of \$393 online auction sales. Then on our Saturday pick-up sales day we sold more rocks. A big thank you to Eric Fendelander for the wonderful selection of rocks he set out for the extra sales.

Here are our results:

Total sales = \$671

3 memberships = \$135

3 people stopped by because of ad on Craigslist

2 people stopped by from online queries

1 person stopped in from seeing sign on sidewalk

1 person stopped by from viewing information on Facebook

1 person stopped by because they called the rock building Saturday and spoke to Dean

Thank you to everyone that makes this auction possible. It's a lot of work and I appreciate the extra effort.

**ZOOM****Topic: Monthly General Meeting**

Time: Feb 3, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the First Wed, until Dec 1, 2021, 11 Occurrence(s)

Feb 3, 2021 07:00 PM

Mar 3, 2021 07:00 PM

Apr 7, 2021 07:00 PM

May 5, 2021 07:00 PM

Jun 2, 2021 07:00 PM

Jul 7, 2021 07:00 PM

Aug 4, 2021 07:00 PM

Sep 1, 2021 07:00 PM

Oct 6, 2021 07:00 PM

Nov 3, 2021 07:00 PM

Dec 1, 2021 07:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZMrdOyrqjMrHdQMzz6kDY4Se3txQk9tAQsisToken=98tyKuGvqDgvGdCdsR6HRpwEBIjCzniFxcgqdssQX\\_VSt3W1fFM68RJqpOG4HE](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZMrdOyrqjMrHdQMzz6kDY4Se3txQk9tAQsisToken=98tyKuGvqDgvGdCdsR6HRpwEBIjCzniFxcgqdssQX_VSt3W1fFM68RJqpOG4HE)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87635348170?  
pwd=RkovQ2tzcTZweWR6a0ZkSzdCbjcwUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87635348170?pwd=RkovQ2tzcTZweWR6a0ZkSzdCbjcwUT09)

Meeting ID: 876 3534 8170

Passcode: 315349

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,87635348170#,,,\*315349# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,87635348170#,,,\*315349# 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 DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 876 3534 8170

Passcode: 315349

Find your local number: [https://us02web.zoom.us/u/  
kbkjWueWWw](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbkjWueWWw)

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Time: Feb 10, 2021 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the Second Wed, until Dec 8, 2021, 11 occurrence(s)

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Sep 8, 2021 06:00 PM

Oct 13, 2021 06:00 PM

Nov 10, 2021 06:00 PM

Dec 8, 2021 06:00 PM

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Monthly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZ0odOsrdkiGNWdtAgfxGq0FBZbumOGUX/  
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Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89536422821?  
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Meeting ID: 895 3642 2821

Passcode: 652494

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,89536422821#,,,\*652494# US (Houston)

+16699009128,,89536422821#,,,\*652494# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 895 3642 2821

Passcode: 652494

Find your local number: [https://us02web.zoom.us/u/  
kbIellGTR7](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbIellGTR7)

# **THE CONGLOMERATE**

## **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** 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; 6-8 PM Shop fee \$5/hour.

### **BEADING AND BEAD WEAVING**

**Must sign up.** Beading during Covid-19 restrictions. Mar. class will be beaded bezel. **Sunday Mar. 21** from 10-2. Class is taught by Sue Webb. **Project: Beaded bezel around a cab.** \$2.50/hour (\$10/class) payable at class. To sign up for Mar., email Sue at [rgms.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.bulletin@gmail.com). To purchase your beads—A round or oval cab—not square or other shape—1 tube of Toho or Delica size 11 seed beads, 1 tube of size 15 seed beads in matching or complementary color.



### **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.

**MARCH 2021**

### **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. Mar. 14, 10-1. \$15 course fee. Kits \$20. Taught by Laura Jackson [nvjackson@aol.com](mailto:nvjackson@aol.com)

### **LAPIDARY**

**Must sign up.** A new evening Beginning Lapidary is limited to 4 new students due to Covid restrictions, but a daytime class will be available when classes resume, as will more evening class space for others. **Safety class 3/2 at 6:30.** Materials for your first two projects are included in your class fee. Beginner Evening class taught by Julie Hilsabeck **7-9 pm;** , 3/2, 9, 16, 23, Tuesdays, \$5/hr.

### **SILVER FABRICATION**

**Must sign up.** Inactive during Covid. 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.**

### **BEGINNING WIRE WEAVING**

Pre-registration required. 2-10 and 2-17-21 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, incasing 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 [wraptorde-signs@gmail.com](mailto:wraptorde-signs@gmail.com) to register and reserve your kit. .

### **JEWELRY MAKING 101**

Not scheduled for Feb. 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 cover the various aspects of jewelry making. Contact Robyn at [rgms.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.treasurer@gmail.com) to register when offered.

**PAGE TWELVE**

# MARCH 2021

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

|  |  |   |  |    |                    |                                    |
|--|--|---|--|----|--------------------|------------------------------------|
|  | 1  | 2<br>Beginning Lapidary<br>(4 New only)<br>Safety 6:30, 7-9pm | 3<br><b>Zoom</b><br>General Meeting<br>7pm   | 4  | 5                  | 6                                  |
| 7  | 8<br>Open House<br>11-1<br>7-9 pm                    | 9<br>Beginning Lapidary<br>(4 New only)<br>7-9pm              | 10<br><b>ZOOM</b><br>Board Meeting?<br>6-9pm | 11 | 12                 | 13                                 |
| 14<br>Knotting<br>Stringing,<br>Beading,<br>10-1 | 15<br>Open House<br>11-1<br>7-9 pm<br>Auction begins | 16<br>Beginning Lapidary<br>(4 New only)<br>7-9pm             | 17   | 18 | 19<br>Auction ends | 20<br>Pick up auction items.       |
| 21<br>Beading—<br>beaded bezel<br>10-2           | 22<br>Open House<br>11-1<br>7-9 pm                   | 23<br>Beginning Lapidary<br>(4 New only)<br>7-9pm             | 24   | 25 | 26                 | 27<br>Keum-Boo<br>Earrings<br>10-1 |
| 28   | 29<br>Open House<br>11-1<br>7-9 pm                   | 30<br>Beginning Lapidary<br>(4 New only)<br>7-9pm             | 31   |    |                    |                                    |

## 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.

## KEUM BOO EARRINGS

Korean technique of applying fine gold foil onto silver \$15 plus kit fee. Register with **Robyn Howard**.

[rgms.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.treasurer@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 SIZMORE

---

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

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).

**UPCOMING CFMS SHOWS**

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

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

**2021 Shows**

**~~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~~

**April 10-11, 2021 – Mariposa, CA**

Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club

Mountains of Minerals Show

Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007 Fairgrounds Rd.

Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

**May 1-2, 2021 – Jackson, CA**

Amador County Gem & Mineral Society

Kennedy Mine Gem and Craft Show

Hwy 49 in Jackson CA

Contact: (209) 296-4061, blackwolf@vgolcano.net

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

Palomar Gem and Mineral Club

340 N. Escondido Blvd., Escondido CA 92025

Website: pgmcshow@palomargem.org

**June 18,19,29, 2021 Big Piney, WY**

Sublette Co. Rockhounds, AFMS and RMFMS

Sublette Co. Fairgrounds

**~~June 25-27 Lodi CA CANCELLED~~**

~~CFMS~~

~~Lodi Grape Festival & Harvest Fair~~

~~Lodi, CA~~

**August 14-15, 2021 – Arcadia CA**

Pasadena Lapidary Society

Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia

Contact: Ellen Ferrell 1-727-512-0381

Email: [ellenbf207@aol.com](mailto:ellenbf207@aol.com)

Website: [pasadenalapidary.org](http://pasadenalapidary.org)

September 11-12 Reno, NV

Reno Gem and Mineral Society

Jackpot of Gems

Reno/Sparks Convention Center

Daniel Ellis, [RGMS.JPOG@gmail.com](mailto:RGMS.JPOG@gmail.com)

**September 18-19, 2021 – Chico, CA**

Feather River Lapidary and Mineral Society

Silver Dollar Fairgrounds

Contact: 1 530 586-7052; Website: <http://featherriverrocks.org>

***MARCH IS USED EQUIPMENT SALES MONTH***

*Robyn Howard*

We're bringing back our used equipment sale via our online auction as part of the 32 Auctions site. Society members are encouraged to dig into your storage areas and find those pieces of equipment taking up space and/or no longer being used.

If you don't wish to donate the item, we will gladly list it for only a 10% fee based on sell price.

Dust them off and submit your used equipment items so we can list them on our March auction site. What we need from each society member that submits their used equipment is the following:

Name, phone#, email

A short-detailed description of the piece, make, model, year and price etc.

Several clear close-up photos

Is the price a starting bid price or a buy now price (no bidding)?

10% of total sales per member is donated to the society, as has been done in the past.

Drop equipment off at the rock building during any Monday night open house from 6:30 to 8:30pm on the following dates;

February 22

March 1

March 8

March auction starts on March 15th and ends March 19th with sales pick up on Saturday March 20th from 11AM to 2PM.

If for some reason you don't get a chance to submit your used equipment for the auction you can make arrangements to display your items Saturday during sales pick-up.

If you have questions please email [rgms.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.treasurer@gmail.com), Also, I'm at the rock building every Monday night during open house.



## Reno Gem & Mineral Society

480 S. Rock Blvd.

Sparks, NV 89431-5547

Conglomerate Editor: Sue Webb

[rgms.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.bulletin@gmail.com)

[www.renogms.org](http://www.renogms.org)

## VOLUME 55 ISSUE 3

## MARCH, 2021

### Commission Directors

#### ALAA rep

**Bulletin:**

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Sue Webb [rgms.bulletin@gmail.com](mailto:rgms.bulletin@gmail.com)

Logan Alexander

**RGMScontentB@gmail.com**

Jennifer Rhodes

Theresa Langhans **RGMS.CraftFairB@gmail.com**

Eric Fendlander **RGMS.Facility@gmail.com**

Sven-Erik Sander

**Available**

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**Available**

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Daniel Ellis **RGMS.JPOG@gmail.com**

Kyle VanBremen

Tricia Vaillancourt

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Kathy Boyne

Linda Johnston **RGMS.LLCMgrB@gmail.com**

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Kyle VanBremen

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Denise Sizemore

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Lori Connel

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Tom Nichols

**RGMS.volunteersB@gmail.com**

**Available**

Logan Alexander

**RGMScontentB@gmail.com**

### Officers

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>President:</b>       | Dean Sizemore <a href="mailto:rgms.presidentB@gmail.com">rgms.presidentB@gmail.com</a> |
| <b>Vice President:</b>  | Steve Smith <a href="mailto:rgms.vpB@ckfcom">rgms.vpB@ckfcom</a>                       |
| <b>Secretary:</b>       | Steve Norman <a href="mailto:rgms.secretaryB@gmail.com">rgms.secretaryB@gmail.com</a>  |
| <b>Asst. Secretary:</b> | Bonnie Poertner  |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>       | Robyn Howard <a href="mailto:rgms.treasurerB@gmail.com">rgms.treasurerB@gmail.com</a>  |
| <b>Asst. Treasurer:</b> | Virginia Keeley  |

### Board of Directors

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Larma Volk    | Available      |
| Janet Steeper | Kyle VanBremen |
| Lori Connel   | Steve Durham   |

### Other Positions

|                         |                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Used Equip, Sale Coord. | Available                         |
| Gen. Mtg. Guest Greeter | Cate Tangren                      |
| Gen. Mtg Door Prizes    | Laura Jackson,<br>Drew Van Hooven |
| Jr. Rockhounds Advisor  | Steve Norman                      |

### Instructors

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Beading:             | Sue Webb  |
| Casting:             | open  |
| Knotting & Stringing | Laura Jackson                                       |
| Lapidary             | Barbara Hartman<br>Julie Hilsabeck<br>Lloyd Raymond |
| Mineral ID           | Webb Varnum   |
| Silver Fabrication   | Jill Atkins<br>Al Bolshazy**<br>Jay Logue           |
| Wire Art             | open<br>open  |

\*\* on leave

### VOLUME 55 ISSUE 3

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