



President's Message

Hello Rockhounds,

April is blooming with not only the anticipation of the poppies blooming on the Florida's, but our Club reopening. It's been many long months of hard work, but the results are amazing.

To everyone who came in and dedicated their time week after week to make this all fall into place I want to extend my thanks and appreciation.

To all our other members who have been patiently waiting to get back to the grinder and polishing of some rocks, I hope to see you in the shop soon. Until then, stay safe and happy trails.

Zandy

How To Access DGMS General Meetings Via ZOOM

1. Open Google Chrome
2. Type zoom.com into the web browser
3. Press Join
4. Enter the Meeting I.D and the Password

Meeting I.D: 769 6757 8958 (This will be the same for all General meetings)

Password: DGMS

Access The DGMS Board Meetings Via ZOOM

Procedure is the same as for the General Meetings, but Password I.D. # is 704552

*General Meetings will occur the 4th Thursday of every month at 2 pm. unless stated before hand in the Chips.

Temporarily the Board meetings will be the 1st Thursday of the month at 2 pm.

Remembering Marvin

Marvin Clary, a Member of the Deming Gem & Mineral Society, passed away on Friday, April 2, 2021. He was 74 years old.

He'd been a very active club member since March of 2015.

For five or more years he did all the rock tumbling for our Rockhound Roundup and other events..... and that's a lot of rocks.

Marvin was also our Claims Director and worked with the BLM and the state of New Mexico making sure all the paperwork was prepared according to their requests.

He displayed a world of knowledge in identification of rocks on field trips and around the shop if anyone had questions on them.

When he wasn't working in the shop, on stones for his daughter Emily to fashion into fine jewelry, he would just come by for a visit.

You could always count on him to help out where needed. We will greatly miss you Marvin.



Shop Happenings

If all goes well, the shop will open on Wednesdays starting April 14th. There will be a session from 9:00 to 12:00 and then a session from 5pm to 8pm. Space is limited, but I think we'll be able to accommodate all that want to do some grinding and polishing.

The renovation for the shop is not fully complete and it will be a work in progress for quite a while. There are many places that still need TLC. The saw room is still closed at this time.

Fridays are still our work days, 10 a.m. to about 3 p.m. We would like to start to work outside and need some volunteers that can clean and move a lot of Rock. Also other areas that need to be addressed.

The tumblers are in their new place. We will be starting to look for people that are interested in helping in this area. The tumbled rocks are used for Roundup and other DGMS events.

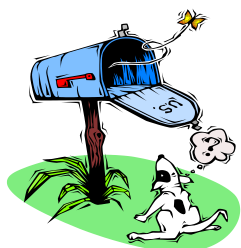
Volunteers make DGMS successful.

Sherry Wilson



There are no Club Field Trips scheduled right now.

As soon as there is we will notify you.



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

The Club is continuing volunteer days for organizing and maintenance of the clubhouse, yard, and the shop. We will be meeting on each Friday till maintenance is done. Hours will be 9 a.m. til 3 p.m. Please come and help out. Remember. . . Many hands make light work.

Sherry will be coordinating this effort, so please contact her for more info at: 214-402-4771.



Happy April Birthdays to:

Jerry Anderson, Ronald Barker, Dan Brookshire, Kathy Burnett, Mary Comstock, Zandy Darrow, Albert Fairweather, Rebecca Franco, Paul

Granroos, Jan Hayes, Debbie Ludiker, Christy Massey, Carol Lyman, Louise Treanor, Pat Turner, and Hank Willems

Happy April Anniversaries To

David & Leann Rowe, Ronald & Marili Barker, Carlos & Fran Chavez, Steve & Rose Fowers, Ken & Barbara Gilliam, Derrall & Linda Moore, Ron McKee & Carol Wolfe, Todd Baumgardt & Donna George, Calvin & Glennis Jackson, Pat & Nancy Smail, and Cary & Barb Voss.



Sunshine Greetings

If you know of someone who could use a little sunshine greeting, please call Ellen Robin at 323-309-5212.

Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes – April 1, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 2pm by President Zandra Darrow, who then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were: Zandy D, Tom B, Donna G, Nancy G, Marilyn P, Kathy T, Judy M, Kay G, and Sherry W.

Covid-19: Luna County, NM in the yellow at this time by law mass gathering are limited for recreational to outside. 10 people inside not in close proximity.

On April 14th as long as, the County is still in the yellow or better, we will open shop for summer hours.

The shop will now be open on Wednesdays 9am to 12 pm and 5 pm to 8 pm and limiting the shop to 5 people at this time, for social distancing.

Meetings: Board meetings will be temporarily held on the 1st Thursday of the month at 2 pm..

Reminder: June, July, and August there are no General Meetings and Zoom during these months for the Board meeting.

Membership: We now have 82 members paid and 14 life members for a total of 96.

Shop: **BIG REMINDER:** this is a WORKING CLUB. Plan that it is your job to stay a few minutes after shop hours to help clean up (Sweeping, mopping, wiping down machine) A check list will be made for this propose, which will include all areas of the club.

Claim: April 17th, Reclamation at Big Diggins, meeting at 8am at club. Please bring a shovel and/or rake if you have one. **Only those that WORK** on the Reclamation will have the opportunity to attend a fresh dig area on April 24th.

Events: We had a discussion on Opening shop, Re: Grand Opening parties, Idea for a Flea market at shop and Duck Races in August. Chairperson for our part in the Duck Races will be Kaye Greene. We will be looking for volunteers for the Membership booth. More information to come at the end of May. Judy M is volunteering to make key chains for Duck Race event and will be looking for volunteers to help.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm, motion made by Marilyn P, and second by Judy M...all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by
Nancy Gurnsey.



Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. General Meeting – March 25, 2021

Meeting was cancelled due to not enough in attendance.

SHOP HINTS

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

To clean & shine most drusy specimens, use Easy Off oven cleaner (fume free is OK). Spray the specimen and then leave it overnight in a closed container or bag before rinsing. This even works on iron stained quartz crystals.

Need two cabs of exactly the same size?

Glue two slabs together with paper between them. Cut to size. Separate by soaking in water.

One of the most useful and versatile tools

on your workbench should be the orangewood stick. This tool is sold for the purpose of working on cuticles and is available in all cosmetic departments. It is soft enough to not mar gold or silver, yet is hard enough to use as a pushing tool in setting prongs. It will not scratch gems yet reaches into impossible places.

Source of the above tips: Rocky Tales

Anyone who works with flat silver

in making jewelry discovers that sooner or later, every scratch in the metal has to be removed. Common transparent contact paper from the discount store (the sticky kind with the removable backing) is the answer. Place on each side of the silver sheet for protection. Also, it accepts and holds on permanent ink pen lines and will not pull loose when you are sawing through it

CORRECTION: Wanted you to know there was an oops in the latest news letter under rules for working with acid. Rule one was - never add acid to water, but should have read - *never add water to acid*. Even a single drop of water added to concentrated acid can cause a terrible splash back reaction.....

DID YOU KNOW...

TALC is used in eye shadow, liquid make-up, rouge, blushes and pressed powders.

IRON OXIDES (magnetite, black oxide, hematite, red oxide, limonite, yellow oxide, goethite) are used in liquid makeup.

ZINC OXIDE is used in creams to protect skin from the sun.

MICA is used in eye shadows. If coated with rutile or anatase, it makes pearlescent shades of lipstick, eye shadow, hair gel, body lotion, rouge and blush.

CALCITE is a binder in eye shadow and pressed makeup, in chewing gum bases, antibiotics, antacids and dentifrices.

QUARTZ is used in scouring soaps and toothpaste, in coatings for pills and capsules and in ointments, and lotions.

"WHAT ARE DENDRITES?"

Dendrites - crystalline, black, fern-like patterns that resemble forest scenes - have captured the fancy of collectors for centuries. Dendrites produce an amazing original work of art by Mother Nature.



You may have heard the term dendrite, or more likely the adjective, dendritic, used when describing a gemstone, and wondered exactly what it was. They are attractive patterns, usually black or dark brown, that are seen in many types of gemstone material. They are most often associated with agates but

are sometimes found in quartz, opal, limestone and other stones. They are sometimes called picture stone or painted stone. The patterns occur naturally due to the presence of iron and manganese oxides. Dendrites are the branch-like formations of manganese oxide crystallizing within the stone.



Metaphysically, these mineral dendrites symbolize growth or change. The word **dendrite** comes from the Greek word for "tree" because a dendritic inclusion in a stone looks like a branching tree or at least like some type of plant life. They are often said to look like ferns or moss and many people mistakenly speculate that they are fossil imprints of moss. Actually, dendrites are inclusions of manganese crystals.

They are formed when manganese-rich water seeps into tiny crevices in rocks and the manganese crystals are deposited in intricate branching patterns.

I was watching "The Ten Commandments".

When Moses parts the Red Sea, the first thing I thought of was . . . "what kind of shells and rocks would I find on my trip through the passage" . . .

I think I might have a Rockhounding problem.

Some Links you might like to check out.

Submitted by Bill Gallagher.

<https://www.uscrystalgrowingcompetition.org/>

<https://www.featherriverrocks.org/show/rock-tumbling-contest-drop-down2>

<https://www.interweave.com/jewelry-beading-competitions/>

**As I was getting in bed, she said, "You're drunk".
I said, "How do you know?"
She said, "You live next door."**

Safety Article

Snakes, bugs, and varmints - RATTLE – RATTLE

When we are out on field trips, we should remember that we are not alone. We are visiting the home of a great number of other critters, some of whom - snakes, bugs, and varmints- are not real friendly. They even attack to protect themselves and their homes or because they are ill.

Rattlesnakes are everyone's big worry, of course. With some reason too. Their bite can be very dangerous, and contrary to myth, they don't always rattle to warn you before they bite. Of course, there are other poisonous snakes too - the copperhead, the cottonmouth, water moccasin, the coral snake - and a whole bunch of harmless ones, too. The only way out from meeting one of these snakes too closely is to not get where they are. When you are where they might be, you must ALWAYS 'look before you leap'. Before you take a step, look ahead. Before you step over a rock (or branch, or trunk, or whatever), look on the other side to see who's lying there. Before you stick your hand in a hole or behind a rock, poke around with a stick to see if it is occupied.. Always go slow, so you won't 'run' into a snake, and, if bitten, **go immediately to a hospital.**



Scorpions are another danger. These range from as dangerous as a bumble bee to deadly. As you go from the oak woods to the

desert, remember these are shy creatures. They like to hide in cracks, crevices, under rocks, under brush, in brick pile holes, in concrete blocks, in your unattended shoes, in unattended gloves, in bedrolls, or under picnic baskets - almost anywhere. So, if you stick your hands or feet into hiding places without looking first, you may get stung.



Another thing, never assume a place is too small for one - they can squeeze into and through unbelievably small cracks. So look first, then reach, even if you have spotted an egg size facet grade ruby. Again, if stung, it's hospital time.

Ticks, mosquitoes, flies, 'no see-ums', chiggers and other bugs are, for the most part, irritating nuisances. They can be avoided through proper use of bug repellants and flowers of sulfur.

Tick bites should be closely watched after the tick is removed. If they don't clear up immediately, check with your doctor - they may be carrying Lyme's disease - potentially fatal if not treated.

Finally, if you see an animal - skunk, fox, squirrel, rabbit, whatever - that isn't acting naturally, then run the other way. One symptom of rabies is for animals to become unafraid of predators, including you. Another is for them to change normal habits - like nocturnal animals wandering around during the day. Don't make friends, feed, or approach wild animals. Avoid them.

Source Strata Gem—April 2012 By: Mel Albright

Eleven Ways To Become A Fossil

FREEZING - This rare creature has suffered a minimum of change. His arteries may still contain dried blood, his stomach undigested food. Most common is the ice-age mammoth of Siberia and Alaska

DRYING OR DESSICATION - If these organisms were thoroughly dried, they can be of high quality. Best known are the camels and sloths found in our Southwest caves.

WAX AND ASPHALT - Natural paraffin makes an excellent preservative, as proved by specimens found in Polish mines. The most famous asphalt fossils are still embedded in the La Brea Tar Pits in California.

SIMPLE BURIAL - English bogs are famous for their buried forests. Sand dollars, sea urchins, and mollusks have been preserved by this method for up to 75 million years.

CARBONIZATION - Incomplete decay of volatile substances leaves carbon behind, sometimes reducing organisms to paper-thin layers of shiny black film that reveal much detail.

PETRIFICATION - Our common stony fossils got that way by premineralization, the replacement of the structure by dissolved minerals, or secondary replacement, such as when limey fossils are dissolved and replaced by silica.

MOLDS AND CASTS - Natural molds in sediment remain after organisms decay. Sandstone beds reveal molds of shells and trees, and the finest molds are N. European amber, which has perfectly preserved the forms of insects.

IMPRINTS - Sandstone, shale and tuff reveal external molds of very thin objects such as leaves. Best known of these are the Illinois Coal-Age plant imprints.

TRACKS, TRAILS, BURROWS - Dinosaur prints are the most famous of these. But Nebraska's "Devil's Corkscrew" once housed a beaver who dug an 8' spiral hole.

CASTINGS & CORPROLITES - Ancient worms swallowed sand to help digest small organisms; he regurgitated these castings. Coprolite is a polite word for petrified "dung".

GASTROLITHS - Many ancient reptiles ground their food with these stones (as do our modern fowl). The stones are rounded, smooth, and even polished at times. Also known as "Gizzard Stones".

Source: Strata Gem

EXERCISE FOR PEOPLE OVER 50

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer. After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags.

Then try 50-lb potato bags and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm finally at this level!)

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.

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: \$15.00 per person and \$25.00 per family

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

OFFICERS

President..... Zandra Darrow 546-2554	Roundup Chair ('22)... Marilyn Page 544-9019
Vice President Nancy Guernsey214-402-4771	1 Yr. Director..... Marvin Clary 494-4973
Secretary Bill Gallagher 546-2554	2 Yr. Director..... Cathy Burnett 619-0664
Treasurer Donna George 694-5231	3 Yr. Director Tom Bonewitz.....785-564-0310
Bulletin Editor..... Carolyn Abbey 543-8916	Past President Marilyn Page 544-9019

BOARD MEETINGS
Temporarily—2:00 p.m.
1st Thursday each month

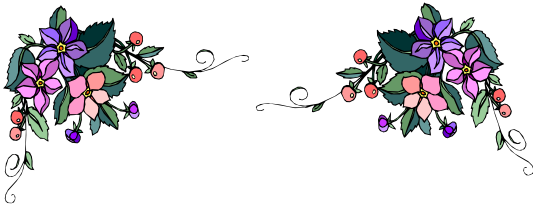
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
4th Thursday - 2:00 p.m.
Also via ZOOM

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

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

Visitors are invited and welcome at

membership meetings.



THE OFFICIAL SHOW OF THE SOCIETY

Was cancelled in March due to Covid.

“ROCK CHIPS” is the official bulletin of the Society

Email: theDGMS@gmail.com

OFFICIAL WEB SITE www.thedgmsclub.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

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

APRIL

Thursday, April 1st	Board Meeting (also on ZOOM).....	2 p.m.
Sunday, April 4th	EASTER SUNDAY	
Saturday, April 17th	Reclamation (re-seeding, etc) at Big Diggins	
Thursday, April 22nd.....	General Meeting (also on ZOOM).....	2 p.m.
Saturday, April 24th	Field Trip to Big Diggins <u>Only</u> for those who help on the 17th	

MAY

Thursday, May 6th	Board Meeting (also on ZOOM).....	2 p.m.
Sunday, May 9th	Mothers Day	
Thursday, May 26th	General Meeting (also on Zoom)	2 p.m.
Monday, May 31st	Memorial Day	

Deming Gem & Mineral Society

Carolyn Abbey, Editor
P.O. Box 1459
Deming, New Mexico 88031

