

The Conglomerate

The Monthly Newsletter of the Reno
Gem and Mineral Society

September 2021

General Meeting

Wed. Sept. 1, 7pm

Baldini's Second Floor

Board Meeting

Wed. Sept. 15, 6 pm

Rock Building, 480 S. Rock,
Sparks

RGMS 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: free to members

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Full color edition by USPS: \$2 copy or \$21 annually, in advance

Full edition (b & w) copies at the meeting: \$2 except to guests. Free to guests.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dean Sizemore

Well September has finally arrived, and it's time for the **Jackpot of Gems**. I'm so excited about this show, our first at the Convention Center. Its success is completely dependent on our Membership to show up, volunteer and spread the word, hand out fliers, put them up on bulletin boards, let their neighbors know, and so on. Denise and I love to hand them out at Craft Shows she does.

Also, in September we have our first event out at **Rye Patch** which has been going on for years with the Gold Panning Association and the Metal Detecting groups. They have kindly asked us if we would like to participate. We have the following needs for Rye Patch: on the 8th we need 3 more members to help Webb and me out at Rye Patch to hide the tokens and other items. On the 20th of September we need 2 more people to help put together prize bags. On the 24th we need 2-3 people to setup our display area. We could use a few more people to volunteer on the day of the event, the 25th, to run the booth, share about RGMS, work the kid's area we will have, pass out fliers and help people sign up for memberships. IF you can help, please contact me at rgms.president@gmail.com.

I am very happy to announce we have a new Volunteer Coordinator, **Terry Bush**. He stepped up in August's General Meeting. I sent him a job description and he still said yes. You should start hearing from Terry; he will be reaching out to members about volunteer opportunities for Jackpot of Gems and other volunteer positions.

I am so proud of all of you that have promoted RGMS to family and friends; we are at the highest membership in the history of the Society. This is due to the hard work of everyone on the board and in general membership. This record membership is affording us many new opportunities to purchase more equipment, gain new volunteers and leaders.

Our August General Meeting, first one at Baldinis since March of last year, was well attended. We had 86 members and guests at one count. That was a great turnout for our first meeting. I look forward to September's meeting, currently still at Baldinis. I hope to see you all there.

2021 RGMS/Vendor Potluck

Denise Sizemore, Social Director

Come join us in welcoming this year's Jackpot of Gems vendors to Reno Gem and Mineral Society's version of a good ole' fashion potluck: Friday, September 10th with mingling hour from 5- 6 pm and Potluck starting at 6 pm. This will be at the Rock Building, 480 S. Rock Blvd.

We are in need of Snacks, Finger foods, Salads, Main Dishes, and Desserts. We would love to have some of your homemade goodies, but store-bought, and your good company works for me.

Please email your RSVP to Denise at rgms.socialdirector@gmail.com with what you are bringing and how many will be attending, by September 1st so I can have the room setup appropriately. You must RSVP to join in.

Sunshine

Lori Connel

Hello to all our rock hounding members. This summer has turned out to be one of the hottest for rockhounding. I hope everyone is taking care of themselves when they are out in the desert or mountains. It sure is gratifying to meet all of the new members enjoying our hobby. The field trips this year have been wonderful and the interest in rock hounding and jewelry making has exploded. The number of members attending field trips and classes has far exceeded our hopes.

This year's fires have devastated forests, deserts and some of our homes. I just heard one of our members has lost their cabin. If you know of someone/families that need any help, please let me know. I'd be glad to get the word out to our members for help.

Membership

Janet Longueira, Director

RGMS would like to welcome these new and returning members :

Jonathan David Albers
Jon & Linda Bagley Jennifer Bridegum
Paigelynn Brown Deby Campbell
Mark Cappel Patrick Covell
Jessica Coutouriaux Ed & Gloria Cranch
Stephen Davis Clinton Diong
Samantha Brian & Crystal DiMuzio
Meridian Donovan Moni Fox
Gina Eckroat
Michelle Elmquist April Garner
Angela Flora Daniel & Lesley Grayson
Avery & Antoinette Huckaby
Matthew Keller Michele Montoya
Carl Olsen Jhon Pigman
Abby Paul, ,& Herb Morasch
Fred & Tammy Pierce
Bonnie Poertner Tom Rowell
Candice Schlunegger Joe Souza
Gary Stewart Lynda Traves
Lilly & Avery Villegas
Rick & Krista Wilson
Nicole & Roger Wise

I would like to take this opportunity to ask that we keep our members that may be ill or experiencing challenges in their lives in our hearts and prayers. Also, prayers and a speedy recovery for **Virginia Keeley** and **Denise Sizemore**. Special hugs to **Sam Macaluso** and **Dean Sizemore**. These individuals are two of the strongest men I know. They are dealing with one challenge after another and both of them have such a positive attitude. Dean is like the ever-ready energizer bunny; he keeps on going. I would like to thank him for all he does to make this Society what it is today. Great job Dean!

In closing I would like to request if anyone needs a helping hand or would welcome a friendly call, please let me know. Let's count our blessings so we can pay attention to the good things in our lives

Field Trip McDermitt Sept 17th to 19th. Jim Welker

This field trip will be led by Rob Kendrick and **Jim Welker**. The McDermitt area has many sites of different types of material. We will collect petrified wood, agate, jasper, and hopefully nice geodes. The terrain is rolling hills with sage brush; of course there are rattlesnakes and normal wildlife. In the camping area there are squirrels that will try to join you.

You will need digging tools--rock hammers and five-gallon buckets to bring home your finds. Dress for rockhounding and bring plenty of water. Each day we will leave the camping site at eight (8) am sharp. Our award-winning potluck will be on Saturday night at 6:30. Any car can reach the campsite, but some collecting areas will require high-clearance 4-wheel drive, some not.

To reach the camping site, take Interstate 80 to Winnemucca (good place to top off fuel tanks). Go north on US 95 to McDermitt (74 miles from Winnemucca to McDermitt). Turn left at the Say When Casino. This is Stateline road or Cordero mine road

Travel West 4.3 miles. Turn right just past the power station. You will leave pavement to dirt. Remain on the left fork of the road (Disaster Peak road).

Travel West 6.0 miles. Camp will be on the left side of the road.

For those who do not like camping in the dirt, McDermitt does have motels and the campsite is 10.3 miles away which takes about 20 minutes. Any questions email or call me; email is best.
Jim Welker

Jackpot of Gems Show Daniel Ellis, Show Chair

Well it is time for all good rock hounds to come to the aid of the other rock hounds--Show time in September.

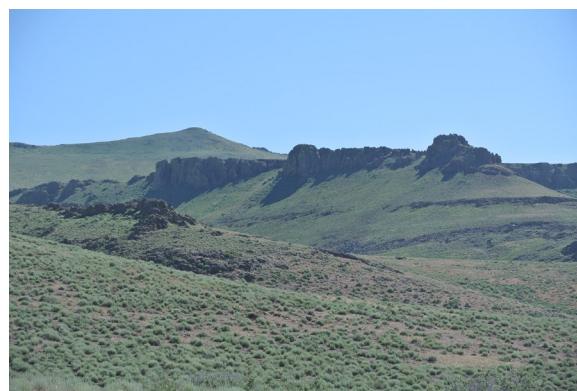
The set up is this.

- We pack up the truck on the 8th at 5PM
- We also set up the Rock Building for the Pot Luck on Friday at 6PM
- We put the show together Friday at 7AM at the Reno Convention Center.
- We sell our stuff at the show Sat 10 to 5 and Sun 10 to 4.
- Then we break it all down from 4 to 6 PM, then head to the leftovers at the pot luck.

All we need is for you to come and help for those three days so we can do it again next year. Free shirts for those who work the show and no cost to get in so you can spend your money on ROCKS. What else is a rock show for?

I want to thank all of the hard-working people who helped to make this happen. For those of you who would like to get in on the fun of putting on the show please reach out to us and we will gladly help you to learn what we do to make the thing happen.

See you at the show



McDermitt. Photo: Terry Gust?

Jackpot of Gems Exhibits**Theresa Langhans, Exhibits Chair**

Set-up: **Friday, September 10, 2021 7:30 am Hall set-up**
12 noon-8 pm Exhibits set-up

Show: **Saturday, September 11th 10 am-5 pm**
Sunday, September 12th 10 am- 4 pm

I want to thank everyone who has signed up to exhibit at our annual show! Here are the members and the guests who will be showing their craft. We will be setting up the exhibit hall from 7:30am-12noon. As of noon on Friday, you will be able to come to the hall to set up your exhibit. We encourage and need everyone to volunteer to assist not only with setting up the hall, but also to work throughout the weekend to ensure a successful show. Everyone who volunteers and exhibits at the show will be able to attend without having to pay admission.

2021 Exhibitors:

Student Cases: lapidary; beading; silver

Jill Atkins (2)	Alberta Carter (2)	Eric Fenderlander
Greg Gardella	Barbara Hartman (2)	
Mary Hicks	Julie Hilsabeck	Todd Iverson
Jon Johnson	Linda Johnston	
Rob Kendrick & Terry Gust	Colleen Laidlaw	
Theresa Langhans (2)	Boyd Lasater	Peter Lee
Janet Longueira	Hilary Loupee	Eric Lundin
Ken Mathis	Nanette Mentz	
Alan Metzger	John Montgomery (2)	Steve Norman
Tamara Perlman	Lorrie Peterson (2)	
Dennis & Pat Phelps	Jhon Pigman (2)	Bonnie Poertner
Dean & Denise Sizemore (2)		
Adam Souse	Paul Stoner	Webb Varnum
Jim Welker (2)		

Board meeting notes for August 11, 2021

Steve Norman, Secretary

President **Dean Sizemore** called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and **Steve Smith** led the pledge of allegiance.

Secretary's Report: **Steve Norman** has board meeting notes for anyone needing a copy and Board members have a copy via email. Corrections may be emailed.

Treasurer's Report: **Robyn Howard** has the Profit and Loss statement. Robin reviewed each section of the report. Contact Robyn for any questions. **Steve Smith** made a motion to accept the treasurer's report **Tom Nichols** seconded and the motion carried.

President: There have been some problems that people have experienced on field trips in the Gabbs area. Society member, **Eric Lundin** reports a man by the name of Steve Smith (Not our Vice President--another person) has been saying that he has the whole area claimed. He seems a bit unstable, so it may be best to avoid the area. As always, contact authorities to resolve any issues with people out in the field. The sheriff's department phone number in that area: 775-751-7000 or BLM Enforcement: 775-885-6000.

Dean updated that the Jackpot of Gems Show is on track but needs volunteers to get the truck loaded on September 8th at 5 PM. Setup for the Show is on Friday, September 10, starting at about 7:30 AM. Dean passed out a flyer for the Jackpot of Gems Show at Virginia City at an event that he and Denise were attending. Please volunteer some of your time and spread the word about the Show.

Website: **Tom Nichols** is obtaining information from vendors that will be attending the Jackpot of Gems Show. This information is on a webpage from the website. He is getting their names and some of their products to advertise that helps to advertise for the Show. Tom is producing a letter that Society members can send to friends and family in the area that may want to attend the Show in September. **Sven Sanders** noted over a 1,200 contacts with Facebook and RGMS website.

Social: **Denise Sizemore** reports that the Potluck takes place on Friday, September 10, the day the Show is set up. Starting at 5:30 PM with dinner served at 6:00 PM at the Rock Building. Contact Denise to sign up; it is a fun social event with our honored guests (Show Vendors). Denise's email: wraptordesigns@gmail.com.

The Rock Building (TRB): **Linda Johnston** has got the building appearance much improved by having the cracks in the pavement filled in. Thank you Linda.

Building and Field Trips: **Eric Fendelander** tried to get on Zoom but unavailable.

Conglomerate: Director **Sue Webb** asks for articles and pictures on anything Society related: fieldtrips, shop, equipment, tools, safety issues, or the experience of being outdoors in nature. You name it. Sue is a great editor if you need any help (former teacher/professor).

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Classes: Director **Julie Hilsabeck** has a busy schedule of classes. Julie has students from Truckee Meadows Community College taking classes. They join the Society to take the classes. Lapidary and Silver classes are full. Read the Conglomerate for details on classes and dates. Open House has been busy starting at 11 AM and going on till 9 PM. Anyone wanting to help out see Julie.

CFMS: Director **Jennifer Rhodes** reports next meeting is Visalia, CA in November 2021.

Field Trip: Director **Rob Kendrick** reported on upcoming trip to Black Rock Aug. 26-29, and McDermitt Sept. 16-19 2021. See Conglomerate for details.

Volunteers: Director **Terry Bush** has volunteered to take over these duties. Thanks Terry!

Raffle: **Laura Jackson** reports \$239 for the raffle at the general meeting with some fabulous rock samples as prizes.

Membership: **Janet Longueira** reports 288 memberships with 519 members. This might be a record for the most members in the Society.

Education: **Steve Norman** reports the education team contacting schools in September for earth science and mineral presentations. There has been no interest in a Children's Badge geology program. A new venue is being proposed.

Craft Fair/Displays: **Theresa Langhans** has enough displays for the Show. Thanks to all who have volunteered with an exhibit. Craft Fair is upcoming with 17 vendors in November.

Shop: **Chuck Jackson** is working to improve a 20 inch donated saw.

Social: Keep **Sam Macaluso, Fred and Tammy Pierce** and **Eric Fendelander** in your thoughts and prayers. **Denise Sizemore** has an upcoming surgery, so keep her in your thoughts.

Proposal: Vice President **Steve Smith** discussed the shop and how well it is doing with the new lapidary machines and that reviewing finances with Treasure **Robyn Howard**, and discussing with **Chuck Jackson**, Shop Director and **Julie Hilsabeck** School Director, all believe that with the new machines able to produce quality products so much quicker that more students could work a second month to get proficient before attending Open House. There is money in the saving's account and the cost would be repaid to saving in about two years. The cost is \$12,000 for 4 new CB8 lapidary machines. After much discussion, a motion was made by **Tom Nichols** to purchase the machines with the money earned by classes to pay back the savings account. **Webb Varnum** seconded. Motion approved. **Linda Johnston** will consult with **Will Hitchcock**, the RGMS accountant, for possible help in this educational endeavor using The Rock Building LLC resources.

President: September 1, 2021 is the next scheduled date for the General Meeting at Baldini's Sport Casino. There will be a speaker on Mining Claims and How the Process Works. Meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

Tom moved the meeting be adjourned, **Steve Norman** seconded motion carried: 8:52 PM.

Note: Board meeting will be September 16 starting at 6 PM due to loading the truck on Sept. 8th.

RGMS FALL 2021 Artisan Craft Fair Theresa Langhans, Craft Fair Coordinator

Our Craft Fair is scheduled at Reno Town Mall:
November 5, 6, 7 2021.

I sure do wish that at times I could predict the future! But I think that our Craft Fair will be a terrific event. It has been eons since we have been able to get together to be either vendors or customers at Craft Fairs.

Our advertising cards have been printed and are ready to be distributed. Members who are participating in the Craft Fair AND who have exhibits at our Jackpot of Gems Show will have cards available at their cases to advertise for our Craft Fair. It will be a great opportunity to get a sneak peek at the incredible work that our vendors do.

If you are interested in participating as a vendor at this Fair, I will need to receive your reservation no later than October 1, 2021. Attached you will find a reservation form if you would like to be a vendor.

In addition, we do have a consignment table where members may place a **couple** of craft items to sell if they feel they don't have enough items for their own table. Items that are placed and sold on the consignment table will be required to pay 10% of the sale price to the Society.



Left to right: Corundum, ruby, sapphire
Geology.com

Mineral of the Month: Corundum Webb Varnum

The corundum family of stones is of great use both in industry and as gem stones. At Mohs 9, corundum is second only to diamond on the hardness scale, yet it is made of one of the softest metals, aluminum, combined with oxygen (Al_2O_3). It is a 5-sided crystal and its ruby form is used in industry to focus lasers for cutting metal, grinding etc.

The best-known corundums are ruby and sapphire. A fine quality ruby is often more valuable than a diamond of equivalent size. The gem form of corundum occurs in several colors, but most of us are unaware that green corundum, which used to be called

Etsy.com



“oriental emerald” is also a rare and valuable gem stone. According to Merriam Webster, to call a corundum gem an emerald “is odd, Since, unlike rubies and sapphires,

today's commercial emeralds are a green-tinted form not of corundum but of beryl, a different mineral entirely. Yet there is a green corundum, too, [formerly] known commercially as ‘Oriental emerald,’ which was not distinguished from green beryl in antiquity.”

Corundums are rarely found in the USA. Montana sapphires are sometimes green corundum, Otherwise, to my knowledge there was green corundum found near Rye Patch in Nevada but it was not gem quality. There are many small red-brown corundum crystals found in Northern California in the placer gold.



Safety When Out Rock Hunting Dean Sizemore, President

I want to take a moment to go over some safety items with all of you. We have had some incidents in the past where members have been threatened, their items taken and/or have been told to leave unclaimed lands that they were rightfully rock hunting on. At our last Board meeting some Board Members also shared stories of some individuals throughout Nevada that they or someone they know have had run-ins with.

If you are out hunting and someone approaches you and tells you to leave, please just pick up your items and head back to your campsite, or if you're with a group, head back to the whole group. Do not confront these people; we have been told of at least one who is armed and has threatened people with a gun. I don't want to scare anyone, but we felt as a Board it was imperative that we let you know to please be careful and don't confront these people.

Once you are safely away, you can *and should* contact authorities and let them know, especially if you are threatened or the person takes your items and refuses to give them back. Contact the local Sheriffs, the Carson BLM office etc. and let them know what happened. Make sure to note license plate, vehicle description, and a description of the person.

We are asking all members to not go out to Gabbs for the next month. Gabbs is one area where we are having a problem and we want to let things settle down. Let me be clear, no members have done anything wrong or were on any privately claimed areas.

Our members have been to dozens of locations throughout Nevada and other states hundreds of times without incident, so please don't let this keep you from enjoying what we do and taking your kids and sharing this great hobby with them.

It's no different than making sure you drink enough water, that you have a first aid kit, that you are aware and watch out for snakes and other dangerous critters. While out hunting, Denise and I have met many great individuals who have shared some great sites with us.

If you have questions, please let us know and we will do our best to answer them. We will be bringing this up at the General Meeting also.

Youthful Gems

FOR CHILDREN FROM 6-16

Youthful Gems is an earth science educational program for children who want to learn about rocks, minerals, gems. It uses the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America program that has 20 different badges that students can earn. Each badge leads the child through interesting and educational activities to create a foundation for rockhounding in their future. One such set of activities helps children start their own rock collection. For each unit a child completes, he or she will have fun, learn a lot, and earn a badge.

There has been a proposal to have a program once a month on a week end at the Rock Building. Each program would last about ninety minutes. It promises to be fun but also educational. If you have children interested in rocks, give me a call 775-560-4782 or email: [snorm11 at hotmail.com](mailto:snorm11@hotmail.com).

Program units will be led by society members including **Steve Norman**, retired school teacher and other society members like **Sue Webb**, editor of our newsletter and retired university professor. Anyone else interested in leading contact Steve.

SCHOOL REPORT
Julie Hilsabeck, School Director

September Classes are Available Now

You must be a paid member of the Reno Gem & Mineral Society to be eligible to attend any of the classes listed below.

All classes are held at the Shop at 480 S. Rock Blvd, Sparks, NV.

Open House—Mondays from 11am to 9pm. The Rock Building will be open, the shop and the library, available to members. Prospective members may arrive and request a tour of the building and explanation of the RGMS mission. Regular rates for shop use apply. Various members host the open house during the day. See Julie to volunteer.

Beginning Lapidary – NEW students only – Maximum of 4 students per class - \$40.00

Tuesdays 1:00 pm to 3:00pm (afternoon class) and 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (evening class). Mandatory Safety class begins 30 minutes prior to the first class period. No open toed shoes/sandals, long hair must be tied back from the face, long, floppy sleeves must be restrained and ear protection suggested. All supplies, slabs, equipment provided for your first month. You will complete 3 projects during your class.

Email rgms.schooldirector@gmail.com as soon as possible, identify which class time to reserve your place. Advanced registration is required. **Registration is on a first come, first served basis**. Afternoon Instructor is **Barbara Hartman**, Evening Instructor is **Julie Hilsabeck**

Baldini's is open and our General Meetings occur on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Register for all classes (except Lapidary) at the General Meeting.

Beginning Silver Fabrication – NEW Students only – Maximum of 4 students – **Thursday** – 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Cost is \$60. Learn the basics of setting cabochons in silver settings. All equipment is provided. May be a kit fee. **Registration is on a first come, first served basis**. Register at the General Meeting. Kit fee varies with the price of silver and is running between \$25.00 and \$35.00 per student.

Advanced Silver Fabrication – **Thursday** 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Cost is \$60.00 - Experienced students only—Maximum of 13 students. Contact the Instructor, **Jill Atkins**, at atkinsdesign@gmail.com to register for class

Bead Weaving with Sue Webb – Class will be held from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, Sunday 9/26. Class will be learning to bead on a loom. Contact Sue at rgms.bulletin@gmail.com to register. Inexpensive looms are available from Amazon for about \$10 + tax. Sue will order if you ask her, or DIY.

Introduction to Slab Saw Use – NEW students only – Maximum of 4 students - \$40.00 **Tuesdays** 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Instructor is **Chuck Jackson**. Learn how to use the slab saws to get the best slabs from your rocks. Advanced registration is required. Register at the General Meeting. **Registration is on a first come, first served basis**.

.Continued next page

SCHOOL REPORT continued

Basic Beading – No class size limit – new and returning students welcome - \$10.00; Kit fee \$20.00 **Tuesday, September 7** 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Introduction to the basics of beading and associated tools and supplies. Instructor is **Laura Jackson**. No advanced registration is required. Contact Laura at nvjackson@aol.com with questions.

Wire Linking – No class size limit – new and returning students welcome - - \$10.00; Kit fee \$20.00 **Tuesday, September 14** 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Introduction to the basics of wire linking and associated tools and supplies. Instructor is **Laura Jackson**. No advanced registration is required. Contact Laura at nvjackson@aol.com with questions

Pearl Knotting– No class size limit – new and returning students welcome - - \$10.00; Kit fee \$20.00 **Tuesday, September 21** 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Introduction to the basics of pearl knotting and associated tools and supplies. Instructor is **Laura Jackson**. No advanced registration is required. Contact Laura at nvjackson@aol.com with questions.

Jewelry Repair – No class size limit – new and returning students welcome - - \$10.00; Kit fee \$20.00 **Tuesday, September 28** 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Introduction to the basics of beginning jewelry repair and associated tools and supplies. Bring your pieces of jewelry that need repair and learn how to get them back in to wearable condition. Instructor is **Laura Jackson**. No advanced registration is required. Contact Laura at nvjackson@aol.com with questions.

Hey! Great News!

Webb Varnum will be teaching **Mineral Identification October 20 and 27 from 7-9 pm**. Sign up for the class at the September meeting. You will need to purchase an ID kit (\$20) and a book: Walter Schumann, Handbook of Rocks, Minerals, and Gemstones. Order from BN or Amazon to have the book in hand by the first class meeting.

Lost Wax Casting—offered over an entire weekend, both Sat and Sun. Not offered in summer due to heat.

Other classes such as **faceting, beginning enameling, precious metal clay, or chain maille** can be offered when there is interest and when an instructor can be found. If you are interested in taking one of these or some other discipline our mission covers, let Julie know. If you can teach one of these or know someone who can, also let her know. Teachers serve on a volunteer basis.

September 2021

Mon **Tue** **Wed** **Thu** **Fri** **Sat**

			1 General Meeting 7pm Baldini's	2 Beg. & Adv Silver Fabrication 6pm - 9pm	3	4
5	6 Labor Day	7 Beg. Lapidary (4 New only) 1-3; 7-9pm Basic Beading 7-9 pm	8 Load the truck for Jackpot of Gems 5:00	9 Beg. & Adv Silver Fabrication 6pm - 9pm	10 Set up Convention Center 7AM-? Set up Exhibits 12-8PM 5:00 Happy Hr 6:00 Potluck-Buffet	11 Jackpot of Gems 10-5
12 Jackpot of Gems 10-4 4-6 Take down Potluck, 6pm	13 Open House 11am -9 pm Online Auction opens 9 am	14 Beg. Lapidary (4 New only) 1-3; 7-9pm Wire Linking 7-9pm	15 Board Meeting 6-9pm Rock Building	16 Beg. & Adv Silver Fabrication 6pm - 9pm McDermitt Field Trip	17 Online Auction Closes 1 pm McDermitt Field Trip	18 Auction Pick Up at Rock Building 11am—2pm McDermitt Field Trip
19 McDermitt Field Trip e	20 Open House 11am -9 pm.	21 Beg Lapidary (4 New only) 1-3; 7-9pm Pearl Knotting 7-9pm	22	23 Beg. & Adv Silver Fabrication 6pm - 9pm	24	25 Rye Patch Nugget Shoot
26 Beading 10am-2pm Beg. Loom Beading Rye Patch Nugget Shoot	27 Open House 11am -9 pm	28 Beg Lapidary (4 New only) 1-3; 7-9pm Basic Jewelry Repair 7-9pm	29	30		

For Your Information from ALAA



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ZION NATIONAL PARK

1 Zion Park Blvd.
Springdale, UT 84767



IN REPLY REFER TO:
I.A.2 (ZION)
August 16, 2021

Dear Park Constituent,

The National Park Service (NPS) at Zion National Park (ZION) is beginning civic engagement to seek comments on a possible change in amenity fees associated with the Lava Point Campground and a day-use permit lottery to hike the one-half mile (0.5-mile) chains section of Angels Landing. A twenty-dollar (\$20) nightly fee for campsites at Lava Point Campground is proposed. Additionally, a six-dollar (\$6) lottery application fee and a three-dollar (\$3) per person fee is proposed for visitors to access Angels Landing. Both proposed fees are based on comparable facilities and activities in the local area.

Lava Point Campground Presently, the **Lava Point Campground** consists of 6 primitive campsites available on a first come, first serve basis at no cost. Following growth in visitation to this area of the park and improvements to the campsites, ZION would make Lava Point Campground reservable through recreation.gov starting in the 2022 season. This would align the Lava Point Campground with the management of front country campgrounds, specifically South and Watchman, as well as provide certainty in securing a campsite prior to arriving in a remote area.

Amenities at the Lava Point Campground include fire rings, picnic tables, vault toilets, and trash cans. No water is available. A twenty-dollar (\$20) per night fee is proposed for all campsites at the Lava Point Campground to address costs associated with servicing this remote location which include trash removal, vault toilet servicing, general site maintenance, and administrative processing.

Angels Landing Day-use Permit Lottery **Angels Landing** is a one-half mile (0.5-mile) chained trail beginning at Scout Lookout and is a highly sought-after hike at ZION with more than 300,000 visitors making the ascent in 2019. Growth has continued rapidly in 2021 and increasing park popularity has led to intense crowding and congestion along the Angels Landing trail. Crowding continues to raise safety and visitor experience concerns. In 2017, ZION initiated a trail use study to understand hiking patterns and visitor experience on Angels Landing and in The Narrows. In 2019 and 2021, results from the research were used to pilot an informal means of managing hiker flow along the chains section of Angels Landing on holiday weekends. This allowed the park to understand levels and rates of visitor use that alleviate congestion and safety concerns along the trail.

Building from these previous efforts and public input, ZION is proposing to implement a day-use permit lottery system in 2022. This means visitors would be required to obtain a permit prior to hiking Angels Landing. The pilot day-use permit lottery system would be housed on recreation.gov. Visitors would still be able to day-hike the West Rim Trail up to and beyond Scout Lookout without a permit.

A more formalized system on Angels Landing would provide an equitable process that prioritizes visitor safety along the chain section of Angel Landing while ensuring park resources are protected and desired visitor experiences are available. The system would be closely monitored and adjusted to allow park managers to learn and improve the application of the day-use permit lottery system. If successful, the day use permit lottery system may be adopted permanently as part of a larger visitor use planning effort and may be considered for additional locations following additional public engagement.

To implement and staff the day-use permit lottery system, two new park-use fees would be introduced. First, a six-dollar (\$6) application fee would be used to cover the cost for recreation.gov to build and operate an online, lottery platform. Second, a three-dollar (\$3) per person fee would be charged to successful lottery applicants and would cover the cost to implement and manage the permit program in the field at ZION. Permits would allow for groups of up to six (6) people and would be connected to the email of one person from each group. Proof of identification would be required prior to accessing the permitted portion of the trail. Permits would be made available in an advance lottery several months ahead of the visit date. The first lottery opening for Angels Landing would take place in January 2022 for permits during March through May 2022. A second opportunity to obtain an Angels Landing permit would also be available the day before the desired hike date. Additional information on the Angels Landing permit is available on the ZION website at www.nps.gov/zion.

Public comments on proposed changes to the amenity fees for the Lava Point Campground and day-use permit pilot on Angels Landing are being accepted from August 13, 2021 through September 12, 2021 on the NPS Planning, Environment, & Public Comment (PEPC) website at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/ZionFeeProposal> or through the mail by writing to: ZION Superintendent ATTN: Proposed Amenity Fee Changes 1 Zion Park Blvd. State Route 9 Springdale, UT 84767

You may also contact the ZION Visitor Use Manager, Susan McPartland, by email at zion_visitor_use@nps.gov. Our national parks provide our citizens an opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors and a sanctuary for our spirit. The NPS strives to provide extraordinary experiences for visitors to ZION through safe, healthful, and inspirational programs. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,



Jeff Bradybaugh

[Eds; Highlighted links are NOT active.]



CFMS Shows, 2021

September 11-12, 2021 – Reno, NV

The Reno Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. Jackpot of Gems
Reno Convention Center, 4390 S. Virginia St., Reno
Contact Dan Ellis, sailondan55@aol.com
Website: www.renogms.org

September 18-19, 2021 – Chico, CA

Feather River Lapidary and Mineral Society
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds, 2357 Fair St., Chico, CA 95928
Contact: 1 530 586-7052;
Website: <http://featherriverrocks.org>

September 24, 25, 26, 2021 – Stoddard Wells, CA

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
Dale Evans Parkway and Stoddard Wells Road, Apple Valley, CA. Contact: (760) 243-2330, dwayna.barron@gmail.com Website: <http://www.vvgmc.org>

October 1-3, 2021 – Vista, CA

Vista Gem and Mineral Society
Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Santa Fe Ave., Vista CA 92083
Contact: 1 (760) 214-8770
Website: <http://www.vistarocks.org>

October 2-3, 2021 – Grass Valley, CA

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
Nevada County Fairgrounds, Main Street Center, 11228 McCourtney Rd, Grass Valley, CA 95949
Contact 4vanclan5@att.net

October 8, 9, 10 & 11 Clovis, CA

Fresno Gem & Mineral Soc.
Clovis Rodeo Grounds, 445 Clovis, CA 93613
Contact: 1 (708) 821-7575, danielbolm096@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.fgms.us/>

October 9, 2021 – Antioch, CA

Antioch Lapidary Club
Club's clubhouse, 425 Fulton Shipyard Rd., Antioch
[Show Flyer](#) Contact: (925) 240-2954, vicmcpherson@sbcglobal.net Website: <http://www.antioch lapidary-club.com>

October 9-10, 2021 – Los Altos, CA

Peninsula Gem and Geology Society
One No. San Antonio Road, Los Altos, CA 94022
Contact: 1 (408) 834-5384, steve_jobe@sbcglobal.net
Website: <http://pggs.org>

October 10, 2021 – Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
123 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA in the parking lot.
Contact (760) 728-1130 Email: info@fgms.org

October 16-17, 2021 – Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Rosa Veterans Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa
Contact: Janyce Vickers (707) 217-0636
Email: santarosarockshow@hotmail.com

October 16-17, 2021 – Placerville, CA

El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society
El Dorado County Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Dr., Placerville, CA 95667 Contact: (530) 676-2472
Website: <https://eldoradomineralandgem.org>

October 30-31, 2021 – Mariposa CA

Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club
Mountains of Minerals Show
Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007 Fairgrounds Rd.
Contact: Meredith Meehan, mgmc@sti.net
Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

Display at Sparks Library

Steve Norman

Steve Rose and Sam Knipmeyer put in a display at the Sparks Library. August 13, 2021



Steve Rose (left) a retired Geologist and friend of the Society, filled the shelves with materials from Nevada. Society member Sam Knipmeyer (right) brings a sprinkling of things from all over to fascinate visitors

to the library. A handy Jackpot of Gems flyer is available for anyone interested in the event.



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