

The Conglomerate

The Monthly Newsletter of the Reno Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

July, 2023



General Meeting

Wed. July 5, 7pm

Baldini's Second Floor

Board Meeting

Wed. July 12, 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 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 6 PM at the Rock Building, 480 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks, NV.

Annual membership dues: student: \$25, Individual: \$35, and Family: \$50.

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President's Message

Dean Sizemore

Well, we're over the half-way point already. Field trips are going really well; the schedule and help that Field Trip director, Hilary Loupee, has put together introduces us to so many new sites that even the old timers have fun. Membership is doing well, and so are the General Meetings--both have great numbers. It's nice to see more and more people attending the general meetings which is truly the best way to get the most up-to-date information, ask questions of the different leaders, check out books, and see field trip rocks as well as 32 auction items and the marvelous door prizes.

The speakers our VP, Steve Smith, has been lining up have been informative and educational. It's really nice to learn so many new things each month from guest speakers and members. Weather has been cooperative for a change which makes attending meetings easy. Membership director, Lynda Traves, is now keeping badges at the building between meetings so you can stop by and pick up the badge you paid for; we have a lot of them. Please stop by and pick yours up. If you wear it to the general meeting, you get a free door prize ticket.

Denise's monthly themes for door prizes have been popular, and she is getting great donations from our members plus what she finds all year long. Funds raised by door prizes, 32 auctions, and JPOG silent auction all go towards the building fund. At the June board meeting we received great news regarding our building fund: the LLC let us know that the initial money loaned to them by RGMS is being paid back to RGMS and that puts us close to reaching our building fund goal. However, we still need donations--costs are continuing to go up.

Have a great July, a safe 4th, and I can't wait to see you this month.

July Program Notes
Steven Smith, Vice President

Please join us July 5th, 7pm for our general meeting at Baldini's casino, upstairs in the banquet room.

Hilary and **Steve** will lead a discussion on upcoming field trips, equipment, and have a questions and answer session. Please bring some of your best finds to share with fellow members from your field trip adventures.

There will be many fine door prize items to win. I hope you can attend our general meeting, see new and old friends, and take home a winning door prize. See you there. We will also have our wonderful door prizes. The doors open at 6pm for set up, meet and greet fellow members, and talk to Julie about classes. I hope we see you there.

Officers' Reports

General Meeting and Board minutes are posted on the bulletin board at the Rock Building monthly. Treasurer's reports are available to any member on request. **Steve Norman**, Secretary; **Janet Longueira**, Treasurer

Please Help!!

Hello RGMS members,

We're hoping someone can help fellow member, **Jill Hyatt**, whose bucket of Petersen crystals was lost after the 6/10 (Saturday) dig. The bucket is a white HART, with HYATT written on one side. If anyone has found it, please call Jill at 55-709-0806.

Thank you,

Renée Samuels

Jackpot of Gems 2023
Daniel Ellis, Show Chair

Is it summer yet? That rain was making a long spring season for us. The good news is that the rain washes the dirt off the good stuff for us.

At the July meeting the Raffle Chair will be selling tickets for the show drawing.

Sign up lists for the show will be there also. Anyone who needs some of our flyers for the show can pick them up and, if need be, get a poster too.

We still need help in the Kids' corner getting the show stuff ready. See April Young, and she will let you know how to help.

Both the Show Chairman and the Vendor Chairman need assistants to show them what is needed to make this show happen. Dealing with the contracts for the venue and the vendors, licenses, permits, insurance, fire marshals, security, staffing, setup, tear down, and food are just a short list of what has to happen in a timely manner to pull off the show. So please talk to us about helping, and to see what it takes to be involved.

We also need a person to step up as our Publicity Chair spot for the Rock Society as a whole. We also need someone to plan an ad campaign for the show or society and oversee the side we do for the Society.

Yes, all of these spots take some time every month, but the show does not run on its own. Come to our meeting on Monday, July 17th at 6 PM at the Rock Building and see for yourself.

Without your time and help the show will cease to be.

Thanks

Membership
Lynda Traves, Director



This picture shows something I said to a friend’s child last week-- "try licking it to see the color." His response was a grimace. I know using water is better, or spitting, but I can’t spit no matter how hard I try. So I have licked a rock to see the true color under the dust or grime. (We have lost the joy of getting muddy and I am the first to cringe away from that except when it comes to checking the color of a rock — don’t ask, I have some interesting priorities).



Levi in foreground, Torin up the hill—Photo by Lynda Traves and parent approved.

I was bummed about the Sunday amethyst dig for two reasons: one, I was sick; and two, it was canceled. However, my husband (Mark Cappel) and son-in-law (John Panches) with the boys (Torin and Levi) still

went out to the dig site, because we missed the post, climbed rocks and found great stuff. The day before Mark took the boys on the junior rock hounds field trip to find selenite. They climbed a steep hill and retrieved a lot of selenite. They did not want to leave.

We currently have 451 memberships representing 838 members. And, approximately 45 school aged children, some of whom attend the kids rock classes (kids can start any time).

- Andrew Burton and Florence Maiman
- Brenda Ruiz Gonzales
- Catherine Magee ,
- Christopher Hansen
- Dee Thrapp
- Diana Sprian
- Edward Joshua Rappoport
- Eric Fishman
- Eric Michael Lundin II
- Erik Wheeler and Manivanh Phethmany
- Jessica, Jarret, Cindy, Gary, Kayla and Kylie Wheeler , ,
- Gail Lukaszka
- Jackie Gorton
- Jacqueline Mezeul
- Jared Kay

- Jeremy Buscay
- Jerejy, Dawn, Sebastian, and Jasmine Mills
- Justin Thursby, Darlene Evans, Nikki, Nick, and Maddox Manesero
- Kevin Anderson
- Laura Neeley Jason Reynolds, and Katherine Gomez
- Loni and Mark Ditsworth
- Madison Mellard, and Jacob Mellard ,
- Matthew, Karly, & Sedona Mannos ,
- Mike, Ryan, Carolyn, Jenna and Jenelle Willford
- Na Ly
- Natalie Ede
- Paul Bigelow
- Rick Kennedy

Membership (contiued from p. 3)

Jenni Marie Sidley	Addison Cox
Rory, Kim, Hiram, and Logan Howell	Bela and Mya Reys-Klien Lauren Klien and Nic Dutch
Sarah Clark	Nic Dutch
Scott Royal Robbins	Emily Wexler
Tori Sundheim	Sam Guy
Glenn and Katie Hasbrouck	Scot Guy
Krista Micklo	Heather Baxter

Apologies for errors and omissions for any names above. Please let me know of any corrections.

Correction from last month: New member should have been **Jane Wertzberger**

To pay your membership online or download the membership form:

<https://renogms.org/membership-2/>

If you have any questions, please email me at membership@renogms.org.

Membership dues:

Individual—\$35 (prorated from July on); Family memberships —\$50, student memberships —\$25 with valid student ID.

Family memberships are for those who live in the same household.

Thank you so much. I look forward to helping you and meeting you at the next event.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

RGMS provides a selection of activities and events that are of interest to the large variety of its members. But that very fact insures that some events will inevitably conflict. To keep conflicts at a minimum, anyone scheduling ANY event open to RGMS members MUST clear the date with **Julie Hilsabeck** who manages the calendar.

Also, your most easily accessible and most accurate event information will always be the calendar on the RGMS Website <renogms.org/calendar>..

Fall Craft Fair **Theresa Langhans, Coordinator**

Our Craft Fair is scheduled at Reno Town Mall, November 10, 11, 12, 2023.

It seems like such a long time from now, but our Fall Artisan Craft Fair will be with us much sooner than perhaps we may think.

If you are interested in participating as a vendor in our upcoming Fall Show, please complete a registration form. For a three-day event, the cost is extremely reasonable: \$65 for the first space and \$35 for each additional space. Also, if you do not already have a City of Reno business license, there will be an additional \$20 charge required by the city. I have included the registration form with this issue of *The Conglomerate*.

We have space for about 25 vendors. Vendors do not necessarily need to be a member of the Society, but there are additional insurance and liability requirements for those who are not members. The product that you sell also does not have to be related to our hobby. This is our opportunity as members to sell our product and to support RGMS as our table reservation fees go directly to the Society.

I look forward to working with our vendors and appreciate all members assisting with the advertising for our event. Advertising cards and fliers are already available at the Rock Building.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sunshine Report **Joanne Sworthout**

If you have a situation for which you could use some support from your RGMS friends, or if you know of someone who could, please get in touch with **Joanne** at sunshine@renogms.org.

Field Trip Director Update

Hilary Loupee

Field Trips have been going super well, despite all the wet spring weather. We have had to shuffle a few of the dates around due to weather, but so far, I'm still hopeful that they will all happen. A lot of work goes into making sure that field trip spots are accessible at the time of the field trip. I do my best to avoid changes or cancellations, but sometimes they are inevitable.

I'd like to say a few words about field trips as I get a lot of repeat questions. You will always see an email the week of the field trip with more details about meet up times and detailed information. I always talk about the upcoming field trips in this newsletter. Please be patient and wait for the email. It is difficult for me to keep up and try to respond to dozens of emails every month from individuals asking for more information about specific field trips. The field trips are free and one of the biggest perks of membership. I've gotten this question a lot this month, likely due to Petersen being a paid dig. That was a special offer from Petersen Mountain, it was not an RGMS field trip. Dogs are allowed on field trips unless otherwise stated. I will let you know if I think it is not a good idea in the email. For example, I did not take my dog to Luning because I knew the terrain was steep. And as always, we cannot share locations to the RGMS field trips. This is the fastest way to ruin them for future use, and I only have so many locations up my sleeve. Please do not ask for a location if you couldn't make it, and do not share a location if you could.

The Texas Springs field trip turned out to be a success, despite the weather threatening to ruin everything. It was a little wet and slippery on and off, but the ground was soft and we dug some big holes. This site may be taken away from us in the near future as a battery company claimed a lot of the area and were out there testing the ground for lithium. Very sad, not only for the rocks, but for the beauty of the area.

Coming up in July we have the trip to Austin, which was written about in the last *Conglomerate*, the trip to Davis Creek north of Alturas along with the sunstones in Plush, OR, and the Fairview agate near Dixie Valley. Davis Creek is home to rainbow obsidian, which can only be found in a few places in the world. Obsidian is usually black of course, but rainbow obsidian is caused by the inclusion of magnetite nanoparticles. This area is managed by the US Forest Service and requires getting a permit on a weekday for our weekend dig. They issue only 25 permits a day, and it won't be just us out there. This will be an RSVP-only trip because of this. We will have to meet when the USFS opens on Friday the 14th to get our permits. A permit allows you to take home 2 buckets of obsidian. A couple or a family can share a permit, which would allow us to have more diggers. On Friday, we would be able to get permits for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Depending on the number of people attending, you will likely only get a permit for one day. That is fine though, because we will be alternating digging at Davis Creek with digging in Plush, OR. Depending on which day your Davis Creek permit is for, you will go to Plush for sunstones the other day(s). Sunstones are amazing pieces of feldspar that can come in various colors. They can be faceted and are gemstone quality. I love sifting through the sand with a colander and picking out the beautiful, mostly yellow stones. They look like little drops of sunshine. This is very easy walking and surface collecting with a nice camp area located on the BLM land. The rainbow obsidian is also easy collecting in most areas, although you can dig into hard clay for the best pieces if you are up to it. There are two nice campgrounds near the obsidian. 4WD is needed to access some of the mines, but if you do not have this, you could find plenty of areas to collect without it. (Continued next page)

Field Trips Update continued from page 5

At the end of July, the 29th-30th, we have the trip to the Fairview agate. While you can surface pick for chips, you will want to do some hard digging to find the nice nodules full of blue agate. This trip will require a 4WD vehicle. There is a dry camp spot at the end of a pretty good flat road if you want to camp. It can also be easily done as a day trip. Besides the Fairview agate, we will be visiting a great spot for colorful jasper, and a nuclear test site. See you all in the desert!

Upcoming Field Trips:

July 1-4th Austin (daisy agate, fluorite, jasper, snake skin agate)

July 14th-16th – Davis Creek / Plush, OR (rainbow obsidian, sunstones)

July 29th – 30th – Fairview agate (blue agate, jasper)

August 12th – Frenchman’s Lake (rose quartz)

August 13th – Johnsville (gold panning)

August 26th – 27th – Berlin/Gabbs (fossils, jasper, agate, petrified wood, blue opals)

September 9th-10th – Austin (blue agate)

September 23rd – 24th – Gabbs (opalized wood)

October 7th – 10th - Coaldale



Naomi found a huge limb cast.



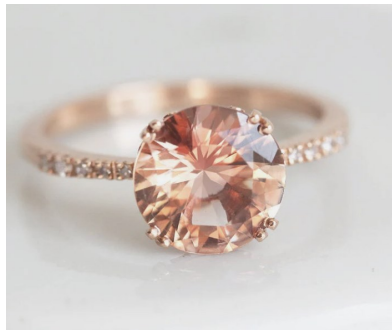
Hilary digging for pink agate



Texas Springs camp



Sifting for Sunstones



A faceted sunstone

Photos above by Hilary Loupee



Rainbow obsidian from Davis Creek



Fairview agate

Jackpot of Gems Raffle **Debbie Bush, Chairman**

As many of you know, I am the Raffle Chairman for the Jackpot of Gems Show in September.

I am looking for donations over the next couple of months for the show. Jewelry and any rock donations are always great. In addition, any creations such as bookends, bolo ties, wind chimes, etc would be fun too! I am also putting together a few fun baskets so I need larger dinosaurs, sauce, pasta, wine, chocolate, etc for an Italian one and any beauty items for a spa one. If you have an idea for a basket, do not hesitate to tell me.

I will be selling the raffle tickets at the July, August, and September General meetings. You can bring any donations to me at those meetings or email me at social@renogms.org. I am more than willing to meet you somewhere if you can't make it to the meetings. If you are interested in selling some tickets to friends and family, I can get those to you too!

Thank you to anyone who has already donated items.

I look forward to all the wonderful donations like we had last year.

It was a great show and hopefully we can top it this year!

Thanks **Sue Webb, Editor**

I wish to thank RGMS for the lovely orchid that was given to me upon the death of my son, **Karl Allemeier**. I hope it can survive the care of my black thumb. Further, I want to express my appreciation for the cards, the many expressions of sympathy, and the heartfelt hugs that have come my way. RGMS is truly a special kind of organization. .

Picnic Wrap-up **Debbie Bush, Social Director**

We had a beautiful day for the picnic—No rain until we were all packed up and headed home! Thanks so much to everyone who attended and brought food, helped with set up and/or tear down (or any other help needed), and donated items for the Bingo Games!! Again thank you!

Our new grills made the cooking of the hot dogs and hamburgers better (less burning) and more efficient. **Terry** and **Eric** were our grill masters for the day. Nice job!

The food was delicious and **Steve's** cookies were an especially big hit. It was wonderful to see some of our new members come out and join us for the day. We ended with Bingo and **Denise** did a great job calling the numbers. You could almost hear a pin drop as everyone concentrated on their cards wanting to be the next one to yell, "Bingo!"

We left with full bellies, some Bingo winners, and another great RGMS memory!

See you next year!



Photo: **Debbie Bush** More picnic photos on next page.

More Picnic Photos
by Debbie Bush and Steve Smith



Top row photos by Debbie Bush
the rest by Steve Smith



Idaho Rock Hounding By Debbie Bush

At the end of May, Terry and I were heading to Idaho for a fishing (and hopefully rock hounding) trip. Since we didn't know the area well, I looked up the closest Rock and Gem Club which was the Owyhee Rock and Gem Club. I requested to join their Facebook group and posted a request for help locating some areas to look for rocks. I got several great location ideas and even permission to go on a claim but the "Gem" of the post was an offer from **Dennis** to take us out to look for picture jasper.

On Saturday we met. He brought another member, **Rod**, as well. They brought us some local rocks and some jewelry pieces Dennis had made as a gift for us. We spent the day together finding picture jasper and becoming friends. We also discovered they had a trip to Nevada already in the works for the week we got home. We encouraged them to contact us when they got to Nevada so we could return the favor. They had already had a vacation in Nevada planned for the first week in June.

When they got to town, we got together and had a BBQ at our home. They had a 3rd friend, **John**, with them who fit right into the mix and had a great time too. The next day we spent another day together in Fallon gathering Wonderstone (Rhyolite). They loved it! Of course we had a bucket of rocks from our area to give to them as well.

I am so glad I reached out to the OGMS club and feel we have made some new rock hounding friends! We definitely want to keep in touch with them and meet up in Idaho or McDermitt sometime down the road.



Picture Jasper



Idaho Guys with Terry and Debbie Photos: Debbie Bush

RGMS Board Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2023**Steve Norman, Secretary**

(Vice President) **Steve Smith** called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Steve also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

These are the summarized notes. Contact me for the full report at secretary@renogms.org or find them on the clipboard near the office on a countertop.

New Business: Steve Smith welcomed everyone. He announced that the waiver is complete and can be used on registration for membership and with field trips. Steve has obtained a DVD that shows and explains many emergency medical practices. He encouraged everyone to watch it. The DVD is in the Library and available for checkout—**Jim Welker's** proposal for a column in the Conglomerate to list events. **Sue Webb**, the editor for the Conglomerate, could put in dates and times of events to provide more coverage. Members can receive information from the calendar in the Conglomerate, the website's front page, and E blasts made to the membership. **Steve Norman** proposed developing a routine with a committee meeting to nominate outstanding Society members for recognition.

Treasurer: **Janet Longueira** reviewed the Statement of Financial Position as of April 30, 2023, and the Financial Statement of Activity in April 2023. There was a question about expenses in the correct category. Janet will work with **Ana John** and **Robyn Howard** to update the reports.

Social Media: **Sven Sander** shows 2,100 views on the Facebook page, with 436 engagements. MailChimp (email blasts) reaches 2,088 contacts.

Tech Chair: Director **Tom Nichols** reports that the Craft Fair is on the website's front page. It would help to have pictures or a short video on the Facebook page for more engagement and as a way to create advertising for RGMS.

Craft Fair: **Theresa Langhans** reported a good turnout with modest results for participants. The Library was closed, and traffic was lighter than last year. However, with 14 vendors, RGMS earned \$1,945. The Wheel of Fortune was busy; many kids had fun with \$105 in donations. The Fall Craft Fair in November has five vendors signed up already.

Social: **Debbie Bush** reports 36 signed up for the annual picnic at the Lazy Five Park on Saturday, June 10, 2023.

Door Prize: **Denise Sizemore** reported 69 attending the General Meeting in May. There were \$234 in donations for the Mother's Day theme.

School: Director **Julie Hilsabeck** reported four Open Houses last Month, with a Sunday Open House once a month. Julie plans an all-day Lapidary class on a Saturday for students to complete three stones in a class. May Lapidary courses are full, with a few spots available in the Silver Smithing classes. **Jennifer Rhodes** plans a wire wrap class using gallery wire with a tiger eye cabochon. Students need some experience with wire wrap to take this class.

Shop: Director **Patrick Davis** reports the Silent Auction inventory of the storage area is 428 buckets, with 50 having big specimens. Last year the Silent Auction at the Show used 130 buckets. Currently, 152 buckets are bagged up and ready for sale. Patrick recommends getting more products ready for sale and continuing slabbing. **Renée Samuels** and **Lori Connel** are working on

(Continued next page)

Continued from p. 9

some Saturdays and will ask for volunteer help. Patrick stated that he found no problems with the inventory, including raffle materials. The shop has acquired new wheels for the lapidary machines.

Membership: **Lynda Traves** reports 417 members with 779 members.

Field Trip/Building: **Hilary Loupee** reports 35 vehicles on the Lovelock trip. The Luning field trip searching for sea fossils plans to find ammonites and donate a bucket to the Society. Any ichthyosaur bones are not to be collected. Hilary has activities for children. Jim Welker went over the Texas Spring trip near Jackpot, NV. Hilary has acquired an ADT machine with training upcoming on its use and CPR instruction. Hilary addressed President **Dean Sizemore's** concern about missing material in the storage, noting that the inventory was correct and in order.

Conglomerate and AFMS/CFMS: Editor **Sue Webb** reminds the due date for articles is the 15th of the Month. Sue reports that the Southern NV Gem Show at Boulder City had a collection of other events going on simultaneously, including the Gem show along with a car show, Craft Fair, and Antique Show that was free and well attended. This year's American Federation meeting in Billings, Montana, is an opportunity to attend a great Show. She plans to attend the California Federation Show in Lodi, CA. **Patrick Davis**, **Robin Howard** and **Steve Smith** plan to attend to pursue the Rocky Mountain Mineral Society membership change.

Library: Director **April Young** stated that **Mary Hicks** has been available for library checkout on Monday's Open House. April is working with instructors on valuable books for students to read while learning a craft that the Society offers.

Sunshine: **Joanne Sworthout** has no news to report. Anyone with information, please let her know.

The Rock Building: LLC Director **Linda Johnston** reports the building is fully rented out and doing well. She thanked **Terry Bush** for volunteering and for all the help. Linda thanked **Patrick Davis** and **Eric Fendelander** for all their volunteer work in fixing the heater to solving problems. Linda has financial reports that **Janet Longueira** received.

New Business: Director **Patrick Davis** reports that wheels and spare parts for the lapidary machines are on hand. The shop makes a lot of money on class fees, but this requires replacing parts to keep machines running smoothly. The new Lapidary machines have earned more than they cost, taking only one year of class fees.

Adjournment: 8:34

Kid's Corner: Copper ***Steve Norman***



Native metal as crystals—
from Michigan

Metallic copper, or native copper, is probably the first metal mined some seven thousand years ago. People in the Middle East used it extensively, and deposits in Cyprus were near the surface. Copper melted into molds could make tools, weapons, jewelry, and utensils. It was an important trading commodity. Soon people discovered that mixing tin and copper made bronze, a harder metal.

In 2022 the world market for copper produced and consumed some 19.25 million tons for various industrial uses such as wiring, electric motors, construc-

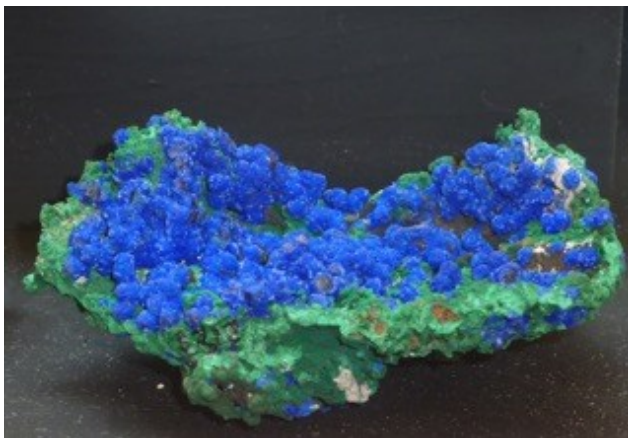
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Kid's Corner—Copper continued from p. 11

In 2022 the world market for copper produced and consumed some 19.25 million tons for various industrial uses such as wiring, electric motors, construction, industrial machinery, and transportation. Your family car may contain 50 pounds of copper; your home has about 400 pounds; and an airliner has as much as 9,000 pounds of the metal. The country of Chili in South America is the largest producer mining copper, followed by several African countries.

The United States produced some 1.3 million tons in 2022 from six western states, including Nevada, which in 2017 produced 66 tons of the stuff. Who has seen the copper mining operations at Yerington in Lyon County? Arizona leads the nation in copper production and is developing the largest mine in North America, mining the metal as deep as 7,000 feet underground.

Historically, Native Americans mined copper from the surface and glacial deposits in Northern Michigan. It was used and traded by many Native Americans. A famous surface deposit from the from the glaciers, the Ontanoagan Boulder, weighs some 3,700 pounds. The Native Americans revered this huge copper-metal boulder that in 1858 found its way to the Smithsonian Museum in



Oxidized metal—azurite and malachite from Arizona

Washington, D.C., for the world to behold. One enormous body of native copper recently found in Michigan weighed about 28.2 tons or 56,400 pounds. In the Southwest of the United States, Native Americans found colorful minerals, like turquoise, azurite, and malachite, that contain outcropping oxidizing copper deposits. Today people look for these specimens for their mineral collection.

Education Outreach

Steve Norman, Advisor

The Reno Gem and Mineral Society Education Outreach program made 11 classroom presentations to 297 students: Verdi ES with two classroom presentations to fourth-grade students, Spanish Springs ES three classrooms of fourth graders. Bud Beasley ES fourth grade with four classrooms and Greenbae ES fourth grade with two classrooms.

Students are encouraged to do well in school and think about exciting science careers. Every student is given a mineral gift, and information is provided for their parents about the Reno Gem and Mineral Society. We support the Nevada Division of Minerals' program on keeping out of mines found in Nevada. I want to thank **Debbie Bush** for her help and **Alan and Bobbi Metzger** for their contributions of a nice, polished rock to students and teachers.

Renée Samuels and **April Young** went on the Future Rockhounds of America field trip to Sun Valley, where we found selenite. Six students, their parents, with two adult club members convoyed to the Sun Valley area. The students found about a gallon bucket of selenite formed from gypsum that had evaporated from a shallow lake into crystals. There were a lot of smiles as they saw the stuff everywhere. The Future Rockhounds program will recess for the summer and continue with classes in October 2023.

Door Prizes—July and Forward
Denise Sizemore, Door Prize chair



Photo by Stephanie Leonard

Door Prizes for July’s General Meeting will be all about THE RED WHITE AND BLUE!!!! So, it’s all about celebrating America with red-, white-, and blue-themed rocks, jewelry, cabs and slabs and more. You can contact me at: Doorprizes@renogms.org or bring items to the General Meeting at Baldini’s the first Wednesday of each month after 6 pm, but before the meeting starts at 7. I will also be collecting Door Prizes for upcoming themed raffles:

August, “Let’s go to the beach

September, “Northern Nevada Finds

October, “Colors of Fall!”

November, “2023 Field Trip Finds... All Found and/or Made From Field Trips Finds!

”AND...

December, “Mystery Gifts, All Wrapped Packages/Gifts Made by Our RGMS Members!!

As always, 100% of the income generated goes back to RGMS. Door Prizes are totally donation based. I would love to add your found and handmade goodies to our raffle. Be sure to add info about your item and who the donation is from.

I am also accepting donations to the 32 Auctions and the Jackpot of Gems Raffle. Please specify which you are donating to, or that your item is open to be donated where it will be of the most financial help to our fabulous organization.

*******1 RAFFLE TICKET FOR WEARING YOUR NAME TAG TO THE GENERAL MEETING******

Thank you all so very much! I look forward to seeing y’all at the meeting!!!

CFMS Spring Meeting, Lodi, CA
Sue Webb, Federation Director

Summary of the 2023 CRMS Spring meeting in Lodi CA on June 23-26. The current board was the host as no club or society had offered to host the meeting for 2023. However, the 2024 spring meeting will be hosted by Ventura CA Gem and Mineral Society, May 24-26, 2024. ♦Several clubs or societies reported members lost since November’s meeting, notably **Mike Kokineo** and **Jack Williams**, past presidents of CFMS. ♦It was noted that the Sutter Buttes club has disbanded and has contributed \$2500 each to the CFMS and AFMS Scholarship Funds. ♦A new member group was welcomed—a museum and executive office building group in Placerville. ♦No CFMS clubs entered the All American Club contest this year. ♦Only 5 clubs or societies contributed entries for the Bulletin contest. ♦Camp Paradise will

8/26 & 8/27-9/2, but Zyzzyx will not be held because the location is unavailable. ♦It was noted that the executive Committee has the authority to make interim decisions on Federation business. ♦The Billings meeting of AFMS will feature 5 exciting field trips. ♦It was also noted that an arrangement with Rock and Gem that is in the works may offer CFMS/AFMS member club members a subscription discount. ♦The CFMS Historian chair is reigning, and the position needs to be filled. ♦CFMS now has a Facebook page; member clubs’ social media chairs should “like” it. ♦It was noted that members of the CFMS board have expertise that is available to all member societies. ♦Items in the museum collection need to be re-assessed. They are currently seriously undervalued for insurance purposes. ♦The Photography chair emphasized the importance of getting permission to publish images of members as well as of children. ♦An executive order was issued last year to

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RGMS Classes & Shop Hours for July
Julie Hilsabeck, School Director

Mondays:

- **Open House;** 11:00am to 9:00pm. Fee is \$7.50/hour.

Heads Up - There are big changes for the following classes!

Tuesdays:

- **Beginning Lapidary:** 11:00am to 3:00pm. Mandatory Safety class 7-11-23 at 10:30am. Class fee is \$60.00. Only on 7-11-23.
- **Tumbling:** 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Class fee is \$60.00.
- No Tuesday Evening Lapidary Classes - See the weekend schedule.
- No Tuesday Evening Slab Saw Classes - See the weekend schedule.
- No Beginning Silver for July.

Wednesdays:

- **Beginning Lapidary:** 11:00am to 3:00pm. Only on 7-12-23. Class fee is \$60.00.

Thursdays:

- **Advanced Silver** Fabrication: 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Class fee is \$22.50 each night. This is an individual study class rather than a set project class. No classes on 7-13-23.
- No Thursday Shop Open House in July.
- No Beginning Silver for July.

Saturdays:

- **New member Open House:** 10:00am to 1:00pm on 7-8-23.
- **Open House:** 10:00am to 2:00pm on 7-8-23. Use Fee is \$7.50/hour.
- **32 Auction Pick up** on 7-8-23, 11:00am to 2:00pm.
- **All day Beginning Lapidary** 7-22-23, 9:00am to 5:00pm, Class fee is \$60.00. Bring food or go out for lunch.
- **All day Slab Saw Use** 7-22-23, 9:00am to 5:00pm, Class fee is \$60.00. Bring food or go out for lunch. Also, bring some rocks/geodes of your own to slab.

Sundays:

- **Beading/Bead Weaving** with Sue Webb on Sunday 7-9-23, 10:00am to 2:00pm. Class fee is \$20.00.
- **Shop Open House** 10:00am to 6:00pm 7-9-23. Use fee is \$7.50/hour.
- **All day Beginning Lapidary** 7-23-23, 9:00am to 5:00pm. Class fee is \$60.00. Bring food or go out for lunch.

Special class:

- **Mineral Identification** on 7-29-23 from 10:00am to 3:00pm, break for 1 hour for lunch. This day only! Required text is Rocks, Gems, and Minerals by Walter Schumann. Check our local bookstores as well as online. Class fee is \$60.00. Kit fee is \$25.00.

ALAA Land Use Policy

1. Adherence to the AFMS Code of Ethics assures compliance with most statutes and regulations governing collecting on public lands and encourages respect for private property rights and the environment. Clubs are urged to read the AFMS Code of Ethics in at least one meeting every year, to publish the Code frequently in the club newsletter, and to compel compliance on club field trips.
2. Individuals and clubs are urged to write their elected representatives and land use management agency supervisors regarding issues of rule making, legislation and enforcement affecting field collecting of minerals and fossils.
3. Individuals and clubs are urged to join and support activities of the American Lands Access Association (ALAA), a sister organization with responsibility for advancing the interests of earth science amateurs with legislatures and land use management agencies.
4. The AFMS will receive a report from ALAA at its annual meeting.
5. The AFMS endorses the principle of multiple use of public lands as a guarantee of continuing recreational opportunities.
6. Wilderness and monument designations are inconsistent with the principle of multiple use. In view of the vast amount of public land already designated as wilderness and monuments, future such designations should be minimal, taking into account the increased demand for recreational opportunities, including rock-hounding, created by a growing population.
7. In furtherance of the principle of multiple use, the AFMS believes that laws, regulations and rules established by relevant governmental authorities should be designed to allow freest possible access to all public lands, coupled with minimal restrictions on the recreational collection of minerals, fossils, gemstone materials and other naturally occurring materials.
8. A right to collect minerals and fossils on public lands should be protected by statute.
9. The AFMS urges its members to work with any or all government authorities to achieve a good working relationship in order to improve the public image of recreational collectors.

AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the own-er's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind—fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material—matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes, which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public image of rockhounds everywhere.

CFMS/AFMS Shows July/August 2023

Additional information is available on the CFMS website, cfmsinc.org/shows

July 8-9, 2023 – Culver City, CA

Culver City Gem and Mineral Society
Culver City Veteran's Memorial Auditorium, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA 90203
Contact: lexyhunter@aol.com
Website: <http://culvercityrocks.org/fiesta/>

August 4, 5 & 6, 2023 – Nipomo, CA

Orcutt Mineral Society
Nipomo High School, 525 N. Thompson Ave., Nipomo, CA 93444
Contact: nipomocowgirl55@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.omsinc.org>

August 5-6, 2023 – Roseville, CA

Roseville Rock Rollers Gem and Mineral Society
Roebbelen Event Center, @the Grounds – Roseville, 700 Event Center Dr., Roseville, CA 95678
Contact: gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.rockrollers.com/index.html>

August 19-20, 2023 – Tehachapi, CA

Tehachapi Valley Gem and Mineral Society
500 East "F" Street, Tehachapi, CA 93561
Contact: (661) 972-1117, travis462@outlook.com
Website: <https://www.tvgms.rocks>

August 26-27, 2023 – Arcadia, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society
Arcadia Masonic Lodge, 50 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia CA 91007
Contact: (626) 260-7239
Website: <https://pasadenalapidary.org>

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"conserve 30%" of all public lands. That actually translates to closures of rockhounding areas in public lands. Make your opinions known by communicating them to the BLM at nlinescovio@blm.gov. Be specific. ♦Also, a definition of "rockhound" is needed—specifically, who is a rockhound, what do we do, when, where, why, and how do we do it. ♦ Location(s) for judges training seminars is being worked on. ♦**Pat LaRue** reminded everyone to be sure they have FILED the appropriate paperwork with the IRS so as not to lose the official non-profit status. Respectfully submitted.

Classes Offered by RGMS

This is a general listing of RGMS classes that are typically offered. For specific dates, consult the calendar on the Website or talk to the school director at the General Meeting or email at [<school@renogms.org>](mailto:school@renogms.org).

Advanced Silver Fabrication
Basics of Slab Saw Use
Beading/Bead Weaving
Beginning Lapidary
Beginning Silver Fabrication
Casting
Cold Connections
Etching on Copper
Intermediate Lapidary
Jewelry 101
Lost Wax Carving for Casting
Make Your Own Ear Wires
Mineral Identification
Silver Crocheting
Silver Chain Making
Tumbling
Wire Wrapping/Weaving

Future

Enameling
Faceting
Intarsia

Take a few minutes and check out the *CFMS Newsletter* for July. Just enter <http://www.cfmsinc.org> and find the newsletter in the list on the right. Click on the link.

The Newsletter of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies is published monthly. You can view the current issue as well as back issues online at www.Amfed.org. There is also a new Kids' Website www.juniors.amfed.org



Officers

President:	Dean Sizemore	President@renogms.org
Vice President:	Steven Smith	Vicepresident@renogms.org
Secretary:	Steve Norman	secretary@renogms.org
Asst. Secretary:	Sue Webb	assistantsecretary@renogms.org
Treasurer:	Janet Longueira	treasurer@renogms.org
Asst. Treasurer:	Robyn Howard	assistanttreasurer@renogms.org
Past President	Tom Nichols	pastpresident@renogms.org

Board Members at Large

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Stephanie Leonard	Jim Wellker	Denise Sizemore
Theresa Langhans		

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Shop:	Patrick Davis	
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Sunshine:	Joanne Sworthout	sunshine@renogms.org
Tech Director	Available	tech@renogms.org
Volunteers	Wendy Kazas	volunteers@renogms.org

Volunteer Page

A new feature in the *Conglomerate*, this space will feature those members who are not officers or directors but who regularly volunteer their time to help RGMS function in a number of different and valuable ways, or sometimes in addition to serving as an officer or director. Please thank them for their service if you see them at the Rock Building or at the meeting. You will notice that some members serve in more than one capacity—for example, Steve Norman has 3 jobs—count ‘em. A number of others are doing 2. Think you might find time to do just one job? There are several available.

Used Equip,Sale Coord.	Patrick Davis & Committee
Gen. Mtg. Guest Greeter	Joanne Sworthout
Gen. Mtg Door Prize Coord	Denise Sizemore,
Assistant Door Prize Coord.	Lori Connel
Educational Outreach	Steve Norman
Future Rockhounds Advisor	Steve Norman
JPOG Silent Auction	Renée Samuels
Facility Expansion	Patrick Davis
JPOG Dealer Chair	Terry Bush
Safety Officer	Spencer Ennis

Instructors (Alphabetical by class)

<i>Bead weaving:</i>	Sue Webb
<i>Casting:</i>	Spencer Ennis
<i>Etching</i>	Irene Comstock
<i>Jewelry 101 &</i>	Robyn Howard
<i>Cold Connections</i>	“
<i>Lapidary</i>	Julie Hilsabeck
	Barbara Hartman
	Tim Steeper
<i>Lost Wax Carving</i>	Tom Calhoun/Webb Varnum
<i>Mineral ID</i>	Jill Atkins
<i>Silver Fabrication (Adv.)</i>	Spencer Ennis
<i>Silver Fabrication (Beg.)</i>	Patrick Davis
<i>Slab saw</i>	Janet & Albie Longueira
<i>Tumbling</i>	Ginger Ragazzi
<i>Wire Art</i>	

Accommodations:(Circle one). DORM: Couples Women Men Cabin. RV Space

Who would you like to room with if possible? _____ .Use a C-Pap Machine?
___yes___no

Dietary Constraints: ___Food. ___Diabetic. ___Vegetarian ___Other. (please explain)

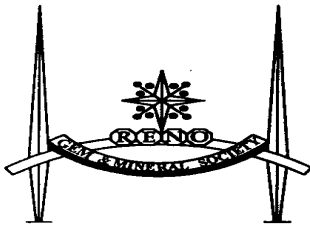
Due to the lack of dietary knowledge and various interpretations of different needs, we ask that you bring your special food items, and we will do our best to prepare them for you

Additional things you should know:

Animals will be allowed in the RV area only and must be kept on a leash at all times and debris picked up after. Any violations could result in adherence to the Camp Paradise No Pet Rule.

By attending this activity, you are giving your consent for CFMS, to make photographs, videotapes, films, email, or other representations of you. I hereby grant CFMS unrestricted right to copyright any of the above-mentioned containing images of me as well as the unrestricted right to me and reuse them with the caption information, in whole or in part. These rights include, but are not limited to the right to publish, copy, distribute, alter, license, and publicly display these materials and images for editorial, trade, marketing and the advertising purposes.

_____ Signature



RENO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

**480 S. Rock Blvd.
Sparks, NV 89431**

FALL 2023 CRAFT FAIR RESERVATION

The Craft Fair will be held November 10, 11, 12 2023 at Reno Town Mall. The Fair is open to RGMS Club Crafters with items, related (or not) to our hobby, being offered for sale. You may choose to be a vendor all three days, or just Saturday/Sunday; cost of the space is the same. (Non-RGMS vendors may also participate, but there are additional requirements)

The hours of the Fair are:

Friday: 10am – 6pm Saturday: 10am – 5pm Sunday: 10am – 3pm

Cost to participate in the Fair is \$65 for a 6' linear space (one table size), plus \$20 for a business license (if you don't already have a Reno business license) to be **paid with this reservation**. Additional 6' table spaces will be an additional \$35 each. You will also be responsible for paying the appropriate percentage of your sales taxes to the State at the end of the Craft Fair.

You may cancel any time prior to six weeks before the Fair and get reimbursed for your fees. However, if you cancel after that time, your fees will be considered a donation to RGMS.

Please complete the information below and return to:

**Theresa Langhans, RGMS Craft Fair Coordinator
480 S. Rock Blvd.
Sparks, Nv. 89431**

or send via email: theresalanghans@yahoo.com

Name of Participant: _____

Type of Craft: _____

Address of Participant: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

Email contact: _____

Nevada State (Department of Taxation) Tax ID # (if you have one): _____

I will participate: (circle one) Fri/Sat/Sun Sat/Sun

Initial Reservation Fee for one table space: \$ 65.00

Plus additional # of Tables (\$35 per table): # _____ X \$35 = \$ _____

Plus Business License Fee: + \$20.00 OR

(if you already have your own City of Reno business license – there will be NO \$20 charge)

Your City of Reno Business License Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT OF FEES ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Special Requests (need electrical access, side space, etc): _____

I will try to accommodate special requests, but can not guarantee.

Please note: You must provide your own table(s) for the Fair. Also, all participants must provide their own table coverings for their tables. (There is a very small number of mall tables available to use, and if it is physically difficult for you to bring your own tables, please contact me)