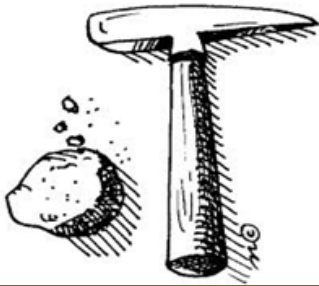


Rockhound of the Year Award



Lynn and Jane Neale named State Rockhound of the Year

Lynn and Jane Neale were named 2012 Wyoming Rockhound of the Year at the annual board meeting of the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society.

They were selected from among other nominees by geologists from the Wyoming Geological Survey. Rock clubs around the state submitted names and reasons for their nomination to the society.

The Neales have been members of the Shoshone Rock Club since 1970. Both have participated in many club activities, serving as board members and in various offices for a number of years starting in 1971.

Between the two of them, they have:

- Led many field trips.
- Provided lapidary instruction at the club workshop or at their home.
- Assisted with a program for the Powell Valley Community Education.
- Given yearly programs to the Powell Boys and Girls Club.
- Served several times as co-chairman for state rock shows when they were in Powell and assisted when it was in Cody.
- Served as an officer or delegate to society's state organization and its yearly rock shows.
- Set up the club's display case at state shows.
- Provided their home for state board meetings.
- Assisted often with Shoshone Rock Club floats for Park County Fair and Christmas parades.

In recent years, Jane Neale has crafted several silver and jade pendants for past rockhounds of the year. Asked to do so once again, she said she created a pendant and bola tie for this year's winners, not knowing they would go to her and her husband.

The Neales have been major contributors to the Shoshone Rock Club for 42 years and have been big factors in keeping the Shoshone Rock Club going for 61 years. They are much appreciated for their dedication to helping others to learn about the geology and paleontology of Wyoming. In his nomination of the Neales, Richard Heumier of Torrington said, "These are 2 of the nicest people you will meet and we need lots more like them. Their service to rockhounding is mind-boggling through 41 years of dedication."

Printed in the Powell Tribune Aug. 28, 2012



Jane and Lynn Neale of Powell were named 2012 "Rockhound of the Year" by the Wyoming Gem and Mineral Society. The Neales have volunteered for the Shoshone Rock Club for more than 40 years.

Powell Tribune photo by Ilene Olson

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Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Society (WSMGS) State OFFICERS

President: Stan Strike

2132 Gail Lane-Cody
Phone: 250-1244

Vice President: Jim McGarvey

P.O. Box 116-Kinnear
Phone: 856-6188

Secretary: Mary Ann Northrup

736 Lane 13-Powell
Phone: 754-4472

Treasurer: Jane Neale

1207 Road 9-Powell
Phone: 754-3285

Richard Heumier: Historian

88 Triangle Ranch Road-Riverton
Phone: 851-1946

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P.O. Box 697-Cody
Phone: 578-7091

Richard McGarvey: RMFMS State Director

P.O. Box 116-Kinnear
Phone: 856-6188

WSMGS Webmasters:

Jim McGarvey
Marlene Sibley

WSMGS Website: www.wymineralandgemsociety.org

WSMGS Information and Updates

By Stan Strike, President

- **New WSMGS President and Vice-President**

The annual meeting of the Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Society (WSMGS) was held at the State Gem & Mineral Show on June 8, 2012 in Torrington. Minutes from that meeting are included in this newsletter. As a result of Connie Case's resignation, delegates from the WSMGS affiliated rock clubs approved Stan Strike as president and Jim McGarvey as Vice President until the biannual election occurs in 2013 at the WY State Gem & Mineral show in Riverton.

- **WSMGS Goals**

The WSMGS Board will try to continue Connie's efforts to improve the communication between our groups, to update our by-laws & other necessary organizational changes, and to promote the exchange of information concerning minerals, rocks, fossils, gems, and lapidary skills. The WSMGS Board is asking that the affiliated Wyoming rock clubs help to share and provide information for the benefit of all members by emailing or calling us. Please also forward concerns or suggestions to the Board that will strengthen the Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Society.

- **New Website and Webmasters**

The Board has approved a new web host site-doteasy and web address-**wymineralandgemsociety.org**. We plan on adding new information to the website in order to make it more valuable to our members as well as to others who choose to visit our website. We have 2 new WSMGS webmasters to manage our website-Jim McGarvey and Marlene Sibley. Suggestions for the website should be made to the Board.

- **New Jade State News Editor**

The WSMGS Board has also selected a new Jade State News editor -Verne Orcutt-who has had previous experience as a newsletter editor for a national RV group. Please note his email address: WSMGSpublicity@gmail.com -and send your club news and "rockhounding" information in *Microsoft Word Format* (so it can be rearranged in newsletter format) via email to Verne prior to the following Jade State News deadlines: August 1st, November 1st February 1st, and May 1st.

- **2012 State Show**

Continued at top of next page

WSMGS information continued

- **2012 State Show**

We would like to thank the Torrington Rex Young Rock Club for hosting the 2012 State Gem & Mineral Show. With a limited number of club members, they had all the bases covered in a great facility with silent auction items, door prizes, speaker-“Fairburn Agates”, informational displays and a quality selection of dealers. We will look forward to the 2013 State Show in Riverton.

- **Field Trips**

We would also like to recognize all of the rock clubs and individuals that have provided field trips for our members, especially the Powell Shoshone Rock Club for “The Yellow Brick Road” and the Riverton Gem & Mineral Society for several field trips- Lysite agate, Wamsetter fossils, and Cedar Ridge opal. With the internet, it has become easier to advertise and share our local rock-hounding sites with others. The Board encourages it’s member clubs to contact us with information they wish to share with the other clubs and we will pass it on to them.

- **RSVP Communication Requests**

Finally, the WSMGS Board would ask each club to designate two persons as their club representatives who the Board and others can communicate with via email. It then will be these persons responsibility to communicate with their membership. This will eliminate the time lag and confusion that occurs with the election of new officers and as the individual membership changes. Keeping our membership informed will keep them involved and participating, which will result in keeping our clubs growing and healthy.

Wyoming WSMGS Affiliated Rock Clubs

Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society:

P.O. Box 21412-Cheyenne, WY 82001
President-Bob King-2857 Olive Dr.
Cheyenne, WY 82001 (307-632-2702)

Contacts: Bob King
Carroll Schnell

Cody 59ers Rock Club:

Stan Strike-2132 Gail Lane-Cody, WY 82414 (307-250-1244)
President-Jim Ulmer-P.O. Box 3003-Cody, WY 82414
(307-272-5330)

Contacts: Jenny Schneider
Beth Spears

Natrona County Rockhounds:

P.O. Box 123-Mills, WY 82644
President-George Tillman (970-405-5502)

Contacts: Helen Hoff
Jennifer flowers

Rex Young Rock Club:

Ron Harroun-Box 373-Lingle, WY 82223
President- Kim Nielsen-50434 Leisure
Scottsbluff, NE 69361(308-632-2385)

Contacts: Kim Nielsen
Joyce Trowbridge

Riverton Mineral & Gem Society:

P.O. Box 1904-Riverton, WY 82501
President-Linda Richendifer-10709 Hwy 26
Kinnear, WY 82516(307-856-1532)

Contacts: Linda Richendifer
Alice Gustin

Shoshone Rock Club:

P.O. Box 256-Powell , WY 82435
President- Mary Ann Northrup-736 Lane 13
Powell, WY 82435 (307-754-4472)

Contacts: Linna Beebe
Jane Neale

“The Yellow Brick Road”

By Mary Ann Northrup

The “Yellow Brick Road” dinosaur trackway was found by Rowene Manuel while hiking the hills. The Wyoming State Gem and Mineral Society wanted to sponsor a state wide trip for all interested parties. The first try for a trip was in April and it was rained out—no traveling on bentonite mud. July 7th was

the next try for a state trip to see the tracks.

We met at the sign to the Red Gulch dinosaur trackway. Cliff Manuel gave a talk on the history of the area and led us to the trackway where we met with Rowene, “RO” as she is called, and were led over the hills on a 2 to 3

mile trek to see the tracks. Gryphea, or Devil’s toe nails are the index fossil for the trackway. The [dinosaur] tracks measured in length from 6 to 7 inches to big ones up to 14 inches. These are the three toed, Therapods, meat eaters tracks. Saurapod, plant eaters tracks were also present.

Turritella, Stromatolite & Petrified Wood Field Trip

By Carol Wolfe, from the Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society Newsletter

Leaving on May 2, Ron McKee, Carol Wolfe and Charlie Richmond headed west on I-80 toward Rock Springs, WY. We took the Wamsutter exit (exit 158) south then west toward Delaney Rim area to collect Turritella agates for the afternoon. These specimens are chalcedony rich sedimentary rock from Wyoming which hosts the fossil shells of *Elimia tenera* and was originally incorrectly called Turritella agate. It was named after the sea snail genus Turritella because of the resemblance of the freshwater snail shells to the Turritella fossils that are found in agate in Texas and California. The Wyoming fossil shells, however, are in a freshwater sedimentary deposit and identifiable as the genus *Elimia*. These fossilized and less-silicified *Elimia tenera* occur in a region which is now southern Wyoming, northern Colorado and northeastern Utah. The fossil beds are approximately 46 to 51 million years old and occur in the Laney Member of

the Green River Formation. Evidence suggests that the *Elimia tenera* were deposited near shore in a series of shallow lakes, which geologists have named the Fossil, Uinta and Gosiute Lakes. The climate was subtropical and there were intermittent volcanic eruptions. The best preserved *Elimia tenera* are from Lake Gosiute which fossils occur in the Fort Laclede Bed of the Laney Member at outcrops in Sweetwater County in southwestern Wyoming. (from Wikipedia). The specimens are abundant and are collected from the surface. The next day, we traveled we traveled north of Rock Springs toward Eden Valley near Farson, WY to collect fossil wood. These were not so abundant on the surface, but a few specimens were collected. We then headed back toward Rock Springs, stopping to collect a few hundred Taconite balls near an old railroad bed. Again, the specimens were abundant and easily collected from the surface. These are an iron ore produced

into large pea size pellets. The afternoon was filled with collecting oolite and waterfall agates at Bitter Creek.

The third day was spent back on Delaney Rim east of Rock Springs, again in the Bitter Creek area. We met up with Helen and Rex Hoff from Casper. We collected stromatolites along the rim. These are very abundant and are all collected from the surface. Selenite is also quite plentiful and found amongst the stromatolite. After filling our buckets with as much as we wanted, we revisited the Turritella sites so Helen and Rex were able to collect some of those too. In the afternoon, we went north of Rawlins to Stewart Creek where we spent the remainder of the day collecting fossil wood. This has been heavily collected, but after some searching, we were able to collect plenty of small to medium specimens from the surface with little to no digging. We returned home that night, tired, dirty, and happy.

Walking the “Yellow Brick Road” Dinosaur Trackway



The road ahead ...



Here is another track ...



A well defined track ...

Topaz & Smoky Quartz Field Trip

By Bob King

June 2-3 Field Trip to Shirley Basin

By Charlie Richmond

Saturday, July 14, I drove 150 miles south into Colorado to an old classic topaz digging area called “*Devil’s Head*” where I met up with Bob Wade who organized the trip. The members of the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society members were invited to join us.

In all there were 15 of us searching for the well hidden crystals. It was a change to dig in among trees as most of my collecting in Wyoming is done out in the treeless plains. The picture is of

those who were the first to arrive at the dig site shows these trees (note the Pine Beetle kill).

Little was [few specimens were] found, but we enjoyed the nice weather and had an enjoyable day talking and digging. I collected over 100 pounds of graphic granite which I have traded off for mineral specimens for our club. Bob Wade and Lewis Coblenz stayed there Saturday night and dug some more on Sunday.

This trip was in conjunction with the Ft. Collins mineral club. About 30 people attended with most of them camping out on Saturday night. Those that were there on Saturday night got to use a portable black light to search for fluorescent minerals where they were plentiful.

Collected were 2” long bel-emnites (fossils), banded jasper, petrified wood and agates. The light rain and wind did not deter those in attendance from having a good time.



Opal Claim on Cedar Rim

By: Ben Struempf

August 18, 2012

We met at the Riverton Wal-Mart parking lot at 7:30AM and were delightfully surprised to see so many people ready to go to the Opal claim. There were over 50 people from all over the state. There were around 25 to 30 vehicles. On the road with so many vehicles with their lights on that it looked like I was leading a funeral procession. We left the meeting place and headed towards Beaver Rim. At the top of the rim we turned onto the Cedar Rim road ... that was quite a string of vehicles behind ours!

At the claim the people scattered in all directions and started going through the piles of rock that the mine owner had placed around the claim. Some decided to go to the out-cropping to see what they could find there.

At the end of the day, there must have been 3 ton of rock taken from the site. Every pick-up was loaded! It appeared there were about a dozen pieces found with some fire in them.

The claim owner, Lonnie Woddard, says: If you want more of the opal, go get it. All those rock piles have to be gone by the end of October. Go get um, Rockhounds

Following are some pictures from the trip!

Opal Marbles by Richard Rodgers



Rockhounds working the rock pile!



Nancy and Micah Eustice with their treasure



Riverton Gem and Mineral Society Field Trips to Delany Rim and Cedar Ridge *by John Gillette*

Delany Rim

Over the weekend of August 11 & 12, 2012, seven members of the Riverton Mineral & Gem Society club traveled to Delany Rim in search of Turritella and Agate. While there, some exceptional blue colored, wind polished turritella was found. We also got into a large bed of alage and as a result got some very nice pieces.

While on this trip, we checked out some of the access roads to the Haystacks. We are hoping on a future trip where we spend a large portion of the trip in and around the Haystacks.

Cedar Ridge

On 8/25/12 six members of the club went up on Union Pass (west of Dubois) to pan for gold. All of us found enough (if you looked carefully) to see in a small specimen bottle. On our return home we went into Double Cabin to look for wood. Lots of smoke in the air so we were not really able to enjoy just how beautiful the Double Cabin area is.

Highlights 2012 Wyoming State Gem & Mineral Show

June 9th and 10th

**THE REX YOUNG ROCK CLUB
WELCOMES YOU TO THE
2012 WYOMING STATE GEM
& MINERAL SHOW**



**“Wyoming’s Ocean of
Treasures”**

Saturday, June 9th from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, June 10th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ADMISSION:

Teens & Adults—\$2.00 per day
Children 12 & under—free when
accompanied by paid adult

Save your tickets for door prizes
and to get back into the show

DEMOS

Sphere making by Lynn and Lawrence Junker
Wire wrapping and cab making by Betty and
Greg Syslo

SPECIAL TALKS

Saturday at 2:00 pm
Wade Beins, from Crawford, NE, will talk about
Fairburn Agates in the Brand Room.
George Zeimens will give a talk after Wade is
finished.

SILENT AUCTIONS

Saturday from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm
Sunday from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm

DEALERS

Phantom Rocks—Longmont, CO
Junker's Rocks That Roll—Beaver City, NE
Rock-N-Wrap Studio—Bellevue, NE
Carole Rodgers Creative Services—Milo, IA
Alice Gustin—Riverton, WY
Geri Zeimens—Torrington, WY
K and K Minerals—Scottsbluff, NE
Dale's Polished Rocks—Scottsbluff, NE
Best Little Ore House—Boulder, CO
Nonesuch Minerals—Mt. Ida, AR
Old Dead Things—Casper, WY
Sister's Rocks—Westminster, CO

REX YOUNG ROCK CLUB

President—Kim Nielsen
Vice President—Ron Harroun
Treasurer—LeRoy Meininger
Secretary—Helen Vogel
Jade State News Reporter—Joyce Trowbridge
Historian—Joyce Trowbridge

Other area attractions to visit....
Western History Center, Old Fort Laramie,
Agate Fossil Beds, Homesteader's Museum

Special Thanks to.....

Sunbonnet Gals
Eloxite
Goshen County Library Reading Program
Goshen County Tourism Promotion Joint
Powers Board
Western History Center

Invitation:

The Rex Young Rock Club would love to have
you join. The club meets at the Senior Friend-
ship Center, 216 East 19th Street in Torrington
on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm.
Activities include programs on rocks, fossils
and other interests, show-tell, fellowship, good-
ies, special programs, field trips.
For additional information contact
Ron Harroun at 307-837-2691

Showcase Exhibits



**2012 WSMGS State
Show-People's Choice
Award winner**





Barranca Diamond Products, Inc. offers the largest selection of premium quality metal-bonded diamond saw blades available for lapidary use. Whether your requirement is the precise trimming of precious gems in preparation for faceting or the slabbing of boulders, we manufacture a diamond saw blade that will meet your need.

Barranca Diamond Products is engaged in the research, production and sale of sintered metal-bonded diamond abrasive saw blades and has the exclusive process for manufacturing notched-rim diamond blades for lapidary applications.

To provide maximum choice, in addition to notched rims, we offer a selection of diamond saw blades with other rim designs. These include sintered metal-bonded continuous thin rims and segmented rims.

Composition of Lapidary Diamond Saw Blades

Diamond saw blades produced by Barranca Diamond Products are composed of four basic materials: diamonds, silver solder, powdered metal and steel cores. A quality control program, with checks at all stages of production, enables Barranca Diamond Products to consistently produce premium-quality diamond blades.

We use industrial synthetic diamonds. These diamonds have a number of consistent qualities, including excellent cutting performance. Industrial diamonds, along with high-grade steel cores provide excellent tensioning characteristics. Silver solder is used as a eutectic binder to hold the diamonds in place.

Selecting the Best Blade

Several factors should be considered when selecting a diamond blade that will best meet your cutting requirements:

- The capacity of the saw and its conditions
- The type of material to be cut and its purpose
- Operator experience
- Price

If the blade is going to be slabbing primarily hard, dense agate and/or petrified wood, and material loss is not critical, standard rim blades with sturdier cores should be selected. However, if material loss must be held to a minimum, then a premium notched rim or continuous rim blade should be your choice. Similarly, if you are considering the purchase of the thin rim trim saw blade versus one of standard thickness, consider the material you'll be sawing. If it is precious, such as sapphire, YAG, spinel or ruby, your choice should be thin rim. But, if it is Brazilian agate, jasper or other material, a standard more durable blade will be the correct selection. Thin rim blades are extremely delicate and require an experienced lapidary's patience and touch. If your trim saw

Getting the Most From Your Lapidary Diamond Saw Blades

Publication courtesy of Barranca Diamond Products, Inc.

will be operated by inexperienced people, for example, students in a class, thicker rim diamond saw blades should be considered.

Your choice of diamond saw blades for slabbing should be determined by the condition of your equipment. Thin industrial blades can only be used on machines in good condition and capable of high RPM. Criteria for good sawing of slabs are parallel sides and smooth surface finishes. If your slab saw is in good condition and you are an experienced operator, you may want to consider a continuous rim blade.

Care and Maintenance

Whenever a new blade is installed, drain coolant and thoroughly clean and inspect for the following:

Arbor Shaft Play – To check for radial play, grasp the blade end of the shaft, and try to move it back and forth. If you feel any movement, there is radial play. To check for axial play, try to move the shaft in and out. Any movement indicates axial play. If either condition exists the blade will not run smoothly when sawing. Radial play will cause the blade to pound against the workpiece causing short blade life. Axial play will cause the blade to shift, dishing it, or even causing loss of tension. The core will fatigue and eventually break-out the center. Arbor shaft play indicates worn bearings or a bent shaft. It is wise to install new bearings and, if necessary, an entire arbor assembly.

Arbor Shaft Surface – All lapidary blades are manufactured with an arbor hole .005 oversize to provide a snug fit on the shaft. If the shaft is worn, the blade will not spin concentrically with the arbor. A worn down arbor shaft should be replaced before any cutting is done.

Flanges – Very special attention should be given to the blade flanges (collars). Their purpose is to support the blade over a large surface area and to help prevent deflection at the beginning and ending of a cut where there is little or no workpiece support. They **MUST** measure at least one quarter the diameter of the blade. Remove both from the arbor, clean and inspect them thoroughly. If you detect gouges or burns on the contact surfaces, they should be replaced or resurfaced at a machine shop. When the contact surfaces are put together, they must lie flat and no light should be visible. If there is, then the faces are not parallel and will distort the blade. They should be recessed approximately three quarters of their diameter—flange contact surface must contact the blade away from its center in order to support and not distort it. When you install the blade, tighten the arbor nut firmly, but not so much that you will collapse the flanges.

* **NEVER** grip the blade for tightening leverage. Instead, hand-grasp the arbor drive.

Drive Belt – Adjust belt tension so that you can squeeze the belt approximately 1/2" on a trim saw, 1" on a slab saw.

Machine Location – Make sure the floor or platform beneath the machine is sturdy and level. If not, the machine will vibrate and may cause the blade to flutter. With slab saws, it is important to be aware of carriage-wise assembly alignment. This assembly must travel parallel to the arbor shaft in order to make straight cuts. High-quality slab and trim saws are precision-aligned by the manufacturer and should rarely require realignment, except when the arbor assembly is removed for repair or replacement.

Prior to doing any cutting, two very important operating requirements need consideration: the speed at which to run a blade, and the use of a suitable coolant/lubricant. Each of these has a profound effect on a blade's overall cutting performance, in terms of life, cutting quality and speed. The speed at which a blade runs is expressed in two ways, either in revolutions per minute (RPM) or in its peripheral surface speed—surface feet per minute (SFPM).

Formulas: Blade Speeds

$$RPM = \frac{SFPM \times 12}{3.1416 \times d}$$

$$SFPM = \frac{RPM \times 3.1416 \times d}{12}$$

Symbols:

Blade diameter.....d (inches)

Formula: Shaft Speeds

$$RPM_A = RPM_M \times \frac{d_M}{d_A}$$

Symbols:

Arbor RPM.....RPM_A

Motor RPM.....RPM_M

Motor Pulley Diameter.....d_M (inches)

Arbor Pulley Diameter.....d_A (inches)

Your saw comes from the factory ready to run. Do not make changes without first contacting the manufacturer since your warranty may be affected.

The following table gives the recommended blade operating ranges, in SFPM, and shows the approximate corresponding arbor RPM ranges:

Recommended Operating Range	3000 - 3500 SFPM	3000-4500 SFPM	4500-1000 SFPM
Blade Type	Standard Notched	High Performance Notched Continuous Rim	Thin Rim Notched Steel Saber
Blade Diameter	Approximate RPM Range		
4"	2860-3340	2860-4300	4300-5730
5"	2290-2670	2290-3440	3440-4580
6"	1910-2230	1910-2870	2870-3820
7"	1640-1910	1640-2460	2460-3270
8"	1430-1670	1430-2150	2150-2870
9"	1270-1490	1270-1910	1910-2550
10"	1150-1340	1150-1720	1720-2290
12"	960-1110	960-1430	1430-1910
14"	820-960	820-1230	1230-1640
16"	720-840	720-1070	1070-1430
18"	640-740	640-960	960-1270
20"	570-670	570-860	860-1150
24"	480-560	480-720	720-960
30"	380-450	380-570	570-760
36"	320-370	320-480	480-640

A lapidary diamond saw blade requires a lubricant which also acts as a coolant. An ample supply must be directed into the saw cut - enough to lubricate the rim and the workpiece and to flush out all debris. Commercial light cutting oils such as Chevron's Superla #5, Texaco's "Almag," Standard's "RPM Flushing Oil," Shell's "Pella 21," and Arco's "Calube-SIOS" are excellent. We do not recommend the use of a water-soluble oil or plain water when slabbing. There are some applications in high-speed trim sawing that might require the use of oil-free coolants, but, if possible, always use an oil-base coolant/lubricant. CAUTION: If water is used, a rust inhibitor must be added. If residue remains in the coolant/lubricant, cutting performance will be reduced. Dirty coolant/lubricant should be replaced. Fresh coolant should be added until the blade is immersed approximately 3/8" in a splash method system. A recirculating system is more efficient than a splash method system since it directs more coolant/lubricant into the saw cut. With either system, an ample supply of coolant/lubricant must be used to keep the workpiece and particularly the diamond saw blade as cool as possible.

The blade should be run dry frequently to determine if any side wobble has developed. An ideal time to do this with a splash method system is when changing the coolant/lubricant. With a recirculating pump system this check can be made at any time simply by disconnecting the power to the pump. Normal blade flutter should average no more than .0005" per inch of blade diameter. If more is detected, then the blade needs repair.

With a new blade, it is always wise to do your initial cutting on soft abrasive material to assure that it is properly broken in. This will bring the rim into concentricity with the arbor and open-up the rim, increasing the diamond protrusion.

Start cuts by feeding in the workpiece when the blade is running at operating speed. Make

sure the workpiece surface will not cause blade deflection at the point of contact. If the blade starts cutting to either side of its plane of rotation, you will get a non-parallel cut and a "dished" blade in need of repair.

* When a cut is almost complete, often a break will occur leaving a jagged spur. When the spur is a hard dense material, such as agate, the blade may not cut it off, but may instead be deflected, allowing the spur to rub and machine a groove in the core. In order to prevent this, infeed pressure should be stopped near the end of your cuts. Saws with automatic power cut-off, when properly set, will do this for you. The face of a diamond blade, like a grinding wheel, can become "glazed" (low diamond protrusion) when cutting certain hard, dense materials. To sharpen the blade make a few cuts in a soft abrasive material. A soft abrasive-like material is easy for the exposed diamonds to cut, and it will abrade away some of the metal bond and rim to increase diamond protrusion.

* A diamond blade should be reversed occasionally to insure even wear and long life. As a reminder, this is an ideal time to thoroughly inspect the machine and flanges.

✓ It is possible that sharpening the blade will not improve its ability to cut correctly for long, or at all. This indicates something more serious is wrong with it. When a blade becomes dished and/or loses tension due to prolonged distortion during cutting, the blade will require factory repair to restore it to its original cutting capability. Some of the reasons a blade loses tension are: worn bearings, bent arbor shaft, a carriage misalignment, workpiece-infeed deflection, too rapid an infeed rate, improper installation and insufficient coolant/lubricant. CAUTION: If you continue to use a diamond saw blade in need of repair, it is possible that it will become unrepairable.

Notched Rim Blade Repair Charges

Blade Diameter	Cost	Shipping
10 - 12"	\$25	\$5
14 - 18"	\$35	\$10
20 - 24"	\$45	\$12
30 - 36"	\$65	\$20

Barranca Diamond Products only repairs truly notched rim blades (i.e. MK Diamond 301 Gemking, 297 Criterion blades, Lortone Panther, Star Diamond Moonglow and Meteor notched rim blades). Other than private label notched rim blades sold by MK, Star Diamond, Covington, and Lortone, we do not repair other manufacturer's diamond blades. Please call the factory if you have any questions regarding blade repairs. We do not repair continuous rim or segmented rim diamond blades (i.e., 303 series blades.) Blades that can not be repaired will be returned.

Barranca Diamond does not "rediamond" notched rim blades. Diamond blades with no remaining notches cannot be repaired or renotched.

Please add shipping and handling charges to your check for repair services, and include a description of the problem with blades sent for repair. Turnaround time runs from 4 to 6 weeks depending on factory schedule for furnace operations. Summer repairs can take over 6 weeks. No blade repairs will be shipped till payment in full is received.



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Gardena, CA 90248
Ph. (310) 523-5867
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Annual State Business News

Annual meeting of Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society, Inc.

6 P.M. June 8, 2013, Fairgrounds

Torrington, Wyoming

**: Minutes to be amended and approved at 2013 State Meeting*

President Connie Case presided over the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Secretary, Mary Ann Northrup, and were approved as read. Treasurer, Jane Neale, read the treasurer's report with a beginning balance Of \$1750.80, an income of \$364.00 from club dues, and a total income of \$1534.20, Expenses for the year were \$1393.59 and an ending checking balance of \$1,891.41 They were accepted as read.

Historian, Richard Heumier, sais he would like to receive more club reports.

Jade State News reporter, Gene Case, is retiring as of the state meeting. A another editor is needed..

Old Business- The designs of the logo made by Jane Neale were shown. Alice Gustin moved we table voting on the designs until everyone has had a chance to see them. Seconded and carried.

Stan Strike reported on starting other rock clubs was difficult because the people interested could not get together on times to have meetings and go on rock trips. Stan talked about the state trailer and insurance problems. He showed the check list and inventory list that is in the trailer, this should be checked at each show.

Connie read the nomination of the Rockhounds of the Year for the state and the awards went to Lynn and Jane Neale, as a tie. Jane had made a bolo tie for a man and a necklace for a woman, never realizing that she did this for herself and her husband.

Stan presented special award certificate of appreciation to Richard Heumier for getting all the Historian papers in order and making books for show chairman to use, present and for the coming year and one for the state board to use. Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society board presented a certificate of appreciation and a plaque plus a \$50 check and a fused glass necklace and earrings set from Jane Neale to Connie and Gene Case for their work as President and Jade State News Editor, as they are moving to Spokane, Washington.

The amendments to the By-Laws were unanimously approved by the delegates. Field trips- Riverton will send out a notice with in two weeks, July 29th is the Lysite trip. Cody 59ers will have a trip to Cedar Ridge, Cheyenne has a news letter. Heumiers invited people to visit their museum.

The memorial for past president, Rex Rogers, was discussed. The family wants to interest youth in earth sciences. Dale Tikalsky moved to donate a memorial to the family. LeRoy Meininger moved we wait until the family decides on the memorial. Mary Vogel seconded, motion carried.

The next state show will be held in Riverton, Wyoming on Father's Day weekend at the Fremont center, the fairgrounds, June 14,15,and 16, 2013. Cheyenne will take the bid for the show in

Annual State Business News continued

2014 if the location works out. Clubs interested in state shows need to contact the board. Richard will contact Casper club about having a show.

Stan proposed an amendment about the traveling trophy in the By-Laws, to continue to use the Traveling trophy until there is no more space for plaques. Strike out retaining permanently, and have an option to declare is they are keeping it until the first of the year or replacing it.

Torrington's Rex Young Club has display cases for sale, to sell to state, \$500 for 18 cases. Alice Gustinsays if clubs need cases they should have a chance to buy them. Alice made the motion the board should investigate the proposition, seconded and carried.

Stan Strike was nominated for interim president, Alice Gustin moved, Mary Vogel seconded, carried. Lynn Neale moved that Jim McGarvy be nominated for interim Vice President, seconded and carried.

The logo was voted on and example number 2 was chosen.

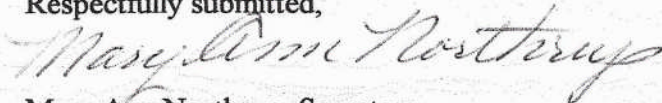
The Board donates \$25 to a museum each year and the Western History Museum in Fort Laramie was chosen for the year 2012, Richard Heumier moved we do this, seconded and carried..

It was announced the Avis Rock shop in Thermoplis, WY donated several rocks to go the silent auction.

Richard Heumier moved we adjourn, Melvin Gustin seconded, motion carried.

The Wyoming state Mineral and Gem Society board served pizza to members and dealers before the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Ann Northrup, Secretary

Annual State Business News *continued*

Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Society
 Financial Report June 30, 2011 - June 8, 2012
 Beginning Balance

\$ 1750.80

Expenses:

4 H Geology Award	\$	30.00	
State Show Dinner		134.17	
Website		65.00	
RMFMS dues		13.50	
RMFM S director/rep. Fuel		200.00	
Corporation Fee		25.00	
Victory Trailer plates & wheel chuck		84.46	
Deliver red trailer to Riverton		50.00	
Historian		158.19	
R.O.Y. Award labor		100.00	
R.O.Y. Sterling Silver		53.00	
Postage		3.29	
Jade State News		203.20	
Gifts & Awards		100.00	
State Show Guide Manuals		<u>173.78</u>	
	Total Expenses	\$	1393.59

Income:

Club Dues			
Natrona C R (2011)		46.00	
Cody 59'ers		55.00	
Cheyenne M & G		98.00	
Rex Young R C		23.00	
Natrona C R		57.00	
Riverton M&G		64.00	
Shoshone RC		<u>21.00</u>	
			364.00
Red Trailer Sale		250.00	
Interest Income		1.73	
Cody state Show		606.42	
Cody silent auction		107.05	
Riverton donation to JSN		100.00	
Kappa Kraft Fair Sales		85.00	
Donation to State Dinner		20.00	
	Total Income	\$	1534.20

Beginning Balance		1750.80
Income		<u>1534.20</u>
		3285.00
Expenses		<u>-1393.59</u>
	\$	1891.41 = Bank Balance and Checkbook Balance

Jane R. Neale, Treas.

Dryhead Agate

by John T. Hurst

Just the facts:

pp. I to XIV – Title page, Contents, Preface, etc.

pp. 1-87 North American Agates

The Earliest Dryhead Dwellers

The Dryhead Boom

Evaluating Dryhead Nodules

Fluorescence in Dryhead Agates

How Do Agates Form?

pp. 88-90 Technical Notes on the Photographs (344 photos and illustrations)

Bibliography

About the Author

The Dryhead Agate Mine

Early Prospectors and Miners

The Last Miner?

Cutting and Polishing

Funny Faces, Gargoyles and Rorschachs

Author's Farewell and Close-ups

Why write about Dryhead Agate?

A definitive book on Dryhead Agate has been missing from the rock collecting enthusiasts' book shelves. There are 3 or 4 on Fairburn Agates, 5 or more on Lake Superior Agates and 3 heavy volumes on worldwide agates by Johann Zenz. Until now there has been precious little written on the colorful Dryhead Agates from the Montana/Wyoming border about 35 miles NNE of Lovell, WY. I'll bet the spell-checker on your computer doesn't even spell "Dryhead Agate" correctly – this book is overdue!

My wife's folks lived in northern Wyoming for almost 30 years, while we lived in Boulder County in Colorado. Annual trips between these two locations gave us great opportunities to find first-rate specimens. How many times did we drive by the Dryhead country without stopping? Too many!

After we finally made the initial trip to the Dryhead Agate mine, more trips were destined to follow. We dug, collected, and eventually cut most of our Dryhead Agate nodules and polished a fair amount of them as well. Are we experts? We are your average collectors of agates from around the world. The real experts would be the miners like Jan Daggett, Ralph Bishop and Mark Boche. They all helped me with input, as did the 1950's to 1980's landowner and his wife, Ivan and Melba Tippetts.

The photography spans 1984 to present and focuses unusual and outstanding Dryhead Agates, as well as offering samples of various agates in grades of C,B, and A. As one writer, Barb Miller, who pens articles for Rock and Gem stated, that's a whole lot of photos for the price. Time will be the judge of that. At the very least, the average reader now has access to enough photos to decide if this vividly colorful agate from NNE of Lovell, WY belongs to the top agates of the world. Regardless of regional advocates touting their local agates, see if the Dryhead Agates in this book speak for themselves. It is what you the reader thinks that really counts.

Retail price \$29.96 plus tax, handling and shipping

Copies are available from John Hurst at:

1-303-443-7885 or at

john.hurst2@comcast.net



Prairie Tanzanite

by Dr. Hasham Monassar, FGA, GG



Regarding: A chunk (2"x4"x3/8") of purplish/pink opaque material called "Prairie Tanzanite" was sent to us for analysis and testing.

A small sample of the piece was used to determine the mineral content of the sample. Using mineral X-ray diffraction the sample was determined to be mainly composed of a calcium aluminum silicate with traces of calcite, quartz, manganese and iron etc. The main material is therefore thulite (a variety of zoisite) colored purplish/pink by manganese. The hardness varied across the material from 6.2 to 6.7 and was porous in parts suitable for dyeing.

Tanzanite is also a variety of zoisite and hence the name. The piece given to us for testing is commercial grade because of unevenness of color, porosity and somewhat dullness of color. Brighter more translucent pieces would be gem grade or better.

Standard heat and irradiation techniques were applied to the sample with no apparent effect. Immersion in a heated sulfuric acid bath followed by dyeing techniques had splendid effects that were much better than those applied to chalcedony for example.

Crystalline material instead of this massive form are very rare and therefore much more valuable and may be suitable for gemstone enhancement techniques.

Mineral: Zoisite ($\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_3\text{O}(\text{SiO}_4)(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7)(\text{OH})$)

Dr. Hasham Monassar, FGA, GG
Directory American Gem Society laboratory
Laguna Beach, California

RockHound Name: Prairie Tanzanite
Locality: Fremont County, Wyoming



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Lapidary Equipment and Related Items for Sale

Archeology Magazines for \$ale

100 + Indian Artifact Magazines for sale, \$200. Would like to sell them as a set. Some of the early editions are collectors items.

Jim Platt

307-250-1900

jamesgplatt@yahoo.com

Lapidary Equipment for \$ale

A Lortone trim saw, grinder, polisher machine has been well used but still has a full life available to it's new owner. 6" trim saw, 1 stone wheel, 1 expanding wheel and 1 polishing pad on the end. This machine has a motor and top drip water system

and polishing wheel on end that needs new leather cover. This is a table top model and priced at \$300.

Call 719-252-4430 or email afrasher@natures-gifts.biz. It can be seen in Riverton until Sept 30th, then it moves to Canon City, CO.

Buffer for \$ale

This buffer includes the motor, but no instructions. The motor runs and the buffer is about 12 inches across. We got this as part of another deal and we have never used it but have been told it does a good job. \$200 makes it all yours.

Call 719-252-4430 or email afrasher@natures-gifts.biz. It can be seen in Riverton until Sept 30th, then it moves to Canon City, CO

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tant ya want ta shar with others,
tel us and we'll be shur to let everone
no.*

By now, yur editur, Verne



WYOMING STATE MINERAL AND GEM SOCIETY

Editor

P.O. Box 697, Cody, WY 82414

Phone: 307.578.7091

We're on the Web

www.wymineralandgemsociety.org

Dates or Events to Mark on your Calendar

Billings Gem & Mineral Show—September 29th—30th

**This space will be reserved for future
events throughout the region which
will be of interest to members and/or
friends**