

Jade State News

Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Society, Inc.

2132 Gail Lane, Cody Wyoming 82414

Volume 2017, Issue 2



WSMGS OFFICERS

President: Stan Strike
pres@wsmgs.org

Vice President: Linda Richendifer
vpres@wsmgs.org

Secretary: Carla Tillman
sec@wsmgs.org

Treasurer: Melvin Gustin
treas@wsmgs.org

Historian: Rod Baltes
hist@wsmgs.org

Jade State News Editor: Jennifer Flowers
jsn@wsmgs.org

RMFMS State Director: Stan Strike
wydir@wsmgs.org

The WSMGS conducts meetings quarterly
and as special events require

Where will you be on Monday, August 21 2017

On Monday, August 21, 2017, millions of people across the United States will have the opportunity to see one of nature's most wondrous spectacles -- a total eclipse of the Sun. It will be a scene of mysterious beauty and for most of us -- a once in a lifetime experience. The last total solar eclipse that could be viewed as the moon's shadow moved from west to east across the entire United States was in 1918 and the next one that is similar will not occur until 2045! Where will you be on this summer on August 21st?

During a total eclipse of the Sun, the Moon completely blocks the Sun's light for those persons who are directly aligned with the Sun-Moon-Earth, and as we experience the moon's shadow, daylight will fade into nighttime for a few minutes. For those persons who are on Earth and are not in a direct alignment will experience a partial eclipse because some of the sun's light will not be blocked completely by the moon.

continued on page 2

Wyoming Total Eclipses Views	Pages1-2
Photographing Minerals & Minerals Under Ultra-Violet	Pages3-5
WSMGS Info & Updates	Pages6-9
Club News, Reports	Pages9-12
2017 RMFMS Show & Conv.	Pages 13
Up Coming Events	Page 14
Rock Show Flyers	Pages15-18
Lapidary Hints	Page 19
WSMGS Directory & Officers	Page20

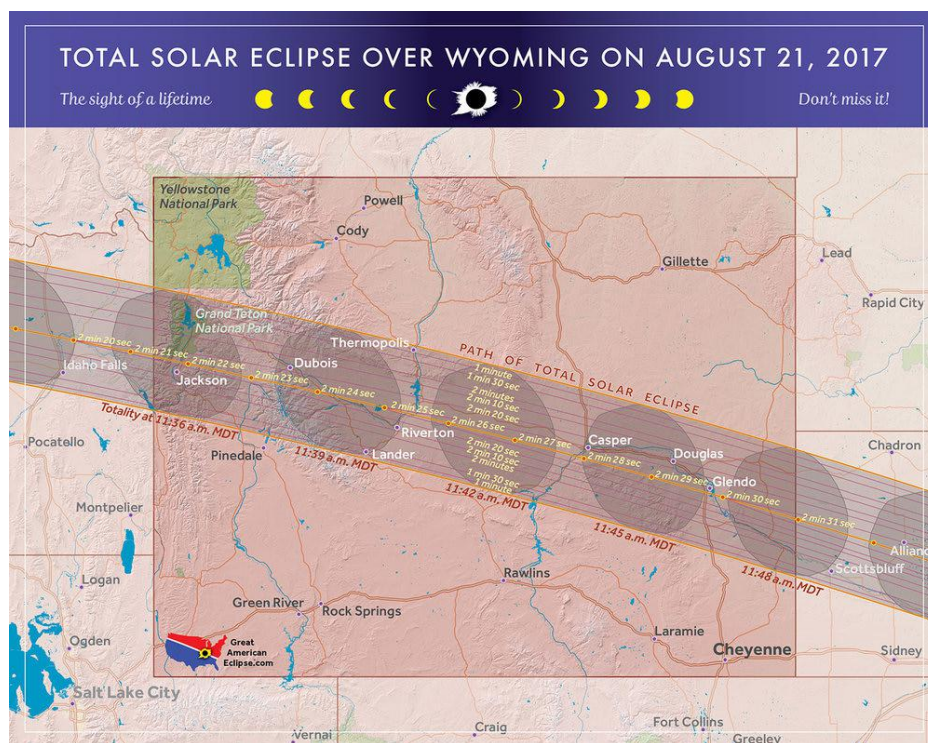
Where will you be on Monday, August 21 2017

continued from page 1

Those of us who live in Wyoming will have a ring-side seat and will be joined by thousands of other persons from all parts of the world. Wyoming will be a popular choice for eclipse chasers because of its usually good weather during August, uncrowded highways, and a relatively long viewing time of the total eclipse.

The central part and eastern part of Wyoming is sparsely populated with good odds for clear skies. The uncrowded roads should offer quick mobility in case clouds threaten to obscure the total eclipse. While the odds of clear skies are not quite as good as in Oregon and Idaho, by closely inspecting the weather forecast in the days before the eclipse and retaining the flexibility to quickly move locations, you should almost certainly be able to see the eclipse with success in Wyoming. Consult eclipsr.ca for Wyoming weather forecasts. Another valuable resource for local Wyoming weather is www.mountainweather.com, which will provide timely data about micro-climates in this area before eclipse day.

SAFETY NOTE: TO WATCH THE STAGES OF A SOLAR ECLIPSE, YOU MUST HAVE PROPER EYE PROTECTION. ECLIPSE GLASSES ARE AFFORDABLE AND SAFE. IF NOT AVAILABLE LOCALLY, ORDER FAR IN ADVANCE FROM AN INTERNET SUPPLIER.



On the Wyoming map above, viewers within the lines will experience a total solar Eclipse. Locations on the center line will experience the total eclipse for thirty seconds longer. Observers will first notice the moon beginning to block the sun's light (about 1 hour before total eclipse starts), then totally blocking the sun's light (for less than 2 1/2 minutes) and progressing to full sunlight (about 1 hour after total eclipse) as the moon no longer blocks any of the sun's light. The locations outside the lines will experience a partial eclipse. Note the approximate times that the total eclipse occurs along the bottom line for different Wyoming locations.

Adapted References:

1. www.eclipse2017.org/2017/states/WY.htm
2. <https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com>
3. Student's Guide to the Eclipse – Central WY College & Riverton Ranger Newspaper



Photographing Minerals & Rocks Under Ultra-Violet Light

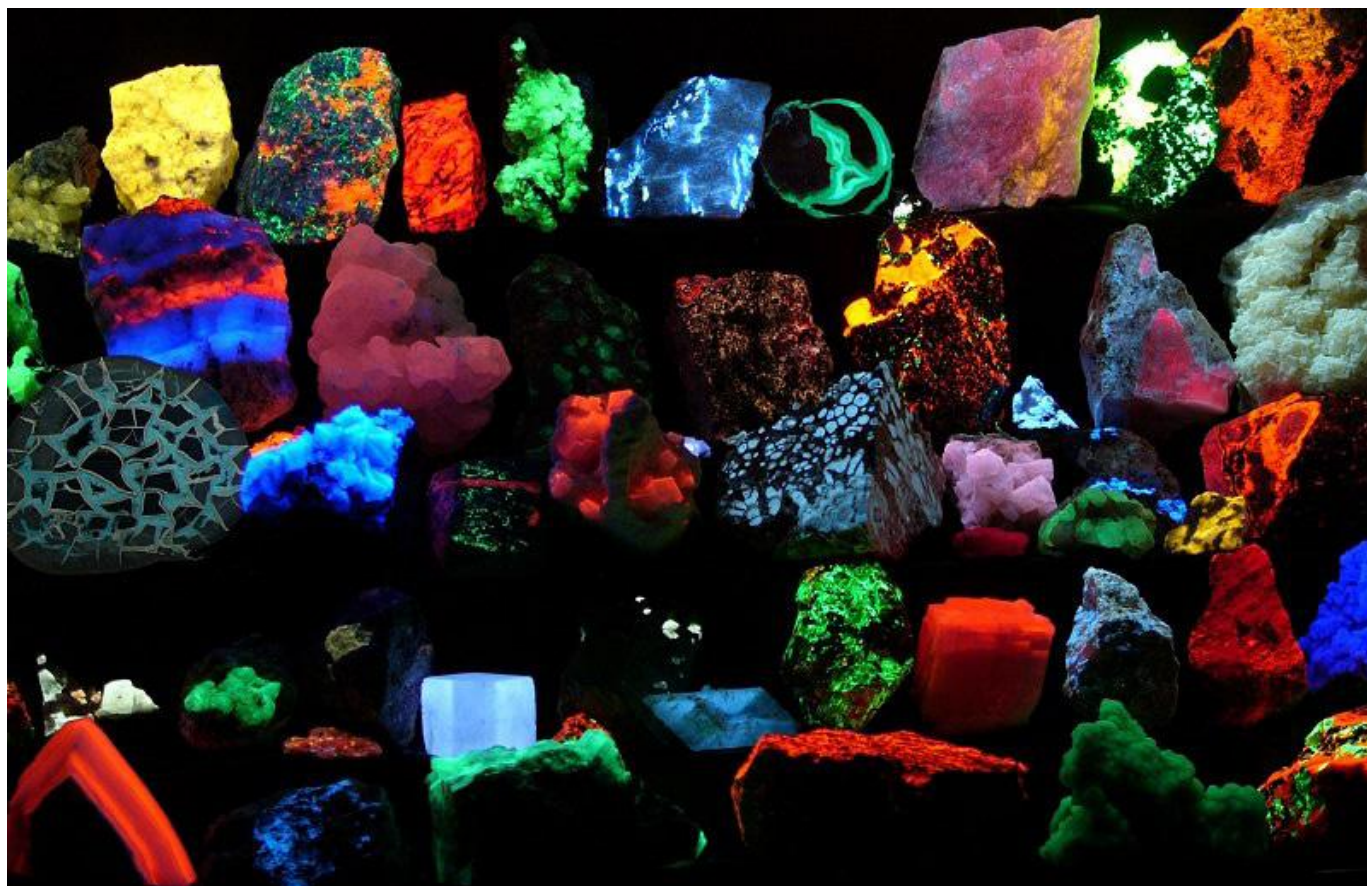
The colors of some minerals and rocks in natural light, when exposed to invisible ultraviolet light in a darkened setting are temporarily changed and seen with different visible colors. This temporary process of color change in some minerals and rocks is called fluorescence. A fluorescent mineral is able to absorb a small amount of shorter wavelength of light at a particular wavelength, and then release a small amount of visible light a moment later at another different wavelength of color. Thus when these same minerals and rocks are exposed to natural light, they return to their original colors.

If you are familiar with ROY G. BIV (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet) -the visible wavelengths of the colors of the rainbow that make up sunlight -you can begin to understand the different colors of visible light that may be hidden within some minerals and rocks when exposed to invisible ultra-violet light. Specific minerals within rocks always produce the same color when under ultra vio-

let light as inventoried in the website listed in the following text. By using this website you can build a collection of minerals and rocks that “glow” in the dark and by using the information in this article you can photograph them to preserve their hidden beauty.

The different colors of visible light which are released by some minerals and rocks when exposed to ultra violet light is a temporary color change that can be very beautiful as seen in the below photograph. Photo by: Hannes Grobe CL-BY-SA 2.5 from gemcoach.com website

This article will offer some simple tips as to how to photograph fluorescent minerals and rocks so that you don't end up with a blur of lovely colors, but no sharp image. All of these helpful hints are taken from this web site - <http://www.naturesrainbows.com/photography>. Nature's Rainbows is a non-



Photographing Minerals & Rocks

Under Ultra-Violet Light continued from page 3

commercial web site maintained entirely by volunteer hobbyists and contributors. Their mission is to provide information about UV and luminescence, premium fluorescent mineral photos, and a fluorescent mineral database for the enjoyment of FL mineral collectors around the world.

Digital cameras need to be adjusted with a bit in order to photograph bright colors in the dark. The following hints may be useful to photograph minerals and rocks being exposed to ultra-violet light.

1. Set up a photo box-use a large cardboard box with a black background inside and mount your camera to a tripod. No matter how hard we try, we are rarely able to hold a camera steady enough to take pictures in sharp focus in low light. Let your eyes “dark adapt” to the dark so that you see the mineral or rock in your camera screen.

2. Focus and focal length – many cameras, especially point-and-click, have difficulties focusing in low light situations. This can usually be solved by “locking in” the focus in white light, then turning off the lights while maintaining the focus (every camera does this a little different – consult your manual).

Also, keep the camera at least 12 inches from the specimen. You can determine the focal length of your camera by using Google to search for the specifications. For example, search for “Canon Sure Shot minimum focus distance” and you’ll find that the closest you can get to your subject is 2 feet (0.6m). This means that your rock may appear real small in the image, but at least it will be in focus.

3. Image Quality–Use the highest setting with maximum file size. This will allow you to take photos of small rocks from the camera’s minimum focal distance and have a picture that is focused. Then you will be able to crop the photo such that the result is a reasonable size image which is in focus.

4. Composition– This goes hand-in-hand with the

above two subjects – focal distance and image quality. Most mineral specimens will be small – 3” to 5”. Most cameras must be positioned at least 2 feet from the specimen in order to be able to focus properly. The result is often an image with a small rock in the middle. Shoot large file size images, crop the image to size and end up with a reasonable full-size image. Macro lenses improve this situation if your camera allows it, and zoom lenses will also help you zoom in on the specimen.

5. Composition – This goes hand-in-hand with the above two subjects – focal distance and image quality. Most mineral specimens will be small subjects – around 3” to 5”. Most cameras must be positioned at least 2 feet from the specimen in order to be able to focus properly. The result is often an image with a small rock in the middle. Shoot large size images at the highest quality and you will be able to crop the image to size and end up with a reasonable full-size image. Macro lenses improve this situation if your camera allows it, and zoom lenses will also help you zoom in on the specimen (with a corresponding increase in exposure time, lens shake, etc).

6. Auto or Manual–Manual exposure allows you to control the length of the exposure as auto setting can confuse the camera. Remember it is used to shooting in bright light or with flash, neither of which works when shooting in the dark. For guidance on time exposures, check the web site that this article is taken from for extensive directions. If you must shoot in auto mode, learn to use the exposure compensation setting (usually marked by a “+/-” symbol). By decreasing this setting a few “stops” you can control the overexposures (or increase for under-exposures). Other ways to decrease overexposure from bright minerals is to move the UV light further away from the specimen.

When shooting in auto mode the camera will often automatically set the iso to a higher number

Photographing Minerals & Rocks

Under Ultra-Violet Light continued from page 4

because it “sees” a dark subject/field with only a few bright spots. It assumes you are shooting a night scene – perhaps by candlelight, or fireworks (that’s what camera designers target in low-light applications; they probably don’t even know fluorescent minerals exist). If the camera lets you, set the iso to a low number manually even though the rest is in auto mode. Then you may have a chance of getting a relatively well-exposed shot (plus you will be much happier not having the noise/graininess so often caused by high iso settings).

7. Use A Tripod- Just because you are shooting in auto mode doesn’t mean you don’t need a tripod! Auto mode will probably set the time exposure to a quarter-second or more. Any time-exposure requires a tripod.

8. Time exposures – If your camera allows manual shooting you will be able to select the time the shutter is open. This time will vary depending on the brightness of your subject, the wattage of your UV lamp, and the distance of the lamp from the specimen. Setting the iso will also affect the time-exposure. For my typical shot I set my iso to 100, my aperture to f11. I use bright UV lamps

positioned a moderate distance from my subject. My shots vary from 1 second (for very bright minerals) to 8 seconds for most average minerals (calcite, fluorite, etc). The color of the fluorescence will also affect this exposure time; greens and yellows appear much brighter to the camera than blues. Reds tend to saturate more quickly, and blues are often very hard to capture.

9. Cleanliness– Dust and lint are our enemies. Tiny hairs and dust under UV light glow bright blue and ruin a photo. Wash your specimen, brush it, or blow it off – but clean it! Have a brush handy to brush away the crumbs from the previous specimen. Crystallized pieces can present a huge problem with lint captured in the nooks and crannies.

These are only a few of the hints that you will need to get great fluorescent images. This web site has many more suggestions at <http://www.naturesrainbows.com/photography>.

Adapted from the following sources.:

1. <http://www.naturesrainbows.com/photography>
2. <http://www.gemcoach.com/fluorescent-minerals-rocks/>
3. Fluorescent Minerals Photo: Hannes Grobe CL-BY-SA 2.5



WSMGS BOARD INFORMATION & UPDATES

WSMGS ELECTRONIC BOARD MEETING

APRIL 22, 2017

As a WSMGS Board Member, I would ask you to read this Electronic Meeting email.

If you have questions about any item, call / text me at 307-250-1244 or email to pres@wsmgs.org.

Board members are encouraged to submit old or new business items that have not been included in this meeting and a special attachment will be sent out for the entire WSMGS Board’s consideration.

The Deadline for your comments and input discussion will be Wednesday, April 26th, 2017.

I. President’s Report:

A. 2017 RMFMS CONVENTION—Albuquerque, New Mexico (March 17-18)

1.The WSMGS Board would like to thank ”ALL=100%” of the WSMGS affiliated clubs for sending in their Proxies/Delegate Forms for the 2017 RMFMS Convention!! A summary of this RMFMS Annual Meeting and Convention will appear in the May 2017 Jade State Newsletter.

WSMGS BOARD INFORMATION & UPDATES *continued*

2. At the RMFMS Awards banquet the Wyoming WSMGS website received a **FIRST PLACE** in the Website category competition. Our WSMGS website (wsmgs.org) will be forwarded to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies competition and compete against the other six AMFS regions. Congratulations to our Webmaster-Marlene Sibley. The WSMGS Jade State Newsletter also received several recognition awards:



2nd- (Written Features) "The Revenant Fossils" by Stan Strike

3rd- (Adult Articles-Humor) "Rockhounding in New York City"-Bill Tabacinski (59ers Rock Club)

3rd- (New Editor) Jennifer Flowers (Natrona County Rockhounds)

B. Emails submitted to WSMGS Club Email Contacts:

1. March 8, 2017- WSMGS Club Rock Hound of the Year (R.O.Y.)-Final Notice:

Each WSMGS affiliated club should recognize by voting, one individual or couple as their Wyoming Club Rockhound of the Year. Individuals can also submit a nomination using the Wyoming State Rockhound of the Year form. These forms can be found on the WSMGS website: wsmgs.org under the heading Who We Are -Forms.

It is important that each club recognizes someone each year. Reward those individuals who have contributed to the success of your club this year.

All Club and State Rockhound of the Year nominations will be recognized at the WSMGS Annual Meeting and are eligible to be selected as the Wyoming State Rockhound of the Year.

Forms are to be returned via email: pres@wsmgs.org OR by U.S. mail to

WSMGS President-Stan Strike-2132 Gail Lane-Cody WY 82414.

DEADLINE-APRIL 1, 2017.

Thank You for Submitting your ROY Nominations,

Stan Strike-WSMGS President

2. March 19, 2017-RMFMS Award Banquet Winners

Our WSMGS organization did very well at the RMFMS Awards Ceremony:

1st-WSMGS.org WEBSITE = on to AMFS Contest!

2nd-The Revenant Fossils by Stan Strike

3rd-Rockhounding in New York City-Bill Tabacinski (Cody Rock Club)

3rd- Jade State Newsletter -New Editor (Jennifer Flowers-Casper)

WSMGS BOARD INFORMATION & UPDATES continued

RMFMS consists of 13 states-78 clubs. (WY has 7 clubs)

Stan Strike-WSMGS President / RMFMS WY State Director

3. April 21,17- 2017 Annual Meeting and Rock & Gem Show Reminders

WSMGS Club Contacts: Please alert the appropriate persons in your club to the following attached documents and deadlines concerning the 2017 WSMGS Annual Meeting and WSMGS State Mineral & Gem Show:

4 Attachments-These forms are available on the wsmgs.org website: Who We Are-Forms

1- 2017 WSMGS Annual Meeting Delegates

2- Judging Display Rules

3- Club/Individual Display Entry Form

4- Judging Score Sheet

C. WSMGS is 80 YEARS OLD! The Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society began on May 18th 1937 as the Wyoming Geological Society. The name change-Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society was initiated at the 1953 annual meeting but was not formally registered with the Wyoming Secretary of State until 1956. In 1964, an incorporation application was submitted to and approved by the Wyoming Secretary of State and the official name became the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society Incorporated.

II. Vice President Report:

A. CLUB Rockhound of the Year nominations submitted by April 1st were:

Cody 59ers Rock Club-Stan Strike

Shoshone Rock Club-Linda Thomas

Riverton Mineral & Gem Society- Bob Carlson Jr.

Sublette County Rockhounds- Roger McMannis

All of the above will be considered for selection as 2017 WY State Rockhound of the Year.

B. Linda Richendifer, the current WSMGS Vice President, will conduct the June 23, 2017 WSMGS Annual Meeting in the absence of WSMGS President Stan Strike.

III. Secretary's Report:

These Electronic Minutes for the April 2017 WSMGS Board Meeting will represent the official WSMGS Board Minutes as published in the May 2017 Jade State News including the results of all required voting on Action Items by WSMGS Board members.

IV. Treasurer's Report:		Beginning Balance =January 1, 2017	\$2,775.15
Credits:	- NA	NA	\$0.00
		Total Credits	= \$0.00
Expenses:	-1/25/17	Debit-3 year Renewal of iPage Hosting	(\$214.20)
	-2/0 6/17	Debit-Cody Ivy Inn, Gift Certificate for webmaster	(\$25.00)
	-2/22/17	Debit-Cody USPS-JSN postage	(\$6.65)
	-2/09/17	Check 1044-Feb.JSN/Valentine- J. Flowers	(\$75.00)
	-3/21/17	Debit-MCM Elegante Hotel,NM Convention	(\$278.76)
		Total Expenses = (\$599.61)	
		Current Balance-March 31, 2017 =	\$2175.54

WSMGS BOARD INFORMATION & UPDATES continued

V. Historian's Report: Rod Baltes, our WSMGS historian, reports that the following clubs submitted their 2016 annual reports to him in order to be archived for future reference: Cody 59ers Rock Club, Rex Young Rock Club, Sublette County Rockhounds, Riverton Mineral & Gem Society, and the Shoshone Rock Club.

VI. Old Business:

A. Continued WSMGS Board Support For the Collection/Review of WSMGS Club Documents For WSMGS' Historian Archives

Discussion: With the approval of Action Item #4, concluding the October 2016 Electronic Board Meeting, the WSMGS Board will continue to encourage the collection of club documents and facilitate the compliance with the legal requirements to protect all WSMG members. With the succession of club officers over time, it becomes legally important that the club's documents – which includes Articles of Incorporation, By Laws, minutes and financial records are preserved. If the club is not incorporated or current in their Annual Report required by the Wyoming Secretary of State they are creating a legal liability for their club. As a nonprofit corporation your club is required to keep these important documents and share them with your members. This is why the WSMGS encourages each WSMGS affiliated club to send copies of their Annual Reports to the WSMGS Historian so if club records become lost, they can be retrieved for future reference. The WSMGS will continue to encourage the collection and archiving of copies of all WSMGS affiliated clubs' legal documents and in their absence the WSMGS Board will help to develop updated or new documents. The WSMGS will also continue to remind and monitor their WSMGS affiliated clubs/societies that they complete the required Wyoming State and IRS reporting.

B. The WSMGS has historically supported the winner of the State 4H –Geology Division winner with a cash award. In 2016, the WSMGS Board voted to increase this award to \$50. Therefore a check will be provided to the Wyoming State 4H Foundation for this year's winner. The WSMGS Board also has supported a Museum Award recipient with a \$100 award. Board members are encouraged to make nominations for a local museum which support geological education with exhibits. These nominations will be voted upon at the 2017 Annual Meeting in order to select one museum for 2017.

VII. New Business:

A. The Sublette County Rockhounds are considering submitting a bid to host the 2018 WSMGS Mineral and Gem Show but will not make their final decision until their September meeting following the conclusion of their August 2017 Solar Eclipse Mineral & Gem Show.

If another Wyoming club would like to submit a backup bid, it would be appreciated. The WSMGS Board will vote to determine the location of the 2018 Wyoming State Show.

B. Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Show ribbons (blue, red, & white) will be ordered from Cody Blue and Gold Awards. These ribbons will be used to signify the winners of the Club Cases that are judged by 2+ judges who are independent of any WSMGS affiliated Club. The People's Choice Award will be determined and announced by the WSMGS Board members present the last afternoon of the show.

C. WSMGS Board members are elected at two (2) year intervals during the WSMGS Annual Meeting on odd-numbered years. Board members can choose to serve more than one two year

WSMGS BOARD INFORMATION & UPDATES continued

term but need to be reelected at the annual meeting. Presently the WSMGS Board conducts their quarterly meetings by email. The duties of each WSMGS Board members are listed in the WSMGS By Laws which can be found on our website: wsmgs.org - Who We Are -About WSMGS- WSMGS Documents-ByLaws-pages 5-8.

INDIVIDUALS BELONGING TO AN WSMGS AFFILIATED CLUB WHO WISH TO SERVE ON THE WSMGS BOARD AS PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, TREASURER, SECRETARY, OR HISTORIAN [JADE STATE NEWSLETTER EDITOR IS ALSO A BOARD MEMBER BUT IS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT] SHOULD CONTACT PRESIDENT STAN STRIKE VIA EMAIL: pres@wsmgs.org BY JUNE 1ST, 2017.



Club Reports

Cheyenne Mineral and Gem Society 2016

Facebook Event -If you are on Facebook, please visit the Cheyenne Gem, Mineral and Rock Show Event Page at www.facebook.com/events/376337536086521/ Like and Share the event with friends, co-workers, rock-hound friends

and any groups that might enjoy the show. We will continue to add pictures and information about the event, so visit the page often. Trip to Cherokee, OK – Hourglass Selenite Dig

Shoshone Rock Club February through April 2017

February: With February honoring “Amethyst”, amethyst samples were brought in for Show & Tell. We saw amethyst cathedrals, clusters, chevron dog tooth crystals, geodes, and other amethyst items. Guest Donna Brasher, was attending & a total of 15 members & guest. Members were reminded of the, WSMGS state show entitled “Wyoming’s Sandbox”, featuring opal, agate, chalcedony, jasper & flint, to be held on June 24th & 25th in Riverton. A report on Linda Thomas’s Open House, Eternal Ice, on Feb. 3rd & 4th was stated to be impressive and prize possessions were purchased by some members. Margaret Scranton won the door prize of a pine leaf fossil from Jim McEvoy. Gretchen Hurley agreed to conduct a program in August, on the geology of the Bighorn Basin. Our program for the evening was Gary Olson talking about his life as a visually impaired person since birth, and his

lapidary work. Many of his beautiful cabochons were on display with a variety of agates, jasper and obsidian. His work is truly outstanding and amaz-



Club Reports *continued*

Shoshone Rock Club *continued*



ing! We learned how positive Gary was treated by his parents as a child and likewise today Gary is admirably thought of by many! He is a definite asset to the club!

March: President Olson opened the club meeting with 16 members and guests in atten-

dance. Guests were Doug & Karen Schwergent & Darlene Hauser. Our ROY was decided by a silent vote via a paper count with names presented from the floor: Linda Thomas, Dorine Strom & Gary Olson, although others could be listed. Linda Thomas was nominated our ROY for the club. Congratulations to Linda! She joined the club in 1997, held positions of: scholarship chairmen, field trip leader, treasurer, vice president & president of several years, presented many programs, dealer at the WSMGS rock & gem shows, & more. We are most fortunate to have her as a member. Roger Lyons won the door prize of a WY moonstone, or WY opal nodule. The white opal is a thin layer covering a pale green to gray colored chalcedony, and then this is covered by a chalky white coating. The chalcedony will fluoresce, a beautiful green color, un-

der a UV short wave lamp. Linda Thomas was our program speaker on "Calcite & Fluorite", & she showed many beautiful samples. With a UV mineral light on hand, she found some of her crystals would fluoresce, which was a delight to her & us. Great program Linda! Darlene & Jeff Hauser of Powell and Linda Jennings of Cody become new members.

April: We had 25 members and guests in attendance for our 66th Anniversary at the Powell Library. Members pitched in to set up tables and chairs and even Mrs. Curt Talbot,(Varian), was gracious to assist in setting up seating. Curt apologized for not being able to assist, but we had plenty of help setting up and taking down tables & chairs. After eating, Curt talked about "Gemstones in General", such

as tiger eye, crocidolite, Brazilian topaz, beryl, quartz, opal, Tanzanite, Bolivian emeralds, Imperial emeralds, sapphire, & more & Curt showed many wonderful sam-

ples of these gemstones. The rough Kimberlite from WY with actual diamonds in the rough was great to see! Most of the diamonds visible were very small, but what may be inside? A field trip was planned for April 22, just north of Joliet, MT to see the Pathway Thru the Bible, a rock garden display featuring scenes & characters from the Bible. Carl Brown led the field trip.(A small group attended due to rain & dismal weather, but photos of the field trip are forthcoming by Dorine Strom. Thank you Dorine, Carl & Sharon Brown. Respectfully, Linna Beebe, Sec.



Club Reports *continued*

Meeting of Sublette County Rock Hounds Club *continued*

March 18, 2017

Jim Gray, President, called our first 2017 meeting to order at the Bench. There were 19 in attendance.

Old Business: Jim began by saying that at the meeting on March 4th, it was voted on to try to have a rock show at the Fairgrounds during the time of the eclipse this August. The dates are were set for August 18-21nd with set up on Thursday the 17th and clean up on Tuesday the 22nd.

Insurance with the RMFMS covers members on club field trips, and the club during a show in the event of an injury to a non-member or a lawsuit by a non-member. This insurance does not cover individual members selling their items at a club show or anywhere else. It also does not cover members out looking for rocks at times other than an organized club field trip and does not cover accidents driving to and from field trips. It is not vehicle insurance or health insurance for members. Vendors would need to have their own liability insurance for their personal protection for incidents involving their products or merchandise at a show. According to the Fairgrounds agreement, this insurance should have minimum coverage of \$500,000 per occurrence, \$1 million aggregate.

We will be able to have t-shirts and hats with our new logo Square Top done. The shirts will be 50/50 with silk screened on back for about \$10 each. Caps of various styles would run \$8 - \$10 each. It takes about a week after ordering to receive them. Jim was saying it would be great for each working member at the August show to wear a shirt or hat so folks will know who we are in case of questions or comments. We will also want to have some available for sale at the show. We need to decide on a color to have them uniform. Jim made a motion to order these, Roger seconded and motion carried. So April 15th meeting, we will order, so come prepared with quantity, sizes, and cash to prepay. We will have more information about colors.

New Business: Our next club meeting will be April 15th, 2017 at the Bench Grill. Don't forget to bring items to share and tell about along with silent auction items and door prize items. The items do not have to be rocks related, the money goes to the club.

Jim read a list of field trip leaders from last year and asked for additional volunteers to lead field trips in future months. Jim Gray, Brad Balue, Scott Shinkle and Nancy Burstad said they will be willing to lead some time. There were additional places discussed to go to such as King Green Opal mine, Utah topaz mine, and Beaver Rim alone with suggestions of simple trips to Big Sandy or the Green and New Fork rivers. Roger MaMannis has volunteered to be the field trip coordinator for this coming year.

Jim talked about needing volunteers for the upcoming Rock Show in August that will coincide with the eclipse. The times tentatively needed will be set-up on Thursday the 17th, Friday 9-5, Saturday 9-5, Sunday 9-4, Monday 8 am pack and clean up. NO SHOW ON MONDAY THE 21. Volunteers at this time are Jim & Leane Gray, Roger & Dianne McMannis, Debby Jess, Linda DiGiro, Tracy Flugel, Craig & Marilyn Jensen, Mike and Tina Schaffer, Joan Balue,. Others said they would be willing to help but will need to check work schedules first. Leane Gray, Debby Jess and Linda DiGiro said they would help call, all members to ask if they would like to participate. Jim noted that we won't be able to put the show on without sufficient help. Debby Jess will look into the possibility of church services being held on Sunday morning there at the fairgrounds. Jim and Leane will talk to Lee Schafer about services 8 am to 9am Sunday, in case.

Discussion was made about where the prime viewing for the eclipse in our area being Union Pass and New Fork Lakes. We will want to definitely put up signs for directions and advertising where possible like at the Sand Draw Junction, Daniel Junction, Alpine Junction, Kemmerer, Everywhere we can. We checked with the WYDOT and they said that signage would not be a problem for a week, signs can't be on the Right of Way, and must have permission from land owners if it is private property.

The eclipse is supposed to be on Monday from 9am to 3 pm with optimal viewing from 10 am – 1pm. Jim said that he had already set up to advertise in a bikers map book and we can see what other sources would give us space. Jim also noted that vendors will be responsible for their own sales taxes along with paying \$50 per table with a 3

Club Reports continued

Meeting of Sublette County Rock Hounds continued

table limit for each and that they will need to have their own liability insurance. These things will be outlined in a contract for them to sign and we can email a draft of the contract out to members of the club. He will be going out to the commercial building to measure so we have an idea how many vendors the building will allow. The commercial building is 50 X 70.

We need to nominate a Wyoming Club Rockhound of the Year by the deadline of April 1st if we want to have someone from our club considered. Roger McMannis was nominated by Roy Collins, Brad Balue seconded and the motion carried. Will get Roger name sent into the state.

Leane then talked about our Geology 4H club having two children signed up so far. Others can still sign up online for this. The 4H club members have a variety of things they can be involved with including earth science projects to show at fair. Jim is willing to show them lapidary where they can do portfolios with their goals, pictures and writing included in the projects.. There is no specific curriculum at this time so we can find choices to look at and write up a curriculum.

There is a New Business contest through the extension office for ages 8 – 18 to sign up for also online at www.wyomingextension.org/4Hsublette/youthbusinessventure. They don't have to be a 4H club member to compete. There is a workshop on April 11th with presentations needed to be in by April 24th to show their business for consideration.

Jim reminded everyone that we need to have folks bring in items for silent auction and our door prize each month so we don't place a burden of this on just a few.

Leane read the end of the year treasurer's report for 2016. With 63 members dues given totaled \$1,051.00. Other income included silent auctions at meetings of \$649.75, door prize proceeds of \$262.00 and our fall festival sales of \$173.00 for a Grand Total income of \$2,135.75. Expenses this past year were stamps \$9.40, cost of 2 tables at fall festival for \$20.00, service charges on checking before changing over to a no charge acct at the bank of \$20.00, WSGMS annual dues at \$95.00, RMFMS annual dues & insurance cost of \$209.00 for total expenses of \$353.40, leaving a total in club assets of \$1,782.35.

Jim let everyone know that there will be costs incurred with the rock show in August of building rent at the fairgrounds of \$200.00 and also a \$500.00 cleaning deposit which will be given back as long as the building is left as it was when we began. Demonstrators at the show, that will be invited and their table will be at no cost to them. Demonstrators can sell off one table rent free. Jim will ask vendors what they plan to sell so that we can be sure to have a variety of items for the show. Jim said he knows folks that might come and mingle dressed up like a dino or a paleontologist who dresses as a fossil fish. Jim also knows several guys like Larry Marshall (Provo, UT), Dean Sherman (Kemmerer) and Robert Dunlap who do knapping and may come and demonstrate at the August show. Jamie Walker also noted that 4H kids can demonstrate at the show also, giving them great experience. Jim will have a cabbing machine and do cabbing demonstrations.

Leane Gray moved to adjourn, Brad Balue seconded and we adjourned around 2:35 pm.

Diana McMannis won the door prize of a salt lamp donated by the J L Gray Rock Shop.

Some good news, Cecil McGowen last check-up and is Cancer Free.

THANK YOU all that came to our meeting and be sure to encourage other members to attend our next meeting April 15th, at the Bench Grill at 1pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Debby Jess, Secretary
Jim Gray, President
Mike Schaffer, Vice President
Leane Gray, Treasurer



2017 RMFMS CONVENTION AND SHOW IN ALBUQUERQUE, NM

The Albuquerque Gem and Mineral Club of Albuquerque, New Mexico hosted the Convention & Show of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies from March 17 to 19. Convention Chairman Robert Renger and all the members of the club are to be congratulated for doing an outstanding job of hosting the Convention. All in attendance appreciated the hospitality shown us.

We had a quorum for the House of Delegates. Thirty-seven clubs were represented either in person or by proxy; twenty-seven were needed for a quorum.

The following individuals were elected to take or to continue in office for the year beginning November 1, 2017.

President – Beth Simmons State Directors:

Vice President – Liz Thomas Arizona/Nevada – Jodi Brewster

Secretary – Wayne Cox Kansas – Bill Smith

Treasurer – Gene Maggard North Dakota – Russ Olinger S. Dakota/Neb. – Sony Hemscher

Continuing in unexpired terms of office on the Executive Committee are:

Cinka Kunkler – Historian, State Directors Kathy Honda for Colorado, Dr. Robert Carlson for New Mexico and Texas, Virgil Richards for Oklahoma/Arkansas, Tom Burcharth for Utah, and Stan Strike for Wyoming.

Richard Jaeger and Diane Weir also continue on the Executive Committee as Immediate Past Presidents.

Several important business decisions were made in the House of Delegates Meeting. Our Rocky Mountain Federation Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws were updated and the changes passed. These changes represent significant improvements. I want to thank the committee which worked on this process: Dr. Robert Carlson, Chairman along with Judy Beck, Gene Maggard and Bill Smith.

Four new Operating Procedures were also passed. These relate to New Programs Competition, Public Relations Committee, Annual Membership Directory, Committee, and Finance Committee. Two other items were tabled until next year to allow further time for study. These were an Operating Procedure for the Website Contest and possible change in an Operating Procedure relating to giving some financial help to members of the Executive Committee for attending the RMFMS Conventions.

The 2018 RMFMS Convention will be held in Fairplay,

CO from June 8th -10th; the Denver Gem & Mineral Guild will be the host Society. The Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society of Rapid City, SD expressed an interest in possibly hosting the 2019 RMFMS Show & Convention.

The show itself was excellent. There was an extensive silent auction and a kid's area. The show had about fifty dealers with a wide variety of materials. There were approximately twenty-five exhibit cases. Those included two in competition, three junior cases, and the RMFMS Past-Presidents Case. The Denver Gem & Mineral Guild won a Trophy for their exhibit on Minerals of Greenland and Richard Jaeger won a Trophy for his exhibit of a Fluorite Crystal cluster. Each of the Juniors received a \$25 cash award for their exhibits. They are siblings Isaac Hartman, Makayla Hartman, and Kaitlynn Hartman who are members of the Topeka Gem & Mineral Society Junior Rockhounds.

As usual the Breakfast with the Editors & Webmasters and the Awards Banquet were successful. I was pleased to see that so many clubs had entries in the various Bulletin Contest categories.

Dr. Chloe Bonamici, our RMFMS Honorary Scholarship Awardee for RMFMS was able to attend the Awards Banquet and talked to us about her work in the Geosciences. She is a Geochemistry Professor at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. Dr. Bonamici will be selecting two graduate students in the Geosciences to receive the \$4000 Scholarship Awards from the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

I didn't get to go on either of the field trips but those who did all found good material. I certainly enjoyed visiting with rockhound friends from New Mexico and from around the Federation. I was also able to visit with rockhounds from the South Central and Southeastern Federations. Seeing old friends and making new ones is always a highlight of any Federation Show.

Hope to see many of you in Fairplay, Colorado next June.
Richard Jaeger
Past RMFMS President





The Cheyenne Mineral & Rock Show

May 13-14, 2017

Archer Complex Laramie County Fairgrounds
Jan Shively, Show Chairman Email: cheyennemgs@wsmsg.org

Northwest AFMS Annual Show

May 19-21, 2017

Ravalli County Fairgrounds, Hamilton Montana
Contact Steve Vieth at 406-381-7597 or ravalligemandmineralclub.org

WSMGS State Rock Show

June 24–25 2017

Fremont Center, Riverton, WY
Wyoming's Sandbox: Opal, Agate, Chalcedony, Jasper, Flint
Hosted by Riverton Mineral & Gem Society for info visit www.rivertonmgs.com.

Natrona County Rockhounds 70th Annual Gem & Mineral Show

July 8-9 2017

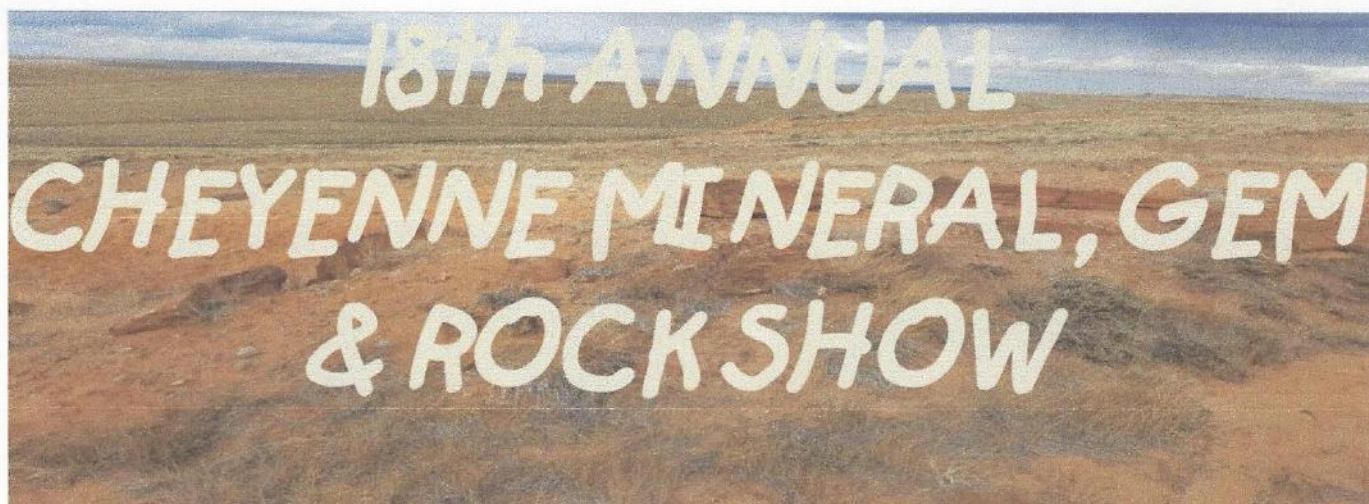
Ramkota Hotel, Casper Wyoming
contact info: jlflowers@xmc.com

Solar Eclipse Rock Show

August 18-20 2017

Sublette County Fairgrounds, Big Piney, WY
Hosted by the Sublette County Rock Hounds Club
contact info: Jim Gray at subletterockhounds@wsmsg.org





18TH ANNUAL CHEYENNE MINERAL, GEM & ROCK SHOW

EXHIBITS - JEWELRY - FOSSILS
MINERALS

DEALERS

GRAB BAGS

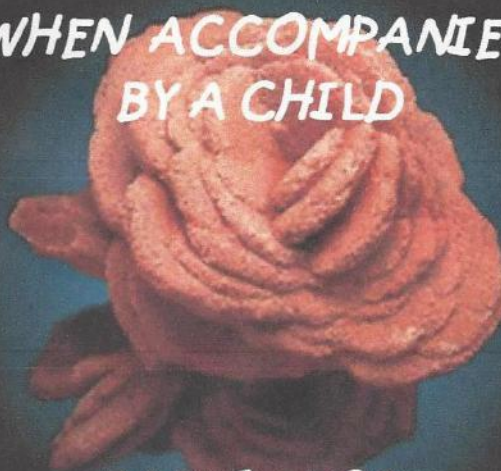
SILENT AUCTION

FLUORESCENT MINERALS DISPLAY

FREE GOLD PANNING

CHILDRENS AREA

**FREE MOTHER'S DAY GIFT
WHEN ACCOMPANIED
BY A CHILD**



BARITE ROSE
SUNDAY ONLY WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

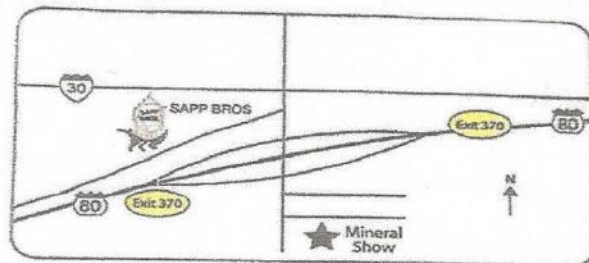
MAY 13 - 14, 2017

SAT. 9AM - UNTIL 6PM

SUN 10AM - UNTIL 4PM

ADMISSION: \$3.00

CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER FREE
IF ACCOMPANIED BY ADULT



Archer Complex - Building M
Just South of Exit #370 on I-80
6 mi. East of Cheyenne

SEE LARGE DINOSAUR MODELS - BRING YOUR CAMERA

FREE DINOSAUR COLORING BOOKS FOR KIDS WHILE SUPPLY LASTS

SHOW INFORMATION: JAN SHIVELY 307-369-1565

HOSTED BY THE CHEYENNE MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY

Dig This!

The 79th Annual

*Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Show
Hosted by The Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society*

May 19, 20 & 21, 2017

Friday 10-6 / Saturday 10-6 / Sunday 10-4

**First Interstate Center, Ravalli County Fairgrounds
Hamilton, Montana**

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Dave Trexler, Paleontologist from Two Medicine Dinosaur Center

George Stanley, Professor in Geology from U of M

Dick Berg of Montana Tech, Talks about Sapphires

Ted Antonioli, Member of the Montana Mining Association

Lee Filliman, on Fossils & Petrified trees of Yellowstone

Bruce Baty, on the Glacial Lake of Missoula

Gems

Minerals

Fossils

Geodes

Dealers

Displays

Silent Auction

Speakers

Presentations

Wyoming State Rock Show

June 24-25, 2017

Fremont County Fairgrounds, Riverton, WY

All Ages Welcome!

Saturday June 24 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday June 25 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Wyoming's Sandbox: Opal, Agate, Jasper, Chalcedony, Flint

Admission \$1 Adults 13 and under FREE

Free Kid's Area

Free Educational Presentations

Rock, Mineral, Jewelry, and other Vendors

Free Saturday Field Trip (all ages; find your own Sweetwater agates!)

For more information visit RivertonRockClub.com or contact

Show Chairman Alice Gustin at Riverton.Wyoming.GemShow@gmail.com

NCRC presents the 70th annual

Gem & Mineral Show

July 8-9, 2016

Sat 9-5 Sun 9-4

Admission \$3 under 12 free

Ramkota Hotel

200 N. Poplar, Casper WY

Raffle: *Amethyst Cathedral, plus more*

Silent Auctions: *WY rocks in the ruff*

Door Prizes: *\$10 rockhound bucks*

Demonstrations: *Flint Knapping
& Primitive Stone Tools,*



**Actual
Raffle
Item**

Contact info. 307.277.7175 jlflowers@xmc.com

LAPIDARY HINTS

1. SANDING/POLISHING IN TIGHT PLACES

Often you'll need to sand or polish an area that's impossible to reach with even a small wheel on a flexshaft. Other times it might be the bottom of a pocket or inside bottom corner of a box that needs to be finished. One trick for these nit-picky jobs may be left over from your last Chinese dinner - a chopstick. I've found quite a few uses for these in the shop. Prepare the tip by simply sawing it off at a 45 degree angle. Then apply whatever abrasive grit you will need for the job or hold a strip of sandpaper around the end. Loose grit can be held onto the tip with a bit of vaseline or oil. Tripoli or rouge can be just rubbed onto the end of the chopstick.

2. CUTOFF WHEELS



Cutoff wheels are inexpensive and do a great job cutting or shaping steel. You can use them to sharpen tool points, cut piano wire to length, make slots, and sharpen worn drills.

Other uses include modifying pliers and making your own design stamps. My preference is the one inch diameter size. Be sure to hold the wheel firmly so nothing moves to break the disk, and definitely wear your safety glasses. Those are little flakes of steel coming off the disk. BTW - Cutoff wheels are poor at soft metals like copper, silver and gold. Soft metals clog up the cutting edges.

3. OCHRE APPLICATOR

Yellow ochre is used when you want to be sure the solder won't flow on an area of your piece while you're soldering



another area. The only problem with ochre is coming up with a good way to store and apply it.

I use recycled nail polish bottles. They seal well and have a built-in brush applicator. Just clean them out with a little acetone or nail polish remover, and they're ready to go.

4. REMOVING SOLDER FROM A BEZEL

Sometimes when you solder a bezel to a base plate, you end up with excess solder that needs to be removed before setting the stone. My choice of tool for this is called an "Inverse Cone" bur used in a rotary tool or flexshaft. It cuts on both the bottom and the side and is shaped so that there's less chance of cutting into the bezel wall than if you used the more common cylinder bur shape. I find the 2 mm size useful for almost any bezel.



** From Brads Bench Tips:

www.BradSmithJewelry.com

** See all Brad's jewelry books at Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith

WSMGS CLUBS

Information subject to change; updates will be posted upon notice. Contact the Editor with changes at: jsn@wsmsg.org

Cody Fifty-Niners Rock Club

P.O. Box 1251
Cody WY 82414

cody59ers@wsmsg.org
www.Cody59ers.com

Meets 4th Thursday 7:00 p.m. Park
County Courthouse, Cody

President: Nella Flurkey
Vice-President: Teresa Rowan
Treasurer: Roger Lyons
Secretary: Linda Jennings
JSN: Linda Jennings
Historian: Jackie Platt



Shoshone Rock Club

P.O. Box 256,
Powell, WY 82435

shoshonerockclub@wsmsg.org

Meets 2nd Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
Powell Library,
317 E. 3rd Street, Powell

President: Gary Olson
Vice-President: Mary Vogel
Treasurer: Linna Thomas
Secretary: Linda Beebe
JSN: Linna Beebe
Historian: Linda Beebe
Field Trips Dorine Strom



Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society

P.O. Box 21412
Cheyenne, WY 82001

cheyennemgs@wsmsg.org

Meets Sept. – May 2nd
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
LCCC Health Science Bldg., 1400 E.
College Dr., Room 309, Cheyenne

President: Donna Arnold
Treasurer: Jan Shively

Natrona County Rockhounds

P.O. Box 123,
Casper, WY 82644

natronarockhounds@wsmsg.org

Meets 1st Monday 7:00 p.m.
Clubhouse, 5211 Rambler, Mills

President: Mac Goss
Vice-President: John Hine
Treasurer: Kenny Platte
Secretary: Mac Goss



Rex Young Rock Club

112 East 3rd
Lingle, WY 82223

rexyoungrockclub@wsmsg.org

Meets 2nd Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Senior Center
216 E. 19th, Torrington

President: Kim Nielsen
Vice-President: Sherman Lenhart
Treasurer: Leroy Meiniger
Secretary: Joyce Trowbridge
JSN: Joyce Trowbridge
Historian: Joyce Trowbridge



Riverton Mineral & Gem Society

P.O. Box 1904,
Riverton, WY 82501

rivertonmgs@wsmsg.org
www.RivertonMGS.com

Meets Sept.–May 2nd
Monday 7:00 p.m.
303 E. Lincoln, Riverton

President: Rod Baltes
Vice-President: Rob Currier
Treasurer: Melvin Gustin
Secretary: Kim Brown

Sublette County Rock Hounds Club

P.O. Box 1351 Big Piney, WY 83113

subletterockhounds@wsmsg.org

Meets 3rd Saturday 1:00pm
The Bench Grill,
415 Winkleman, Marbleton, WY

President: Jim Gray
Vice-President: Mike Schaffer
Treasurer: Deb Jess
Secretary: Leane Gray

