



Miz Prez's message

Hi everybody. We had a nice turn out for the going away party and we all thank those that participated. Next year we will consider it for March General meeting.

We will be closed the Month of July except we will still have our 4th of July Ice Cream Social. The shop will remain open same hours til then.

Thank you to Barbara Hamilton for making all those great grab bags.

Safe travels to all and hope to see you in the fall.

Your Prez *Marilyn*

Upcoming Field Trip

On April 20, Joe Bost will lead a field trip to Florite Ridge for Banded Sandstone. Bring your camera there is some nice scenery to see. Don't forget your water, snacks and a hat. You might get hungry.



Frank

Shop Schedule

Monday, Friday & Saturday 9 a.m.- noon

Wednesday, Noon until 3p.m.

CLOSED Tuesday and Thursday

This will continue for a few more weeks

Notes

The Club house and shop will be closed for the month of July, due to summer vacations.

There will be no Board meeting, General meeting, or Chips Bulletin published during that month.



LAST CHANCE

Members whose dues are not paid before May 1st will be dropped from the mail and email lists

Rockhound State Park Happenings April 2013

Submitted by Rocky Rockhound

So far, we have not seen one Mexican Poppy at the park this spring. Last year at this time, the mountain was covered in golden yellow poppies. The one skimpy rain we had only made "mudballs" on the vehicles, but did nothing for the soil.

The scarlet sage plants are in bloom, and yesterday, I saw my first hummingbird of the season. He was drinking and soaring, and then perched on a branch of a close by tree and watched me watching him.

Speaking of plants, the Friends of Rockhound will be hosting the annual **Desert Alive and native plant sale** on Saturday, April 13th from 8:00 A.M. until noon. Come out and go for a walk, buy a plant, and support this worthwhile group of people.

On Saturday, April 6th, Sally Allen with the National Public Observatory hosted a "**Stars in Parks**" program. It took place at the Native Garden next to the Visitor Center. We were able to look at planets and stars through high powered telescopes.

The **Music in the Park** series begins on Saturday, May 18th, and continues on the third Saturday of the month through September. More about this next month.

Rockhound State Park is open year around. The Visitor Center is open from 10:00 A.M. to noon, and from 1:00 P.M to 4:00 P.M. Spring Canyon is open Wednesday through Sunday from 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Our telephone number is (575) 546-6182.

Welcome Club Members

Mark Burtner, Bryan & Kimberly Herman, Calvin & Glennis Jackson, Cindy Jordan, John Lloyd, Bruce & Bridgette Manakas, Chuck & Pam Moore, and Bob & Pat Stuth.

Refreshments

for April's meeting will be provided by Jim Foutch & Shirley Krasinski



Thank you so much ... We love the goodies!

DGMS, Inc. – General Meeting – March 28, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by President, Marilyn Page who then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests present were Cindy Jordan, Fran & Carlos Chavez, and Pat Browning. Pat works as a Nurse and the Club gave her a 5 gallon bucket of polished rocks to give to kids in the hospital.

New members present were Pam & Jim Contreras.

Minutes were approved as published in the Chips bulletin.

Treasurer's report: Books are up to date and the Roundup figures are posted on the bulletin board.

The field trip this Saturday will be to Hatch. Leave at 8:15 Our next trip is on April 20th to collect sandstone. We will leave the parking lot at 8:30.

Claims: Paul Browning volunteered to take over the Claims Chair position.

Membership reports six new members, 4 of whom went to Joe & Elena Bost's house to pay their dues to join.

Sunshine: None noted.

Chips: Carolyn requests anything you have for the bulletin to be gotten to her asap.

Shop: Hours will change possibly as soon as two or three weeks down the road.

Will need a shop foreman for the summer to oversee the shop, and order supplies as needed. Joe thanked the sawyers, and all who opened the shop. He reported that the continuous auction at the Roundup was very successful.

Roundup: Maury and Judy gave thank yous to all merchants and the headlight for their support of the Roundup. Also read a letter from the BLM representative (*copy in this bulletin on page 3*).

Library: Frank sitting in for Sandy said 'It's open'.

Break at 2:30 p.m. Goodies consumed.

Reconvened at 2:50 p.m.

Old Business: Shirley said she will set up a display at First Savings Bank again next, year. If you did not get your items back she has them.

Shirley also reports that classes on the arrowhead bracelet will be on Saturday March 30th at 9 a.m. at the club house. Ear rings Galore Saturday April 6th at

9 a.m. at the club house. Elaine will bring Peruvian items to sell.

Marilyn thanked Barb Hamilton for making the grab bags and the kids collecting bags for Roundup

Thanks to Ted French who generously donated 25 - 5 gallon pails of miscellaneous rock.

Also, Stirrup ranch rock shop donated 534 lbs of rock.

Scholarships discussion regarding amounts of scholarships. Motion made to award three \$750 scholarships. Motion passed. We received 10 applications this year.

New Business:

Jerry announced the need for a chair person for the Fair gates. Georgia & Dave Hoggatt volunteered for the position.

On April 3rd immediately following the Board meeting (3 p.m.) there will be a Going away potluck for our snowbird members.

Shop hours revisited. Shop will be closed the month of July motion made and passed with amendment. The July 4th Ice Cream Social will still be on. There will be no Board or General meeting, and also no Chips bulletin published in July.

Treasurer will be instructed to pay the current bills for July, motion made and passed.

Drawings: 50/50 of \$25 was won by Carlos Chavez. Name tag drawing won by Daryl Johnson, who won a bolo tie. The regular door prize drawing was a rock specimen won by Doris Sutton and a second one won by Nancy Smail.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Jerry Abbey, Secretary.

Happy Anniversary to

Ernie & Grace Bent, Merle & Nancy Burton, Mel & Carolyn Carpenter, Cipriano & Frances Chavez, Marco & Felicia Franco,

Harry & Priscella Lingenfelter, Jim & Penny Scott, Terre & David Simons, John & Dorothy Shoemaker, Karen & Ken Spring, Charles & Laura Steven, and Bob & Cary Voss



DGMS, Inc. – General Meeting – April 3, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. and Marilyn lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no Secretary's report.

Treasurer: Waiting on bills. Nothing new. Approved to pay 2nd half of property taxes.

President's report. We had three new members join on Monday.

Shop: Making repairs to saws. Should be done in a couple of weeks. Due to continued heavy use, will remain open on current schedule. Will have to buy propane soon. Budget in good shape.

Round Up: Lyle reported he heard many good comments from dealers. Some said it was the "Best show in a few years".

Maury reports the cost of Big Diggins to comply with BLM rules exceeded income. Suggested that cost of field trip to Big Digs be increased from \$10 to \$15 to help defray cost. Will discuss more after meeting with new BLM person and will invite her to future meeting.

Scholarships: Shirley reports the award of two \$1000 scholar-

ships. Although the Board previously approved three \$750 scholarships, it was found that the school passed out old applications with the \$1000 amount listed and a motion was approved to amend the motion to fit the circumstances.

Old Business: None

New Business: Shirley introduced plans for movable dividers for the main room. They would allow more than one activity at the same time and also reduce heating costs of unused areas during cold weather. Estimated cost is \$200. They would be easily erected and taken apart for storage.

Jerry reported a web site link from the Chamber of Commerce that is being offered to members that will feature attractions and businesses in Luna County. This offering is free and will expand our out reach to interested folks visiting the area. Suggest someone who is computer literate contact Mary at the chamber for more information.

A suggestion was made that all RV parks and motels in town be sent the Chips each month to increase interest in the club.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 to prepare for Snowbird pot luck.

Respectfully Submitted, Jerry Abbey, Secretary

Copy of the letter received from BLM representative John Thacker

Wednesday, March 6, 2013 2:31 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford,

I visited the Society's site for the mineral specimen collection portion of the Gem & Mineral Show earlier today. I spoke with a gentleman who said he was a member, but I've forgotten his name....

Anyway, I think the way you have modified the collection area is absolutely fantastic! That is such a dramatic improvement from the open trenches.... I will be sure to make a note of it in my Post Use Report....please remember to comment on it and describe it in your Plan of Operation for 2014.

I don't know if I'll be able to get back out this year or not.... I have to monitor a motorcycle race Saturday and Sunday.... But if I don't see you until afterward, Thank you both for the hard work and productive changes you have made to this event.

We have a new Law Enforcement Officer in the Deming area....a lady...her name is Rasmussen....she may drop by Big Diggins' so please remember to have a copy of the Permit out there....

Thanks again, gimme a yell if you need anything.

John V. Thacker
575-525-4306

Cleaning Native Copper

Ingredients: one part sodium hydroxide, 30 parts salt, 20 parts distilled water. Make all measurements by weight. Use a glass container to hold this solution.

Suspend the copper specimen by copper wire in the cold solution and occasionally raise and lower it for inspection. Shortly, the solution becomes bluish and the discoloration on the specimen begins to disappear revealing the natural red-brown of the copper.

The cleaning may take several hours to complete. When clean, rinse thoroughly in running water then immerse in clean water for an hour or so. It is said this method gives excellent, safe results. The solution attacks and dissolves cupric oxide, but leaves undamaged both cuprite and metallic copper.

Chalk in a Box

If you have finished jewelry that is not being used, to keep the gold or silver from tarnishing, add a piece of blackboard chalk to the box. This absorbs the moisture, which is one cause of tarnishing. Make sure that the jewelry is absolutely dry and that the box is sealed tightly.

Source of the above articles: Pineywoods Rooter - March 2013



If you have Peppers cash register receipts, please bring them to the General Membership Meeting. They will be turned in to the store frequently. These funds help our Building Maintenance Fund.

Thank you, Your Treasurer

Sonoran Dendritic Rhyolite

One of the newer materials to show up at mineral shows is Sonoran dendritic rhyolite. Rhyolite is an igneous (volcanic) rock and is formed when very thick and slow-moving lava is extruded or expelled from a volcano or volcanic rift. The lava cools and solidifies on the earth's surface rather than deep underground. Generally, the rhyolites favored by lapidaries have a high silica content and are very fine grained.



When slabbed they look a lot like jasper. Sonoran dendritic is hard, compact rhyolite, very suitable for cutting and polishing. It has gorgeous, flowery red and white dendritic inclusions on a blue/gray or tan pink background. It looks similar to Apache Canyon dendritic rhyolite from New Mexico. The first time I cut this material, I found it to be a pleasure to work with. It is easy to use the colors and dramatic dendritic patterns to make a nicely designed gem. Like all rhyolites, Sonoran dendritic is relatively soft material, but it is fairly solid and not especially prone to chipping. The dendrites form along fractures that, in many cases, healed naturally through further silicification. Some, however, did not heal enough to create a very strong bond; the weak bonds look a little dry and porous under magnification.

There are a couple of ways to deal with this issue. One is to apply pressure to break the weak joins and make your cabs from the pieces in between the breaks. Another is to seal the slab before you cut and sand. Since one of the dendrites that really caught my eye was on one of these dry fractures, I sealed the slab beforehand so I could use the pattern in a cab. I used Krazy Glue, a cyanoacrylate adhesive. It is the thinnest or most watery brand I have found. A thin glue is more effective than a thicker type because it will penetrate the gaps. Another way to ensure good penetration is to apply the sealant when the slab is heated; I set it in the sun on hotter days or on top of the space heater if the weather is not cooperating. When the slab is hot to the touch, I apply the sealant to one side and return it to the heat source until it is completely dry and hard. Then I seal the other side and return it to the heat source for curing. When the slab is thick and I am going to cut it down well below the surface, I re-seal it after the 220 grit step, when there will be no further significant removal of material.

When the sealant has dried completely, I sand off the glue with the 220 belt and go on smoothing through the finer grits. I was able to rough grind this softer material quickly on a 260 grit metal bond wheel and avoid the deep scratches I get from my 100 grit wheel. After that, I did my doming on a 220 grit belt on an expanding drum to eliminate any faceting left over from the hard wheel used in the roughing step. After sanding with the 220 belt, I went straight to a 600 grit belt, skipping the 400 grit step. Sanding with a 1200 grit belt didn't quite produce the satin finish I wanted, so I sanded it with a 6 mic (about 3000 grit) belt. This gave it a nice satin finish with a nice sheen. If you want a satin finish, you can stop at this point.

Getting a glossy polish on rhyolites can be a bit tricky. First I tried tin oxide on a poly pad, but the results were not very im-

pressive. Next I used Pro-Polish (0.5 micron aluminum oxide) powder on a Polypad polishing disk which brought much better results. By polishing the cab completely while the pad was wet, I was able to improve the finish, but when I did a glossing pass after the pad had dried out to the point that it pulled on the stone a bit, the finish became nice and glossy. A good way to tell if the pad is in the sweet spot for glossing is to check the amount of polish left behind after each pass; if the layer is thin, the pad is too wet. When the pad is just right it will leave a clean surface and will show a nice polish.

Author: Scott Empey, owner of Gerard Scott Designs, creates hand-cut gemstones, designer jewelry, and props for the motion picture industry. His Web site is www.gerardscottdesigns.com.

Source: Rock N Gem Magazine—3/2013

BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

Drilling a Stone

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force. The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup. Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies.

They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$6.

Chuck up the core drill in a drill press or a Foreman and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BENCHTIPS](https://www.facebook.com/benchtips)
(USED WITH PERMISSION)

April Birthdays:

**Coralee Barnes, Grace Bent, Kathy
Burnett, Joe Chavez, John Ewert,**



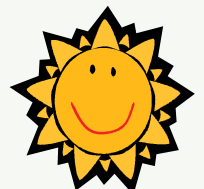
**William Cunningham, Robert Kosnick,
Annalee Long, Al Spencer, Charles
Steven, and Gaylene Foutch**



Sunshine Greetings

Get well cards were sent to John Palta and Louise Treanor.

If you know someone who needs a little sunshine call Barbara at 544-8643.



THE DEMING GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. BOX 1459, DEMING, N.M. 88031

FOUNDED - JANUARY 1965

DUES ARE DUE & PAYABLE ON DECEMBER 1st EACH YEAR

Membership Dues: \$12.00 per person for Adult Members

Junior Memberships: \$2.00 per person (up to 18 years of age)

All meetings are held at the Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. building

4200 Raymond Reed Blvd., Deming, NM -- Clubhouse phone: 575- 546-2554

ROUNDUP MEETINGS

As Needed

BOARD MEETINGS

2:00 p.m.

1st Wednesday each month

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

2:00 p.m.

4th Thursday of each month

Visitors are invited and welcome at membership meetings.

OFFICERS

President.....	Marilyn Page	544-9019
Vice President.....	Shirley Krasinski	544-1315
Secretary	Jerry Abbey	543-8915
Treasurer	Georgia Hoggatt ...	309-678-7342
Bulletin Editor.....	Carolyn Abbey	543-8916
Roundup Chair ('13)...	Maurice Crawford	546-0056
Asst. Rnd.Up Chair ...	Keith Meherg	575-694-5747
Asst. Rnd.Up Chair	Lyle Megli	402-300-1061
1 Yr. Director.....	Frank Barber.....	546-0212
2 Yr. Director.....	George Laudermilk ..	520-403-1878
Past President.....	Frank Barber.....	546-0212
Pro Tem	Art Krasinski.....	575-494-5971

CHAIRPERSONS

Field Trip Chairs	Frank Barber	546-0212
	Joe Bost	546-9003
Shop	Joe Morone	937-206-2111
Claims	Paul Browning	575-644-6540
Librarian	Sandy Barber.....	546-0212
Membership.....	Elena Bost	546-9003
Parliamentarian
Photographer.....	All Club Members	
Sunshine	Barbara Hamilton.....	544-8643
Historian
Social Chairperson
Refreshments	All Club members	
Reporters.....	All Club Members	
Custodian	All Club Members	
Webmistress	Gaylene Fouch	546-5716

**ROCKHOUND
ROUNDUP
March 6 - 9, 2014**



...OFFICIAL SHOW OF THE SOCIETY

**Held every year on the second weekend (Thursday through Sunday) in
March at the SW New Mexico State Fairgrounds.**

The Society presents the Annual Gem & Mineral exhibition
at the SWNM Fair toward the end of September.
It is an official society function.

“ROCK CHIPS” is the official bulletin of the Society

Email: the DGMS@gmail.com

OFFICIAL WEB SITE www.dgms.bravehost.com

THE DEMING GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY, INC. an incorporated, non-profit organization shall be dedicated to the knowledge, advancement and enjoyment of the earth sciences and associated subjects. The Society's primary purpose is the dissemination and furtherance of knowledge of mineralogy, gem cutting and geology, and to stimulate interest in the development of these studies. It is composed of individuals who have chosen gems and the aforementioned studies as a major interest in their lives.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

APRIL

- Saturday, April 20th Field trip to Fluorite Ridge 8:30 a.m.
 Thursday, April 25th General Meeting 2 p.m.

MAY

- Wednesday, May 1st Board Meeting 2 p.m.
 Thursday, May 23rd..... General Meeting 2 p.m.

All meetings are held at the Clubhouse (4200 Raymond Reed Blvd.) unless otherwise noted.



Spring is Springing. . Finally

Deming Gem & Mineral Society
 Carolyn Abbey, Editor
 P.O. Box 1459

