

The Conglomerate

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

February, 2024

General Meeting

Wed. February, 7 7 PM

Baldini's Casino, Second Floor

Board Meeting

February 14, 6 PM

Rock Building, 490 Rock Blvd

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.

President's Message

Dean Sizemore

I hope everyone has had a great holiday season; we've made it through the first month of 2024 already. February has arrived, which means things are going to start getting busy.

We are getting ready for the annual audit; we will be sending out a survey soon and ask everyone to please fill out and send back. The used equipment sale will be coming soon, and before you know it, it will be field trip season. Jon Johnson spoke briefly at January's meeting and let us know that his company were looking at putting together a Peterson dig again this year, but he needed someone on RGMS side to champion the event. They had 2 people step up during the meeting to do so. This dig, along with Camp Paradise offerings and other events throughout the year are opportunities that are offered to the Society and that are much appreciated.

Everyone: be safe as we finish out the rest of winter, and please don't forget to renew your membership. Membership opens to you all the field trips, access to the classes, the monthly newsletter, and the email blasts for important events and so on.

As always, we are continually looking for volunteers in many areas. Please consider helping; it's the best way to make friends, and you will have a good time. The building expansion will be going full steam ahead for the year, aiming to be finished by the end of the year. That is our goal, but please understand that contractors, permitting, and inspections control the schedule, not us. Please be patient and consider stepping up as needed to help. Patrick Davis, who is heading the project, will let everyone know when help is needed.

We need a Vice President, which is our most important opening now. As most know, Steve Smith stepped down and moved to the Board at Large, so that he could get involved in more projects. We had a new VP who was an excellent cand-

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update, but, unfortunately, he had to step down. I will be addressing this in a blast to be sent out soon. I remind all members just as I remind all board members at the start of every board meeting: "We have many different opinions here. If there is a disagreement, please be polite, and please always be respectful."

As always, Denise and I wish you a happy healthy year.

Jackpot of Gems Show ***Daniel Ellis, Show Chairman***

Winter is here--or is it just wet? But that means we have just 6 months until our show. Mark your new 2024 calendar for Sept 14th and 15. Those are the days we will be doing the show at our new venue, the GSR.

As always, we need your help to put this show on. We need YOU to step up and learn how this show is done so us "older" folk can pass the torch to ensure the show keeps growing and getting better.

The next JPOG meeting is Feb19th at 6pm. Please come and learn how the show is done and see if you want to help us put it together.

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

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.

SPRING 2024 Artisan Craft Fair ***Theresa Langhans, Coordinator***

Our Craft Fair is scheduled at Reno Town Mall: April 5, 6, 7, 2024.

It seems like such a long time from now, but our Spring 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 Spring 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. In addition, if you do not already have a City of Reno business license, there will be an additional \$20 charge required by the City of Reno. 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 out 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 will be available at the Rock Building.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.



Photo: S Webb

At the 2019 Spring Fair

Membership

Lynda Traves, Director

Wow! It is 2024 as I write this it will be February 2024 when the newsletter is published. Mark and I went to Great Basin National Park over the New Year's weekend. We had yet to visit this picturesque area in the 13 years we have lived in Reno. The Lehman Caves is spectacular. I was a big wigged out when the docent turned off all the lights and Mark and I were in total (YES total) blackness. It is disconcerting and fascinating because you cannot see even your fingers.

Membership Dues Information: IT IS RENEWAL TIME: Deadline is March 31; if you do not renew by March 31, only paid memberships for 2024 will continue to receive uninterrupted emails and the remaining emails will be purged. You may renew anytime; however, if you have not renewed by April 1, you will cease to receive the *Conglomerate* link and you will lose access to the shop and field trips effective April 1, 2024 (no April Fools prank).

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. A family membership is for those living in the same household.

1) Membership Dues ;paid from January to June covers membership through 2024: \$50 for Family, \$35 for individual, and \$25 for student memberships.

2) Membership Dues paid from July to October: \$18 for an Individual membership or \$25 for a Family membership. You must then renew your membership at the annual membership rates.

3) Membership Dues paid in November or December covert to full price and will cover the full annual membership for 2025: \$50 for Family, \$35 for individual, and \$25 for student memberships.

Also, new for 2024, is the signing of the RGMS waiver. If you renew online, it is a one click affirmation. Otherwise, print the waiver and sign it with your membership dues. If paying at the General Meeting or at a class, I will have copies at the shop. I will also email the waiver to those who have not "signed" one in the coming weeks.

We currently have 627 memberships representing 1107 members. And, approximately 55 school aged children, some of whom attend the kids rock classes. (kids can start any time). There are crafts where kids can identify rocks and paint rocks

Welcome to the following new members (16 Jan to 13 Feb.) .

Welcome to the following new members for the past month (16 of January to 15 of February):

Apologies for the errors and omissions for any names below. Please advise the Membership Director asap any corrections or omissions so I may make the correction. Thank you. Thank you so much. I look forward helping you and meeting you at the next event.

Continued on page 4

Jana Allemeier

Rose Beaver

Jean Black & Carol Evanoff

Stevi, William, Bo, & Summer Bryant

Mary Davey

Tyler Donaldson

Nick Foster

Jack Geier

Andy Greenwald & Alexandra (Lexie) Acorn

Terry Gust & Rob Kendrick

Rebecca Hibit

Beth Jone & Lynette Lintner

Norman & Mary Lamont

Alicia, Anthony, & Kaylynn Lopez

Julie Lowe

Lisa Nash

Michael Phillips

Theresa Reilly & Ken McGwire

Monica Simpson

Teresa Watson

Kristen Wright & Rick Lierman

Dana Wolff

These photos of the Lehman Caves at Great Basin Park wee taken by Lynda Traves—enjoy!!



Kid's Corner: Yosemite National Park**Submitted by Steve Norman, Youth Coordinator**

President Lincoln signed the legislation for the preservation and public use of Yosemite in 1864. This preservation later set the stage for Yellowstone National Park conservation. Yosemite, under the National Park Service, opened in 1916. The Park is in the middle of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range and has two large rivers, Tuolumne and Merced Rivers, that have helped erode the canyons three to four thousand feet deep with 1,700 miles of streams containing over 3,000 small lakes. Yosemite Valley serves as the base for seven significant waterfalls. Yosemite Falls is the tallest, cascading water,

at 2,425 feet to the valley floor. The mountain crests in the Yosemite area are at 13,000 feet, rising to more than 14,000 feet in the Sequoia and King Canyon National Park, about 100 miles south of Yosemite. Mount Whitney is the highest peak in the Sierra Nevada and the continental United States, towering at 14,500 feet on the boundary of Sequoia National Park. Sequoia Park has excellent views of Mt. Whitney and many giant sequoia trees.

The Tioga Glaciation that ended about 18,000 years ago covered the Yosemite crests above the 8,900-foot elevation, sending glaciers down most valleys. The glaciers of snow and ice embedded in the mountain regions retreated and advanced numerous times over the rocky terrain, eroding, scarring, and sometimes polishing the granite mountain. Numerous linear scratches called glacial striations are exposed today on many of the surface rocks. El Capitan, a massive granite peak shown in the picture, rises 3,000 feet above the floor of Yosemite Valley and has a polished look. This granite was part of the subduction of the continental plates that pushed up into the crust, and later erosion shows the bodies of molten rock that form today's granite Sierra Mountain range.

Picture World Atlas

Ref: Wikipedia, Google

Youth Education Science (YES)**Steve Norman, Youth Advisor**

We have many fun learning activities planned for **Saturday, February 10, at 3 pm in our new bright classroom at 480 S. Rock Boulevard**. Sue Webb (our newsletter editor) attended a meeting where they had paper crystal shapes to adorn the tables. She picked them up for our class, so making them should be fun. Another "Name That Mineral" activity will ask what mineral conducts electricity. What minerals are in paper, airplanes, food, and even blood? There is also a scheduled art activity thanks to Society member Rene'e Samuels. The class goes from 3 pm to 4:30, and you are welcome to stay with your children and their friends (you don't have to be a member to attend).

Glimpses from the Past: Heart and Soul of RGMS**Shirley Barnes**

Shirley joined RGMS in 1977. Positions she held include Jr. Coordinator, Secretary, Asst. Treasurer, Vice President, President, and member at large for the Board of Directors. In addition, you would find her helping at various positions in our annual 'Jackpot of Gems' Show - she was also Show Exhibits Chairperson. If help was needed or work to be done, Shirley was there!

Submitted by John Peterson

Photo by Dale Sworthout

**Lynn Smith**

Lynn joined RGMS in 2002. She immediately jumped in with both feet and started taking lapidary, wire-wrap and silversmithing classes. In 2003 she became an assistant lapidary instructor, member of the Board of Directors, and took on the General Meeting raffle sales table. She also served as Librarian with Jim Seifert. Other positions she's held include Assistant Secretary, Secretary, and President. Lynn is also one of the many members you will normally see helping during our annual 'Jackpot of Gems' Show!

Submitted by John Peterson

Photo by Dale Sworthout



These little articles were part of a series called "Get to Know" that ran in *The Conglomerate* from 2013 through 2016. Most of the articles were written by John Peterson, and the photos taken by Dale Sworthout, though toward the end, Robin DeVisser took a few. Some of those featured have passed on or left the area, but others are still around though not active anymore. We are fortunate to have Shirley and Lynn still in the area and glad we get to see them from time to time. As 2024 wears on, I'll try to include some of those that you really need to know about because of their seminal contributions to RGMS, or who are still around and active.—in no particular order.

RGMS Board Meeting Minutes – November 8, 2023**Steve Norman, Secretary**

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

Treasurer: Janet Longueira reviewed the September Financial Position as of September 30, 2023, and the Financial Statement of Activity for the October 2023 income and expense report.

Jackpot of Gems: Director Dan Ellis reports a good show with \$27,042, which is \$5,600 more than last year! Dan proposed that half the money goes to the building fund and half to savings. **Patrick Davis** cited construction costs, the LLC budget, and the need for electrical work in other building parts. Patrick Davis motioned to split the money but to allow the Treasurer to shift money needed to cover building or other expenses. **Stephanie Leonard** seconded, and the motion carried. The blue cards that tracked how people learned about the show found that Social Media accounted for 29 percent of the people who provided information. Dan reported 2,100 attendance at the last show. **Kristin Gorton** is the new Public Relations Director. The new venue at the Grand Sierra Resort has more room for additional vendors and more visitors in a busy casino.

President: Dean Sizemore reminded the Board members to be polite and care for each other. Dean asked about the nominations for Lifetime membership. **Steve Norman**, who coordinated the email committee, reported that the Nominating committee proposed **Will Hitchcock**, **Julie Hitchcock**, and **Julie Hilsabeck** for Lifetime Membership. After some discussion, the nominations committee proposal was tabled for review.

President: Dean Sizemore noted that there would be no Board meeting in December due to the maintenance and construction activities in the building.

Social Media: Director Sven Sander sent out eight blasts to members in October. Mail Chimp costs are increasing from \$39 per month to \$45. There were 202 page or video views on the RGMS Facebook page. There were 161 posts and comments on the Facebook page for October. **Rene'e Samuels** is monitoring Facebook questions for RGMS with answers or contact information.

Social: Raffle: Debbie Bush noted the Christmas/Holiday party is on Saturday, December 2, starting at 5 pm with setup at 4 pm and done at 7 pm with clean up finished by 8 pm.

Craft Fair: Theresa Langhans reports 20 vendors with two more interested people after the deadline for securing licenses. There is a need for help with the Wheel of Fortune.

Schools: Director Julie Hilsabeck has full classes for November with no classes scheduled for December.

Shop: Patrick Davis plans to fix some cracks and paint to begin after Thanksgiving, which will continue until Christmas. **Virginia Keeley** suggests using the website and email blasts to inform people so they can volunteer.

Facility: Terry Bush has electrical bids for some work in parts of the building.

Membership: Lynda Traves reports 594 memberships, amounting to 1,044 members. Lynda reminds people to pick up name badges. The waiver document will be part of memberships.

Continued next page

Conglomerate and AFMS/CFMS: Editor **Sue Webb** reminds members that articles are needed and are due on the 15th of the month—her assistant plans to do the Conglomerate with Sue traveling to Vasilia, CA for the California Federation meeting.

LLC The Rock Building: **Debbie Bush** reported an audit conducted for the LLC as she assumed the new position.

President: **Dean Sizemore** reported that the accident from last month's field trip has no issues and that the Society is covered by insurance if there are problems. **Tim Steeper** suggests free classes for anyone, especially geologists, that help find new areas of interest for collecting.

Stephanie Leonard thanked everyone for the Tree of Lights donations to help get the word out about RGMS's presence in the community.

February 7, General Meeting, 7pm Baldini's Casino
Steven Smith, Member at Large, RGMS Photographer, and Interim VP

Please join us for the next general meeting **February 7th, 7 pm upstairs at Baldini's casino**. We are having our **annual show and tell program**. Please bring a rock you like or maybe you might be wondering what it is. Someone is bound to know at the meeting. Talk to instructors on hand who can tell you all about upcoming classes. This is a great time to meet other members, learn about classes, membership, buy fabulous door prize tickets and see what a great RGMS we have. I hope to meet you soon.

Photos: Steven Smith, RGMS Photographer



Beginning Silversmithing

Photos: Steven Smith RGMS Photographer

Slab Saw Class



What's involved in putting together a Yearbook for RGMS**Sue Webb, CFMS Representative**

We need one brave soul to champion this effort. We don't want the regional and the national federations to think this 1000-member society is just a bunch of slackers. So what's involved, you ask wanting to know before you commit?

Here's what the award is: "From the AFMS Website: "The All American Club Award is given to the individual club Yearbook, highlighting a club's activities for the past year, including group activities, individual member participation, workshops and shows. Credit is given for attendance at regional and national shows, participation at meetings, holding officer positions on various committees, writing to state representatives, and involvement in ALAA - all these activities reflect an active club that makes membership worthwhile for everyone. The AACA awards are recognition of these activities, with bronze, silver and gold levels and an overall 1st place gold award.

Take a look at what your club has accomplished this past year, and give credit where credit is due!. The more members contribute to the yearbook, the more completely it can serve as an historical document for the club, as well as an excellent tool to encourage prospective members. Canvassing members for any missing documentation, letters, flyers or other materials to fill in some gaps just might make the difference between a good club and a great Club Yearbook entry."

Judging for the All American Yearbook contest focuses on six (6) areas of activity,. RGMS is doing great in many of these areas —most, even,—but there are some activities we can improve upon. The areas are

#6 Government Agency and legislative relations. We need an ALAA rep!!!

#5: Community Relations—talks at schools, and other community groups, displays at public places—e.g. Spanish Spring Library, booths at local events, which and how many members are active in the community?

#4 Support for Regional Federations and AFMS—any officers there or committee chairs? Do members attend regional clubs' shows, Who has supported CFMS/AFMS Scholarships and or Endowments, have we invited other clubs to our field trips, exchanged bulletins with other clubs

#3—Publication and Publicity—have a regular newsletter, how we publicize meetings in Reno, how we publicize the show.

#2 Service to members & guests—list our general meetings, list officers, brag on our juniors and our classes, show specifics about our show, and about our field trips

#1 Create an attractive presentation of the yearbook

You might also take a look at the 2024 score sheet to see what weight various activities carry. Just turn the page to see it.

Judge Score Sheet for AACA contest -2024 for 2023 activity

JUDGE CATEGORY (Mark one) Large Small Note to judges: Use a subtractive scoring system. Start with the possible score for each section and deduct points as indicated for inadequate material or other deficiency. Please provide comments about deductions.

Section 1. Club Information Not Scored

Section 2 SERVICE & MEMBER ENGAGEMENT 33+ pts No regular meetings, talks, or presentations -5 No organized junior group or activities -5 No classes or workshops (paleo, metalsmith, faceting, lapidary, beading, jewelry, etc) -4 No social events (Picnic, banquet, party, other) -3 No show, swap or other public event -5 No special features (library, website or Facebook, yearbook committee or skill-specific workshops)-2 No field trips in field -5 No field trips (museums, shows, etc) -3 No traveling club display -1 Bonus: Uses FRA Badge program or separate junior workshops/events outside of regular meetings +1 Bonus: Competitive Displays shown by members or junior members +1 Bonus: Creation or promotion of virtual workshops, podcasts, museum tours, etc. +1 bonus pts Bonus: Virtual Club displays on Facebook or club website (albums featuring special collections or mineral) +1

Section 3 PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY 16 pts No bulletin or newsletter -5 No club website -2 No Social Media Presence (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok etc.) -2 Meeting/Workshop notices not published in local media, newspapers or non-club websites-3 Show flyers or information not published in local media, newspapers or non-club websites -4 Comments

Section 4 SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL FEDERATIONS, AFMS AND OTHER CLUBS 20 pts No Federation or Regional officers, Committee chairs, or committee members -3 No attendance at Federation shows: Regional -3 AFMS -2 No support for Federation: Scholarships -2 Endowment funds -1 No support for other clubs (Attend shows or swaps, provided displays, gave demos or programs,) -4 No joint field trips with other clubs -3 No exchange bulletins with other clubs -2 Bonus: club Bulletin Editor is a member of SCRIBE +1 Bonus: member served as judge for AFMS contests (Bulletin, Website or Competitive Display) +1 Bonus: Club was host to a Regional Federation Convention or AFMS convention in current year +1 Comment

Section 5a COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 16 pts No talks, displays or demonstrations at local schools -4 No talks or demos to local groups (4H, Scouts, Seniors, Homeschool, etc) -4 No displays at public sites (Library, public buildings) -2 No booths, displays or member activity in local events -2 No support for other local activities (Donated materials, assisted scout leaders or scout events, demos or talks to 4-H, etc) -4 Bonus: Up to 4 points for activities or engagement above and beyond the points listed above +4 bonus pts Comments

Section 6 GOVERNMENT AGENCY AND LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS +5 bonus pts Members served on government committees, in agencies or hearings +1 Comments to governmental agencies or proposals +1 Letters to congressional representatives on legislation affecting our hobby +1 Member support for access/collecting lobbying organizations (like ALAA) +1 bonus pts Club is member of ALAA +1 Comments

Section 7 OVERALL FORMAT AND PRESENTATION 15 pts Poor grammar and spelling -3 Supporting evidence (screen shots, include copy of podcast, video or additional pdfs to view, photo albums) not present in all sections -4 Poor organization, did not follow pdf requirements (bookmarks, external links) -2 Poor overall presentation -5 Over 100 pages (150 single pages if pdf) -1

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 rockhounding, 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 owner'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.

RGMS Class & Shop List**Julie Hilsabeck, School Director****Classes Offered by RGMS**

First, carefully read the blast sent the Tuesday before the meeting. Please respond via email to me, Julie Hilsabeck, at school@renogms.org, if you want any of the classes offered. Please indicate which class date and time you want. Many of the classes are limited to a maximum of 4 students. The list below shows the cost for each class and, if known at this time, the usual day of the week. Days often change from month to month, **so rely on the blast and the online calendar for the latest and correct information.**

Advanced Silver Fabrication**\$22.50 per class**

Thursdays,

Beading \$20.00

TBD

Beginning Lapidary \$60.00

2 all day classes

**Beginning Silver Fabrication
\$120.00 –Earrings****Lost Wax Carving for Casting**

looking for at least 4 students then will schedule a class

Mineral Identification \$60.00**plus \$25 kit fee** Not offered in February**Open House \$7.50/hour of use**

Mondays 11:00am to 9:00 pm

Thursdays 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Slab Saw Use \$60.00

Thursday evenings

Tumbling \$60.00

Not offered in February .

Wire Wrapping \$90

TBD

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): Some classes are offered only occasionally.

Advanced Silver Fabrication
Beginning Silver Fabrication
Beginning Lapidary
Intermediate Lapidary
Beading and Bead Weaving
Bezels Using Gallery Wire
Casting”

Cold Connections

Etching on Copper

Jewelry 101

Lost Wax Carving

Mineral Identification

Making your own ear wires

Silver Crocheting

Silver Chain Making

Slab Saw Use Basics:

Tumbling:

Wire wrapping/weaving: ...

Desired additions to the list
when/if we can find a teacher:

Enameling (future)

Faceting (future)

Intarsia (future)

CFMS/AFMS Shows 2023-2024

Additional information is available on the CFMS Website:
<http://cfmsinfo.org>

February 17-18, 2024 – Antioch, CA

Antioch Lapidary Club
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10th Street, Antioch, CA
Hours: Hours: Sat. 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun. 10 AM-5PM
Contact: (510) 693-9075, kellyplumb900@yahoo.com
Website: <http://antiochlapidaryclub.com>

February 24-25, 2024 – Vallejo, CA

Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society
Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall
900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo, CA 94589
Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM
Contact: (415) 254-1506, dduhonvgms@gmail.com
Website: <https://vjgems.co>

March 1-3, 2024 – Newark, CA

The Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavillion, 6430 Thornton Ave., Newark CA
Hours: Friday 11 AM – 5 PM, Saturday 10 AM – 6 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM
Website: <http://mgscv.org>

i March 2-3, 2024 – Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura Co. Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura CA
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM-4PM
Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org
Website: <http://www.vgms.org> Website: <http://mgscv.org>

March 8-10, 2024 – Victorville, CA (Stoddard Wells area)

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
Stoddard Wells Tailgate. I-15 toward Barstow EXIT #157
Stay on Stoddard Wells Rd. Follow signs 7 mi to Tailgate.
GPS 34.671852347,-117-117133037
Hours: 9 AM – 5 PM daily . Website: <http://vvgmc.org>

March 9-10, 2024 – Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society of CA
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, 900 North Broadway, Turlock, CA
Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM
Contact: see web site
Website: <http://www.turlockgemshow.com>

March 17, 2024 – Fallbrook, CA

Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society
123 West Alvarado St., Ste B, Fallbrook, CA 92028
Hours: 12 Noon – 3 PM
info@fgms.org Website: <http://www.fgms.org>

March 16-17, 2024, San Jose, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Road, San Jose, CA 95111
Contacts: (408) 265-1422, info@scvgms.org
Website: facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety
or <http://www.scvgms.org>

March 16-17, 2024 – Lemoore, CA

Lemoore Gem & Mineral Society
Trinity Hall, 470 Champion St., Lemoore, CA 93245
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 6 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM
Contact: https://facebook.com/events/999726084444006/999726087777339/?active_tape=about

March 16-17, 2024 – San Jose, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society
Santa Clara Co. Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Rd., San Jose, CA 95111
Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM
Contact: (408) 265-1422
Website: <http://www.scvgms.org>

March 22-24, 2024 – Clovis, CA

Fresno Gem and Mineral Society
748 Rodeo Dr., Clovis, CA 93612
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 AM-5 PM, Sun. 10 AM – 4 PM
sponsored by the Fresno Website: <https://fgms.rocks/>

March 23-24, 2024 – Angeles Camp, CA

Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society
2465 Gun Club Rd., Angeles Camp CA 95222
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM.
Contact: (209) 736-4892, dbrooks49@att.net
Website: <http://CalaverasGemandMineral.net>

Take a few minutes and check out the *CFMS Newsletter* for February. Just enter <http://www.cfmsinc.org> and find the newsletters 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



Reno Gem and Mineral Society
480 South Rock Blvd
Sparks, NV 89421
www.renogms.org



The Conglomerate
Volume 58, Issue 2
February, 2024



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Asst. Treasurer:	Robyn Howard	assistanttreasurer@renogms.org
Past President	Tom Nichols	pastpresident@renogms.org

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Stephanie Leonard	Jim Wellker	Gayle Dedrick
	Tim Steeper	

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Shop:	Patrick Davis	
Social:	Debbie Bush	social@renogms.org
Sunshine:	Joanne Sworthout	sunshine@renogms.org
Tech Director	Tom Nichols (temp)	tech@renogms.org
Volunteers	Wendy Kazas	

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.
Gen. Mtg. Guest Greeter
Gen. Mtg Door Prize Coord
Assistant Door Prize Coord.
Educational Outreach
Future Rockhounds Advisor
JPOG Silent Auction
Facility Expansion
JPOG Dealer Chair
Rock Bldg Leasing Mgr
Safety Officer

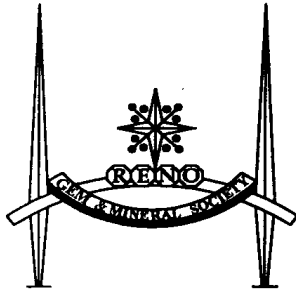
Patrick Davis & Committee
Joanne Sworthout
Denise Sizemore,
Lori Connel
Steve Norman
Steve Norman
Renée Samuels
Patrick Davis
Terry Bush
Juliet Hitchcock
Spencer Ennis

Instructors (Alphabetical by class)

Bead weaving:
Casting:
Etching
Jewelry 101 &
Cold Connections
Lapidary

Lost Wax Carving
Mineral ID
Silver Fabrication (Adv.)
Silver Fabrication (Beg.)
Slab saw
Tumbling
Wire Art

Karen Boldi & Juliet Hitchcock
Spencer Ennis
Irene Comstock
Robyn Howard
“
Julie Hilsabeck
Barbara Hartman
Tim Steeper
Tom Calhoun/Webb Varum
Jill Atkins
Spencer Ennis
Patrick Davis
Janet & Albie Longueira
Kelly Preston



RENO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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

January 14, 2024

Dear Crafter:

I would like to invite you to participate in our upcoming Craft Fair, Spring 2024. The Fair will be held in the Reno Town Mall. The dates of the Fair will be April 5, 6, 7, 2024. The hours will be: Friday 10am-6pm; Saturday 10am-5pm; Sunday 10am-3pm.

If you would like to participate, please fill out the enclosed reservation form. We will collect the space and business license fees when you submit your reservation form. Space fees are \$65 for a single frontal linear space (approximately a 6' foot table), plus the \$20 business license fee per vendor. If you are already in possession of a RENO business license, then you are not required to pay that \$20 fee. Additional linear frontal spaces (again approximately 6') are \$35 each. Remember that all of the fees, exclusive of the business license fees, go to RGMS and are one of our fund-raisers. You are supporting RGMS by participating in the Fair, while at the same time making some money for yourself!

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

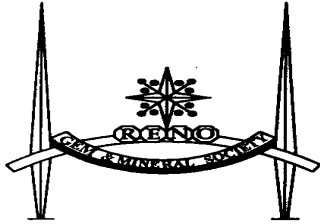
All member crafters of Reno Gem & Mineral Society are welcome to participate. We do have fun at this event AND it is a great way to meet other members! Non-members of RGMS may also participate, but there are additional liability requirements that they must provide prior to application for participation; which must be submitted 8 weeks prior to the event .

There are a VERY LIMITED number of mall tables available for use, but please, I try to limit these tables for those members who are physically unable to carry and set-up their own tables. Please, be prepared to supply your own tables and set-up.

I hope to see you at the Craft Fair this Spring 2024!

Theresa Langhans

Craft Fair Coordinator



RENO GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

480 S. Rock Blvd.
Sparks, NV 89431

SPRING 2024 CRAFT FAIR RESERVATION

The Craft Fair will be held April 5, 6, 7, 2024 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 and must be minimally received 8+ weeks in advance of event.) 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' frontage 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. If, although, 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: _____

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 are a very few number of mall tables available to use, and if it is physically difficult for you to bring your own tables, please contact me)