



## President's Message

I would like to thank everyone who helped me with putting up the signs this past Sunday. (Frank Pulliam, Terry Dillinger, and Dennis from Little Vineyard) Also thanks to Bill Haworth who took us around and showed us where to put up the signs. Also Jim Foutch who took twelve of us to his "Secret Spot". Thanks Jim. As always we enjoyed the trip.

## Shop Notes

As of February 12, the shop supervisor is Maurice Crawford and Joe Marone is the assistant supervisor for the shop and saw room. We plan on keeping the shop a place for all to enjoy and learn.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of us. The Shop will be closed during Roundup, March 7 through March 17 and will reopen March 18. Looking forward to working with everyone.



# Happy St. Patrick's Day

## ... and from the Library

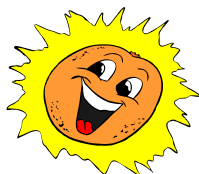
As the new Librarian, I will try to keep every thing simple. I may change a few things but otherwise everything will stay the same.



I would like to thank Shirley Krasinski for donating several books and DVD's to the Library on Geology.

I will also be opening the Library once a week on each Thursday during Shop hours, from 2 - 4 p.m. starting the 3rd of March.

*Sandy Barber*



## Sunshine Greetings

If you know of someone who could use a little sunshine greeting, please call Barbara at 544-8643.

## Don't Miss it. . .

Art Amati will present a mineral ID program at our March 24th meeting. Come and learn all about them and bring your mystery rock to see just what that unknown treasure might be.

Art and Karen have the educational display and fossil dig for kids at the Roundup.

**Editor's Note:** March 2nd Board of Directors Meeting minutes will appear in the April bulletin, to allow us to get this issue out before Roundup.

Carol Seebruch sends a big **THANK YOU** to Doris Miller for her donation of Rock & Gem magazines for the Roundup

## Welcome New Members

Roger Cruwys  
Bozeman, MT

Kathy Nason  
Deming, NM

Clark Lewis  
Emery, SD

Bill & Joyce Wertz  
Sparks, NV

George McPherson  
Deming, NM

James Baker  
Tucson, AZ



## ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP

March 10th - 13th



**We Need you. . .** To help set up and work the show. Set up begins – March 7th at 8 a.m. Meet at club house. Time for all of us to roll up our sleeves and help with the Show. There are tasks for everyone, be it toting saws and tables, cleaning inside building floors, or folding & stapling programs, lining outside vendor spaces, etc., etc., etc.

**ROUNDUP Critique Meeting: Thursday, March 15th following the show tear down.**



**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: \$10.00 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

**BOARD MEETINGS**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**1st Wednesday each month**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**4th Thursday of each month**

**ROUNDUP**  
**CRITIQUE MEETING**  
**Tues 3/15 after show tear down**

*Visitors are invited and welcome at membership meetings.*

**OFFICERS**

President .....	Frank Barber .....	546-0212
Vice President.....	Sheila Hoag .....	544-8841
Secretary.....	Judy Crawford .....	546-0056
Treasurer .....	Susan Schiffner .....	546-4591
Bulletin Editor .....	Carolyn Abbey.....	543-8916
Roundup Chair ('11).	Terry Dellinger .....	936-433-0108
Asst. Roundup Chair	Bud Daily .....	575-267-4399
Field Trips .....		
Historian.....		
1 Yr. Director.....	Joe Bost .....	546-9003
2 Yr. Director.....	Ron Ehrlich .....	544-0028
Past President.....	Brian Beringer .....	546-0653
Pro-Tem.....		

**CHAIRPERSONS**

Claims .....	Jim Hoag.....	544-8841
Custodian .....	Members sign up for one month	
Librarian.....	Sandy Barber.....	546-0212
Membership.....	Carol Seebruch .....	575-694-0553
Parliamentarian.....		
Photographer .....	All Club Members	
Social Chairperson.	Monika Anderson.....	544-4655
Refreshments .....	All Club members	
Reporters .....	All Club Members	
Shop .....	Jim Hoag .....	544-8841
Sunshine.....	Barbara Hamilton.....	544-8643
Webmistress .....	Sheila Hoag.....	544-8841



**...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.*

# Happy March Anniversaries to



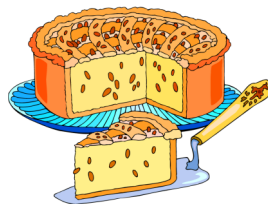
Harold & Jeanne Buck, Regina & Robert Croteau, Dennis & Karan Horak, Ric Morgan & Linda O'Connor, and Charles & Dureta Stanley

## Happy March Birthdays to:



Monika Anderson, Frank Anderson, Ernie Bent, Bud Daily, Ron Davis, Al Hemke, Phil Hollenshead, Lisa Jackson, Ron Kiely, Charlie Kukral, Chris Moore Kevin Nash, Lloyd Page, Anthony Peck, Terry Ruff, Maureen Scepka, and Allen Wagner.

## Refreshments



for March's meeting will be provided by:  
Nancy Smail, Elena Bost, and Frank & Sandy Barber

*Thank you so much - We love the goodies!*


  
**An Old Irish Blessing**
  
 May love and laughter light your days,  
 And warm your heart and home.  
 May good and faithful friends be yours,  
 Wherever you may roam.  
 May peace and plenty bless your world  
 With joy that long endures.  
 May all life's passing seasons  
 Bring the best to you and yours!

## Rockhound State Park Happenings

*Submitted by Rocky Rockhound*

It looks like we have another beautiful spring in the making. I hope the Florida Mountains got enough snow on them to bring out the poppies next month. Remember last year when the slopes were golden from the poppies?

The Star Party will be held on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Sally Allen will show us the stars and planets that are visible at this time. The program will be held at the Native Garden next to the Visitor Center. It will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end about 9:00 p.m. Other Star Parties are scheduled on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and May 17<sup>th</sup>.

The March Meeting of Friends of Rockhound will be held on March 30<sup>th</sup>. The speaker will be Luis Perez. He will tell us about Early Western New Mexico History. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Rockhound State Park Visitor Center. Everyone is welcome to attend.

"Desert Alive" and the Annual Spring Native Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:00 a.m. You may place plant orders in advance at the Luna County Cooperative Extension Office located at 215 Poplar, Suite A, or telephone 575-546-8806. Friends' members will be available on March 10, March 17, and March 24 from 9-11 a.m. to take your plant orders. All plants are natives or adapted to our Chihuahuan Desert environment that requires less water, fertilizer, and "tending" once they are established.

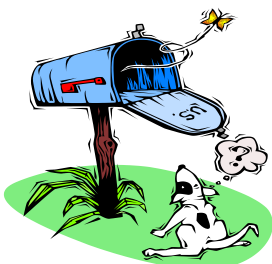
Rockhound State Park is open year around. The Visitor Center is open from 10:00-11:59 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. daily. Spring Canyon is open Wednesday through Sunday, from

**Last night, my kids and I were sitting in the living room and I said to them, 'I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug.'**

**They got up, unplugged the Com-**



**HAPPY ST. PATTY'S DAY**



**Change your address, or phone or email address?**

**Please let us know!**

Send the changes to DGMS Membership, P.O. Box 1459, Deming, NM 88031

**Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.  
General Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President, Frank Barber. Ken Newman led the Pledge of Allegiance. Our Guest was Clark Lewis. Welcome!

**Secretary's report:** Judy read a thank you card from the Girl Scouts and the kids who attended. It will be posted on the bulletin board. **Reminder that after our March 24<sup>th</sup> general meeting, there will be a mineral identification session given by Art Amati.** Bring your "mystery" rocks to help identify (hopefully). Anyone interested in donating items for our silent auction at Roundup, please see me. Correction to the previous general minutes are: Linda and Ric Morgan-O'Connor are from Montana, not Massachusetts. Motion to approve the minutes as amended made by Marilyn Page, seconded by Terry Dellinger, approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Susan gave her report and it will be posted on the bulletin board. Motion to approve report made by Ken Newman, Sheila Hoag seconded, approved.

**Committee reports:**

**Claims:** Jim advised that we are still awaiting the permit to come back for Roundup. We had to redo the insurance.

**Roundup:** Terry urged everyone to sign up to help as there are still openings that need to be filled. Carolyn gave an overview of job descriptions for those who are new and reminded of our last Roundup meeting this Saturday, Feb. 26 at 10:00 a.m. Carolyn advised that Jerry was helping the plumber at the fairgrounds to repair broken pipes from the freeze (for the last three days). **Reminder**, we set up on Monday, Mar. 7 at 8:00 a.m. There will be coffee and donuts for those helping. Tear down will be on Tues. March 15 at 8:00 a.m. There will be a deli sandwich lunch and a critique meeting afterwards for those helping. Be sure to sign up in Bldg. 2 on the stage if you are helping set up and tear down and working a shift. This will enable you to attend the private "reclamation" dig at our claim on Mar. 19 at Big Diggins. Elena advises we still have raffle tickets to be sold. Susan advised she sold quite a few at Peppers last Friday, and needs help for this Friday also. Also, we would really like to have someone sell at Walmart. Contact Susan if you can help. Ernie Bent advises that he needs help for servicing the inside bath-

rooms, both men's and women's, and there will be a sign up sheet for that.

**Bulletin:** Carolyn advises that anything to go into the Chips must be to her by Sat. Feb 26. Judy advised that a number of businesses were contacted for advertising.

**Librarian:** Sandy Barber is taking over the Library from Shirley Krasinski. She advised that the library will be open one day a week during shop hours for those wishing to check out an item. The day and time will be posted in the Chips.

**Shop:** Maurice advised that the new wiring for the shop has been completed. The 30" saw is almost ready to come online. Everything else is working well.

*Break*

50/50 won by Barbara Hamilton.

Door prize of a piece of petrified wood with a pewter miner won by Terry Leiter.

Name Tag prize of a bola won by Undine Tindell.

Frank advised that the silent auction will be closed after the meeting.

**President's report:**

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

1) Joe advised that a small information sheet has been prepared with a map to the club and an invitation to visit the lapidary shop with a free lesson and slab. Please pick some up and take them to your RV park, or wherever you think they might be utilized. We have had several people visit as a result of picking one of these up and a couple of new members. Ask Joe or Judy if you want a supply of these. Motion to adjourn made by Ken Newman, seconded by Sheila Hoag. Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Crawford, Secretary



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## SHOP STUFF

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *The source of these tips and hints are club bulletins and other sources. Be careful when trying out any new idea. They have not all been tried by this editor.*

### *How to measure an ounce of grit without an ounce scale.*

Tumbling instructions tell you how much grit or polish to use per pound of rock or per tumbler barrel, and this is almost always given in ounces. This is fine, but most people do not have an ounce scale around the house, so measuring out one or more ounces presents a small problem. The following is an easy way to arrive at ounces and is based on standard measuring spoons. Start out with a rounded teaspoonful and level it off with the blade of a straight kitchen knife.

Course Grit: 1 ounce = 4 level teaspoons

Medium Grit: 1 ounce = 4 level teaspoons

Fine Grit: 1 ounce = 4 level teaspoons

Polish powder: 1 ounce: 8 level teaspoons

*Source: The Glacial Drifter – 4/2010*

### *Obsidian Tells Time*

Time (in age) can be measured with obsidian. It is emerging as a promising tool for dating and tracing prehistoric culture. What makes it useful for dating is that it continuously absorbs moisture from the air.


The moisture penetrates the stone at a constant rate and leaves a telltale mark on the obsidian, which is visible under a microscope. By examining the watermarks, the age of a piece of obsidian can be calculated with extreme accuracy. This is valuable because the measurements can be extended half a million years into the past, well beyond the 40,000 year limit of carbon dating. A most important use of obsidian is in dating glacial periods in the United States. Stones that were carried along by advancing ice have confirmed that a major ice age began 180,000 years ago, and their final (most recent) retreat came around 12,000 years ago.

*Source: The Glacial Drifter – 4/2010*

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## Club Class Schedule

*Note some of the changes from last publication*

### March

Sat. March 5 – Gourd Class

SHOP CLOSED DURING ROUNDUP

*Roundup Set up and Show March 7–13*

*Roundup tear down March 15*

Sat. March 26 – wire wrapping 9-12 a.m.

### April

Sat. April 2 – Club rock/yard tailgate sale from 9 - 12

Sat. April 9 – Advanced Gourd Carving Class 9 –12

(sign up ahead & get list)

*Also:* Beading around a cab 9 –12

Sat. April 16 – Earrings Galore! 9-12

*Also:* Beading around a cab 9 –12

Sat. April 23 – Arrowhead bracelet 9 – 12

Sat. April 30 – Twisted Bead necklace 9-12

### May

Sat. May 7 – Pine Needle baskets 9-12

Sat. May 14 – PMC clay class 9-12 a.m.

Sat. May 21 – Suncatchers 9-12 a.m.

*While this is not "listed" as a Safety article, perhaps it should be.*

## WHO AM I?

I am more deadly than bullets.

I have destroyed more homes than the atomic bomb.

I steal, in the U.S., billions of dollars each year.

I spare no one, for I find many victims everywhere.

I find them among the rich and poor, the young and old, the strong and the weak, the educated and the ignorant. I have cast my shadow over every field of human endeavor. Pedestrians and auto drivers, housewives, laborers and executives are numbered among my victims.

Each year, because of me, there are thousands of additional orphans, widows, and widowers. Each year, because of me, thousands of wage earners are killed. I lurk on every street corner, on every highway, in every home, factory and on every farm.

I do most of my work silently. Many of you are warned against me, but fail to heed the warning. I bring sickness, poverty, broken bodies and death, yet people do not shun me.

I kill, I destroy, and I maim you. I am your constant and your worst enemy.

I AM CARELESSNESS! (author unknown)

*Source: Harrison County G & M soc. 11/09 from the OESC (Gem, Mineral & Fossil) Archives-August, 1985*

**DUES ARE PAST DUE — DUES ARE PAST DUE — DUES ARE PAST DUE**

## The Legend of the Sand Dollar

The Holy shell, otherwise known as the Sand Dollar, is one of nature's most unusual specimens of marine life. The markings on the shell symbolize the birth and crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

An outline of the Easter Lily is a five pointed star that represents the Star of Bethlehem. The narrow elliptical openings are reminiscent of the five wounds made in the body of Christ during the crucifixion.

On the underside of the shell is an easily recognized outline of the Christmas Poinsettia. When the shell is broken open, cells are found, each holding five objects that look like birds in flight. These represent the Dove of Peace. Another interpretation of these bird-like objects connects them to the angels who sang to the shepherds on the first Christmas morning.

Source: Yellowstone Deposit - Dec 2009

## ROCKINITIONS

Author Unknown

**Tumbler-** One who falls down a rock pile.

**Rock Chisel-** One who chisels someone else's pickings.

**Quartz -** Two pints of rocks.

**Zinc -** Where you wash your tired feet after a long hunt.

**Apatite -** What you get on a long hunt.


Source: Rock Rustler's News - 2/2011

*A little girl ran to her grandfather, jumped into his arms and gave him a big hug. Then she ran her fingers in his balding hair and down the side of his wrinkled rough cheeks.*

*"Did God make you, Grandad?" she asked. "Yes honey, He made me." She felt her own cheeks then asked. "Did God make me too?" she asked. "Yes honey, He made you too." "Well," she shrugged "Don't you think He is doing a better job now than he used to?"*




MARCH 2011

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## Choosing Beads

by, Mary Sue Bucher, San Francisco GMS

I don't think anyone would purposely buy poor quality beads. But how do you pick the good ones?

The hole...is a very important part of the bead, and if it's a round bead, it *should* be DEAD CENTER unless of course it's a side drill. Stretch the string between your hands and spin the line of beads on it. If they appear to "jump up and down." Then they are off center. While doing this, try to move the beads back and forth on the string. There should be some play. If they're too tight on the string, that could be a sign of bad holes. Sometimes a bead is drilled from one end with a slightly cone shaped drill and then drilled from the other end.

If the holes don't meet properly in the center, then they're bad and can be a bear to work with. Neither should the hole be too big as that can cause grief too. There may also be cracks, air bubbles, flat places, and “%\*\$#&”s in your beads. Be sure to check them before buying. If it's a hand carved bead, is it a go-done? Be critical!

Is it dyed? More and more gemstone beads are being dyed; in fact it's hard to find gem beads that haven't gone into the dye pot. What color is the string? If it's the same as the beads, that can be a giveaway.

Becoming familiar with what the stone is supposed to look like is the best way to tell.

Chip and nugget beads are some of the cheapest stone beads, they're just left over hunks that are tumbled and then drilled, although some of the better stones can make a nice informal necklace.

Many glass beads have coatings that rub off. Some Delicas, and other Japanese cylinder beads have this problem and some of them are dyed too. Neither treatment is permanent, but you can get some good information from bead companies online as to which beads to avoid.

When buying faceted beads, stone or glass, always check the edges of the facets. Sometimes they have little chips running along the edges, and you don't want those. This can be a problem with vintage crystal beads.

Also, many of those old crystal beads, such as Swarovski, have an AB (Aurora Borealis) coating, which can be badly worn, and ends up looking gross.

There's really no magic to choosing good beads. You just need either good eyes, good glasses, and/or a loupe or optivisor. Take one with you. Look at the beads closely and study them. It has always amazed me how people just seem to buy things without giving them a good looking over. Anything you buy, anything, should be carefully examined whether it's a used car a plant that might harbor bugs, or some really yucky beads.

Source: the glacial Drifter – 11/2009

## How Many Beads In A Strand?

As there are 25.4 millimeters in an inch, and as beads are often measured in millimeters (mm), this is only a matter of mathematics. A common length for a strand of beads is 18 inches, and there are approximately 460 mm in such a strand. Thus, the average 18 inch strand will contain the following approximate num-

ber of beads:

4 mm = 115 beads

6 mm = 79 beads

8 mm = 58 beads

10 mm = 46 beads

This should help you know if you have enough beads for the strand you are planning.

Source: The Glacial Drifter – 11/2009

## The Legend of Leaverite

Leaverite is the most common of all stones. Some are older than others and many moons old. It generally can not be used for much because of its ugly nature. These stones are said to be so ugly that only mother earth could love them, they are truly the loneliest stones in the world.

As legend would have it, one day long ago, a little boy and his Granpa were digging for gold. Each time the little boy chipped out a stone, he would show it to his Grandpa and ask “is this gold?” His Grandpa would reply, ‘Na’ that’s just an ugly stone. Leave ‘er right there,” Later that day when the little boy showed his Grandpa the stones he had found he asked “Is this gold or is this one of them leave-erite-theres?” From that point on the little boy and his Grandpa called the lonely stones “leaverites” for short.

Over the years the Leaverites became so lonely that they grew eyes. Now they are looking for someone to take them home.

Source: The Gulfport Gems – 2/2008

## Ten Commandments of Using Acid

1. Never add acid to water.
2. Always keep a container of water nearby for neutralizing solutions in case of a spill.
3. Never use acid with bleach.
4. Always use acids in a well-ventilated area.
5. Always use inferior specimens for experimentation.
6. Always treat a spill as if it is the worst acid you are using.
7. Always wear protective clothing and use proper equipment.
8. Always neutralize acid solutions before disposing of them.
9. Always use and store acids carefully (well labeled and out of reach of children).
10. Always practice common sense.

Source: Rockhound Rambling - May 2009

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**Deming Gem & Mineral Society**

Carolyn Abbey, Editor

P.O. Box 1459

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*It's Here...*

**46th Annual ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP**  
**March 10th Thru March 13th**

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**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**MARCH**

Monday, March 7th .....	Set up Roundup ( <i>Need lots of help</i> ) .....	8 a.m.
Tuesday, March 8th .....	Finish Roundup Set up .....	8 a.m.
Wednesday, March 9th .....	Dealers Arrive to Set up .....	9 a.m.
Thursday-Sunday, March 10-13th .....	46th Annual Rockhound Roundup .....	9 – 5 p.m.
Tuesday, March 15th .....	Tear Down Show and take down signs .....	8 a.m.
Tuesday, March 15th .....	Roundup Critique Meeting ....	Right after show tear down.
Saturday, March 19th .....	Big Diggins Field Trip ( <i>Club Members Only!</i> )	
Thursday, March 24th .....	General Meeting .....	2 p.m.

*See Schedule of Classes on Page 5*

**APRIL**

Wednesday, April 6th .....	Board Meeting.....	2 p.m.
Thursday, April 28th .....	General Meeting .....	2 p.m.



**This is your LAST ISSUE OF THE 'CHIPS'**  
**if your dues are not paid by end of the Roundup**

