

Jade State News

Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Society, Inc.

Award-Winning WSMGS Website: wsmgs.org

Volume 2023, Issue # 1

February 2023



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The WSMGS conducts meetings quarterly and as special events require.

A look back at the year 2022

The year 2022 is in the rear-view mirror. Let's take a look at last year's rock shows in Wyoming while we wait for the great shows that are coming up in 2023.

Cheyenne Mineral and Gem Society got last year's show season rolling with its show on April 30-May 1.

Riverton Mineral and Gem Society then hosted the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Show on June 9-11.

The Sublette County Rock Hounds followed with their annual show in Marbleton over Father's Day weekend, June 16-18.

Natrona County Rockhounds hosted their annual rock and gem show on July 15 and 16 in Casper.

Next in line was Shoshone Rock Club, which hosted its first rock and mineral show in Powell in 15 years, on August 12-13.

Northeastern Wyoming Rockhounds wrapped up the season with their show in Gillette on October 8-9.



Brooklyn Dice, 1, reaches out tentatively to touch a smilodon fossil replica at the Marbleton Rock Show on June 19, 2022. The smilodon puppet was designed and operated by Mr. Bones, aka Tim Seeber of Boulder, Colorado. JSN Photo by Ilene Olson

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A Look Back at the year 2022

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Riverton: Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Show

By Stan Groves

President, Riverton Mineral and Gem Society

Riverton only hosts a show every fourth or fifth year, whenever the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society asks for our sponsorship, so we try to make of it as big a deal as possible when our turn comes around.

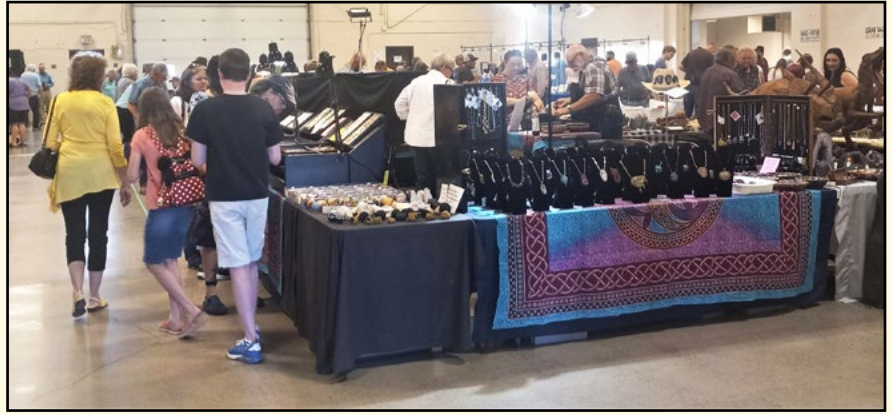
This year did not disappoint, despite the current national economic downturn. We expanded the show from two to two-and-a-half days, on the premise that we are located so far from anywhere else it would be to dealers' advantage.

The total number of dealers and booth spaces was about the same as five years ago, but we brought in approximately double the number of attendees. This suggests that the hobby in these post-pandemic times is strong. However, anecdotal evidence indicates that vendor sales, while adequate, tended to be not particularly high.

A couple of dealers had to cancel their booths at the last minute because of Covid, and we learned in the weeks after the show that several people had picked up mild cases of the illness at the show venue itself. Well, life goes on!

While we were happy to have a considerable diversity of vendors at the show, it was especially good to see plenty of local representation. Some highlights, at least from this observer's viewpoint, were Wayne Sutherland's popular "geological questions answered" booth, Gary Olson's cabbing demonstrations, and Bob Carlson's offering of a newly discovered Wyoming jasper. ([See Page 13](#))

The silent auction ran hourly throughout the show, with only five lots not drawing bids. Somewhat puzzling was the complete lack of interest in participation in our field trip to the Sweetwater agate beds, normally a popular destination! Was it because of high fuel costs, or perhaps the unseasonably high temperatures expected that day? Our thanks go to the Sublette County Rock Hound Club for a generous donation, and to all who worked to make the show a success.



Riverton hosts Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Show; attendance was good.



Cody 59ers Showcase, Judges' First Place



Riverton Gem and Mineral Society, People's Choice First Place. Photos by Jim Gray.

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A Look Back at the year 2022

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Sublette County Gem and Mineral Show Rocks on

By Joy Ufford, Sublette Examiner
Reprinted with permission

More than 1,300 people came to the Sublette County Fairgrounds for the annual Sublette County Rock Hounds Gem & Mineral Show at least once to peruse the glittering, mysterious and fascinating world of stone.

Even without a state or regional convention to draw people, the Sublette County Rock Hounds Club tireless members, craftspeople, volunteers and dealers worked very hard to have this show stand on its own, said club president Jim Gray. He and wife Leane called the club into existence a handful of years ago; It now has dozens of members and many fans who have the annual show on their calendars.

"It was an excellent turnout," Jim Gray said of the three-day show. "That's really, really good for just our club. Last year we had 2,300 people for the state show."

Gray said he started advertising early to get on families' and travelers' radar; the slowdown at Yellowstone also helped he said, as did banners put up throughout western Wyoming. The show, which takes place on Father's Day weekend and the same Sunday as the Marbleton Catfish Fry, helped boost patrons at both events.

"It was a big boost for our economy here," Gray said. "It's becoming a very well-known rock show. If it wasn't for our volunteers and club members, we couldn't do it."



Curt Talbot's Fossils of Wyoming display shows a fossilized palm leaf from Oregon Buttes and a sycamore leaf from Kemmerer.



Hundreds of people attended the gem and mineral show daily.



Kids hide from the original walking 'Mr. Bones,' who came up for the show from Colorado. Photos by Joy Ufford

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A Look Back at the year 2022

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Casper Rock Show Deemed a Success in 2022

Plans Underway to Host 2023 State and Regional Shows in July

The Natrona County Rockhounds Club hosted its 74th annual rock show in July 2022. Club members were pleased with the event and the turnout. But they're even more excited to be jointly hosting the 2023 annual shows for the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society and the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies while they celebrate the club's 75th annual rock show this summer. That triple-header rock show will take place on July 14-16 at the Ramkota Hotel in Casper. We hope to see you there!



Above: Tyler Nichols and Takenya Humecky check out necklaces made of Wyoming Jade at the Natrona County Rock Show. TOP RIGHT: Some of the colorful minerals and collectible fossils up for sale at the show. BOTTOM RIGHT: Donna McMahon shows some of her rocks and wares. JSN photos by Ilene Olson



A Look Back at the year 2022

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Rock and Mineral Show Returns to Powell in 2022

By Mark Davis

Reprinted with permission of the Powell Tribune

Aiming for the possibility of hosting the Wyoming state rock show in a couple of years, members of the Shoshone Rock Club in Powell decided they'd better get some experience in the rock-show arena. Hence, they decided last year to bring a rock and mineral show back to Powell for the first time since the mid 1990s.

Organizers envisioned the show would be a small event where locals could show their finds and sell and trade material. However, it soon grew, with several vendors in the state showing interest. For Shoshone Rock Club President "Lapidary Gary" Olson and other club leaders, it was an exciting opportunity to show off the Big Horn Basin's excellent natural resources and enthusiasm for rocks and products made from Wyoming gems and minerals such as jade, agates and jasper.

"We'd like to host the state show in Powell in two years," Olson said at the time. "We're doing this summer's show to

see if that's something that's realistic for us."

With only a few months to plan, volunteers worked hard, and with assistance from Cody 59ers Rock Club members, the show on August 12-13 was well attended and a big success.

Cindy Cordova of Byron, the show's chairperson, said the show helped bring back sweet memories of her parents' former business, Canyon Rock Shop in Cody. Proprietors June and S.T. Rich joined the Cody club in 1968 and eventually opened their store in 1974. Of course, rocks were a big part of the entire family's lives.

"During summers it was all about the rocks," Cordova said.

The Powell Rock and Mineral Show featured the collections of several of the area's top enthusiasts as well as educational displays, a silent auction table, children's activities, raffles and door prizes. Olson provided lapidary demonstrations on cutting rocks and creating cabochons for jewelry, and local flint-knapper Dan Dalton demonstrated his skills as well.

"We'd like to host the state show in Powell in two years. We're doing this summer's show to see if that's something that's realistic for us."

— Gary Olson, club president



LEFT: June Rich holds down the fort at Byron Rock Shop's table while her daughter, Cindy Cordova, carries out her duties as chairman of the Powell Rock and Mineral Show. Cordova and her husband, Gil, own the Byron Rock Shop. RIGHT: Gary Olson (second from left) answers people's questions as he demonstrates lapidary work while his wife, Ilene (left) looks on. JSN photos by Ned Kelley

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A Look Back at the year 2022

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2022 Gillette Show Well Attended



JSN photos by Leane Gray

JSN Photos by Leane Gray

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Jade State News Recognized in Regional and National Contests

The Jade State News was awarded second place among large bulletins in the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Bulletin Contest in June 2022.

In addition, JSN Editor Ilene Olson won first-place awards for her design of a collage of photos taken during the 2021 Sublette County Rock Show in the August 2021 issue of Jade State News.

Olson also garnered first place in adult articles for her story, "Safety is No Accident," in the Jade State News February 2021 issue.

The bulletin and story entries were forwarded to the national bulletin competition sponsored by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, where the Jade State News received an honorable mention, and Olson took second place for "Safety is No Accident." Those awards took place in October, 2022.

There is no photo collage competition for the national contest.



Jade State News awards for the 2022 bulletin contest by the Rocky Mountain Regional Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The contest awards were announced in June.

All-American Club Awards announced in October

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies announced the winners of the All-American Club Awards for 2021 in October.

This program highlights club activities through the year in the community and the active participation of individuals in the club.

Clubs are evaluated based on criteria that includes member activities and community involvement and are not in competition with each other. The club

yearbook reflects an active club that has incorporated proven aspects that guarantee a club will be successful for many years to come.

FIRST PLACE GOLD Award for the Ventura Gem and Mineral Society, with an average of 101 points. This club always does an amazing job with their club and teen activities, and documenting them in their yearbook!

The SILVER Award went to Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society—with an

average of 80 points, the Tulsa club is extremely active in the community, doing talks, booths and displays at locations and events.

HONORABLE MENTION for the Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society, with an average of 49 pts, this club did a great job to help get their workshop back open, which even includes a neat silver smithing area!

The next contest is for the year 2022. Entries are due by March 15.

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The Art of Being the Meaningful Historian



**By Jennifer Haley,
AFMS Historian**

Condensed
From the A.F.M.S.
Newsletter,
October and
December 2022

As Historians, you have a meaningful job. You are the keepers of all things memorable and significant. You are the storytellers of the past, for today, and the storytellers for future generations of historians who will be thumbing through your files to celebrate the joys of the earth sciences, and the practice of lapidary arts and crafts.

Think of your file boxes as gift boxes given to you, and the gift boxes you are creating to give to the future of our hobby someday.

Over many years there have been society, federation and AFMS historians. Lots of boxes and even metal cabinets have been passed from one historian to another over generations of time.

This accumulation of so much history can produce a sense of anxiety and a quandary of wondering how to manage not only the space to hold the material, but how to protect it and how to find what you are looking for.

Transporting all the files from a retiring historian to someone new can pose a problem due to the vast traveling distances within their territory.

There aren't any hard-set rules of how to go about this, unless your society or federation states them. You or your society may have piles of file boxes that haven't been looked at in ages. I am here to offer some good pointers and

some creative ideas to help you out.

There are so many treasures in those boxes when you are able to find them — gems in the figurative sense and literally to inspire your members today.

As historians, you are usually the backup for storing copies of your organization's business meeting minutes and reports. You also keep copies of newsletters, photos and news clippings of the year's events, and sometimes you store mementos. You are the person members will thank for keeping the good memories and for remembering past members.

Some organizations are digitizing their files, but if that's not your cup of tea right now, that's all right, too. In the past, societies often could find a city or county partner willing to allow them to use storage space for free or for a very small stipend. As those institutions change management, sometimes that option is no longer possible. Most of the time historian files find their home in a member's homeplace.

Even with homes and buildings being without air conditioning, most of our treasured files are still in very good condition. As time goes by, entropy does have a habit of turning paperwork fragile and crispy, and making photographic images disappear.

Usually, the loss of files which include photos, happens by accident. A leak in the ceiling or a nesting mouse that no one noticed until it was time to get the supplies out again for the annual show.

File boxes and cabinets kept in old outdoor sheds and barns aren't the best places to store paper and photos, due to pests and affects from seasonal weather. Common sense will tell you if the building will work for the job.

Some societies have used cargo containers for years to store a combination of show equipment, party supplies and historian files. For many years it's worked fine, until you notice the wasp nests, beehive, or the leak happened over the winter.

Some societies mark their calendars to check their cargo containers at least twice a year, which is an excellent idea.

Many societies have been around since the 1930's and 1940's and still have files which are in pretty good shape. Some Historians keep the files in a room of their home. Some of us don't have that option.

Garages aren't always the best places, but they actually can be if you are willing to periodically keep an eye on things.

Keep in mind that mice can squeeze through a 1/4 inch opening. If you have silver fish in your area, use the bait packets to prevent them from eating paper. Spiders can make a huge mess staining paperwork.

In tropical and desert areas, you'll want to periodically check to see if lizards have been taking up residence in boxes and file cabinets. Cockroaches are high on the list of ruining paperwork as well.

If you are concerned about taking up too much space in your home, you may have an option of asking another club member to help store some of the files for you. If you fear the file boxes are beginning to encroach from the closet into the guest room or office, there's always the idea of throwing a beautiful quilt or fabric over them to add more cheer to the room.

Next time, I'll talk about storage boxes for your files.

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Rockhound Spotlight

Tyler Sease, Rockwell City, Iowa

Our Rockhound Spotlight for this issue is a little different than the norm. We usually feature someone from a Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society member club, but Tyler Sease's story is unusual, Wyoming-oriented and compelling. (No Wyoming candidates were submitted).

Sease is a former police officer who had to leave his chosen occupation in 2014 when he experienced PTSD.

"I've always liked rocks since I was a kid," he said. "I started taking rockhounding trips to Wyoming from my home in Iowa to help me heal, and enjoyed it so much I decided to make it my job.

"I am not too specific on what I like to look for, as I enjoy collecting mineral specimens and gemstones. My favorite places to prospect are pegmatite districts as they contain a wide variety of gemstones. The southern end of the Wind River Range is my favorite place to prospect because of the Anderson Ridge pegmatites and the South Pass/Lewiston greenstone belt. It's also a beautiful place to photograph and camp." Sease does his own cabbng, but he outsources his faceting needs.



Tyler Sease with his service dog and constant companion, Kharmi.



Some of Tyler Sease's Wyoming finds. Upper left: Rough garnets. Lower left: Faceted aquamarine. Center: Wire-wrapped Sweetwater agate cabochon. Upper right: Quartz crystal cluster. Lower right: Rough and faceted peridot. Photos courtesy of Tyler Sease



2023 Rock Show Flyers

Take a look at the fabulous
rock shows coming up in 2023!

RMFMS & WSMGS

HOSTED BY

NATRONA COUNTY ROCKHOUNDS CLUB
75TH ANNUAL ROCK SHOW

July 14-16, 2023

Fri & Sat 9-5 • Sun 9-4

Actual
Raffle
Item



75th Annual

Admission \$3
under 12 free

Ramkota

Hotel

800 N Poplar
Casper WY

Raffle: Amethyst Cathedral, hunk of Wyoming Jade, and much more

Silent Auctions: WY rocks in the rough

Door Prizes

Demonstrations: Cabbing Demonstration by Lapidary Gary

Contact: Mac Goss 307.439.9873 macogrel3@yahoo.com

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Rock Show Flyers

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The Sublette County Rock Hounds *present*

GEM & MINERAL

SHOW

June 16 – 18, 2023

Sublette County Fairgrounds

Event Center
10937 Hwy 189

Big Piney - Marbleton, Wyoming

VENDORS: rough rock, slabs, cabs, specimens, fossils, jade, opal, jewelry, beads, jewelry making supplies & MORE

DEMONSTRATORS: Knapping, wire wrapping, silversmithing, faceting, cabbing, sphere making, fossil preparation

EXHIBITS: specimens, education, fluorescent rocks, rock identification

ACTIVITIES: Mr. Bones dinosaur puppeteer, find a rock, fluorescent rock hunting, wheel of fortune, & more!

FIELD TRIPS: fossil fish, petrified wood, stromatolite, agates, jaspers

FOOD CONCESSIONS ON-SITE

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Rock Show Flyers

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2023 Big Horn Basin ROCK AND MINERAL SHOW

4-8 p.m. Friday,
August 11**August 11-12**9-5 on Saturday,
August 12

Park County Fairgrounds

\$3 Admission for
Adults and Teens**Heart Mountain Building
Powell, Wyoming****Kids 12 and Under
Admitted for Free**

- **Vendors:**
Rocks, Minerals,
Jewelry, Cabochons,
Fossils, Beads and More!
- **Rock Identification**
- **Kids' Activities**
- **Raffle Prizes**

**Malachite Specimen
Raffle Prize****5 inches by 3 inches**

- **Demonstrations:**
Lapidary, Knapping,
UV Fluorescent Rocks,
Wire Wrapping and More!
- **Educational Displays**
- **Silent Auction**
- **Door Prizes**
- **Food Trucks**



Hosted by the Shoshone Rock Club of Powell and the Cody 59ers Rock Club

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New Discovery – Buffalo Horn Jasper

By Leane Gray

Bob Carlson of Riverton, Wyoming, has discovered a new rock in Fremont County. He named it Buffalo Horn Jasper in remembrance of an experience he had in the area four years ago. Back then, he was out rock hunting with two of his neighbors, aged 8 and 10, and they found a few pieces of red jasper and a dried-out buffalo horn near the road at the base of a ridge. Carlson and the boys climbed to the top of the ridge to look for the source of the red jasper and some banded jasper Carlson had not seen anywhere before.

Carlson described the moment: “Standing on the ridge, looking out over the land before me, I imagined an Oregon Trail immigrant hunting for dinner — and here I find a piece of that carcass 170 years later. What an image!”

Carlson decided that, if he got a chance to come back to this spot to find the deposit of the banded rock, he would name it Buffalo Horn Jasper.

Fast-forward four years to the summer of 2021, when Carlson returned to the ridge in Fremont County where he found those first few pieces of Buffalo Horn Jasper. He found the source of this banded jasper with colors including black, gray, brown, tan, blue, and green. The material is hard enough to cut and polish well, and he hoped it would be interesting to lapidary enthusiasts. The analysis of the mineral composition revealed mostly silica, potassium and nickel.

Bob enlisted the help of his friend, Jim Gray, owner of J L Gray Rock Shop in Big Piney, Wyoming, to shape and



Cut pieces of buffalo horn jasper lay beside an old buffalo horn found at the same site as the jasper.

polish some of the test slabs Bob had cut.

The results were impressive, Gray said. Gray took the new material to the 2021 Miles City, Montana, rock show, where the rough rock, slabs and cabochons were well received.

Carlson filed a claim and is exploring the possibility of wholesale rough rock sales if the quantity, quality, and demand are present. He and Gray are showing the rough and polished pieces to others to determine whether there is enough interest to warrant further steps.

Carlson has been a rockhound since his recovery from alcoholism 16 years ago. A few years into his journey, he began to look for activities where he could meet people. One day, he went to a friend's house where there was a pile of rocks next to the driveway. When asked about the pile his friend said, “I went rock hunting with the rock club [Riverton Mineral and Gem Society], and they have a meeting next week. Why don't you come?”

“A year later I was the club's field-trip coordinator and a full-fledged rock hound,” Carlson said.

Carlson also is a member of the Sublette County Rock Hounds.



These cabochons show some of the colors and designs present in the recently discovered Buffalo Horn Jasper. Photos by Leane Gray

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Club News



Shoshone Rock Club

Powell, Wyoming

Twenty-seven people attended the January meeting of the Shoshone Rock Club at the library in Powell.

A business meeting took place prior to the general meeting. Discussion centered around plans to hold the next rock show in Powell on August 11-12 at the Heart Mountain Building at the Park County Fairgrounds. Members are enthusiastic about the planned rock show after the success of the show last summer.

Several members came prepared to show some of their recent finds and favorite rocks during the Show and Tell section of the program. Following Show and Tell, Greg Jones and Ilene Olson demonstrated the effects of ultraviolet light on rocks and minerals. Jones lit rocks and minerals with two lights. One uses short ultraviolet waves, while the other uses long waves. Linda Thomas, who was unable to attend, generously

allowed Olson to use her ultraviolet light during the demonstration.

Many agates fluoresced in orange, green and blue colors, while minerals varied more in the colors they displayed under ultraviolet light.

Some rocks and minerals were surprisingly bright. Sodalite from Africa turned from blue to red, and rubies embedded in green Zoisite showed up in glowing red.

BELOW: Melisa Lynn shows one of her recent rock finds during Show and Tell at the Shoshone Rock Club's January meeting.



JSN Photos by Ilene Olson

LEFT: Cindy Cordova holds a slab of India moss agate up to the light to see through it during show and tell. **BELOW:** Agates and sodalite change colors under ultraviolet light.



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Club News

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Cody 59ers

Cody, Wyoming

Cody 59ers member Mike Motsch attended presentation by geologist Eddie Cole in Thermopolis in February about how to be a better rockhound. Motsch reported back to the Cody 59er about what he learned.

"Mr. Cole believes research is key to locating specific minerals, rocks, and fossils you have identified as desirable," Motsch wrote.

"Reference material will help you determine important characteristics unique to your target specimen," Motsch continued. The age of fossils and the formations they're found in should be used in conjunction with a geologic surface map to determine sites worth investigation."

A BLM quad map is useful for identifying surface ownership and roads, Cole advised.

"Rocks, such as jade, occur in an area referred to by Mr. Cole as the "jade triangle", (Sweetwater Station, Casper, and Laramie), because the minerals and conditions required to form jade existed there," Motsch said.

"Mr. Cole reiterated the idea that research is crucial in the pursuit of obtaining rocks and minerals. Rockhounds should learn the characteristics (color, luster, streak, hardness, specific gravity, cleavage, tenacity, and magnetism), to aid in field identification.

"He added that siltstone means water, and water means preservation. He urged those in attendance to look

at the land from the perspective of the "way it was" as opposed to the "way it is."

A question-and-answer period revolved around obtaining specimens from public vs private land and regulations restricting the collection of petrified wood, fossils, and artifacts.

"It's amazing what you can find if you just go look for it," Motsch concluded.

Motsch posted his report on the Cody 59ers Facebook page.

Some people posted questions later, and Cody 59ers Club President Greg Jones explained more about BLM regulations regarding the collection of petrified wood and fossils.

Jones said the regulations limit a casual collector to 25 pounds a day and 250 pounds a year of petrified wood.

According to the Wyoming BLM office: "Collection of petrified wood is allowed but has special rules. For rockhounding purposes, you may collect up to 25 pounds of petrified wood, plus one piece, each day, not to exceed 250 pounds of petrified wood in any calendar year without a permit. You may not combine your allowance with another collector's to obtain larger pieces of petrified wood. Collections of petrified wood are for personal use, and may not be bartered or sold. Permits may be obtained from a local BLM office for collection of more than 250 pounds a year or for commercial use. Please see the "Fossils on America's Public Lands" pamphlet (P-406)."

"In fact," Jones said, "the 25-pound

limit per day seemingly applies to all fossils collected by the casual collector. Though the Wyoming BLM site limits the amount of fossils to 'reasonable amounts' without a definition of what reasonable is.

What is a casual collector? Jones said that, according to the regulation a casual collecting [Section 6301(1)] of the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 2009 means:

'... the collecting of a reasonable amount of common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources for non-commercial personal use, either by surface collection or the use of non-powered hand tools resulting in only negligible disturbance to the Earth's surface and other resources.'

In other words, Jones wrote:

- 1 — fossils must be common, rare fossils could be excluded;
- 2 — vertebrate fossils like fish, turtles, sharks, reptiles, dinosaurs, birds are excluded including tracks, teeth, eggs, bones and impressions;
- 3 — You cannot sell fossils found on public land;
- 4 — Use of power tools, backhoes, earth moving equipment, drills and explosives are prohibited;
- 5 — Deep pits, holes or mines are not permitted. All holes or depressions left by fossil removal should be filled in as much as possible;
- 6 — Collection for scientific, museum, or commercial uses are not casual and require a permit.



Obituaries

Remembering Our Rockhound Friends

Jim Platt, 87 Cody 59ers

Sadly, the Cody 59ers have lost one of their oldest and most supportive members. Jim Platt passed away early on February 12 at his home. Our hearts and prayers are with Jackie and their family. Jim and Jackie joined the Cody 59ers in April 1976. Jim served as president of the club multiple times and also as vice president and treasurer. He was a member of the Shoshone Rock Club in Powell as well.

Besides his activities in the rock club, Jim was a member of the Absaroka Chapter of the Wyoming Archaeological Society. He served as president of the chapter three times. Jim discovered an archaeological site southwest of Cody which is known as

the Platt Archaeological Site. He was also a founding member of the now-defunct Meadowlark Audubon Society chapter. From 1973 to just a few years ago Jim was a cabinet and furniture maker and is well-known for his



Jim Platt

beautiful furniture.

The Cody 59ers will always remember Jim as an avid rock collector, leader, and

friend. He led field trips, demonstrated the skill of flint-knapping to club members, and he performed untold service to the club and its members. As a result, Jim and Jackie were named by the club as our 2013 Rockhounds of the Year. The club also named Jim and Jackie as honorary members. During the last two or three years Jim's health has not allowed him to go on many field trips, but he has been a faithful attendee at our meetings. Very few members will forget last year when Jim invited us to come rock hunting in his yard. He shared with us many of his rock treasures.

Jim, thanks for all you did to grow and improve the Cody 59ers. We will miss you until we meet again and go hunting heavenly rocks.

Submitted by Greg Jones
President, Cody 59ers



Tom Marchwick, 91 Sublette County Rock Hounds May 17, 1931 - Jan. 19, 2023

Tom Marchwick was a life-long rockhound who began his life in northeast Montana on May 17, 1931, and lived more than 20 years in western Wyoming. He died on Jan. 19, 2023.

Tom was an active and valued member of the Sublette County Rock Hounds in Big Piney/Marbleton for seven years. He helped at the silent auction and raffle tickets during the annual shows as well as throughout the set-up and tear-down. He was one of the first to arrive and last to leave during the shows.

Tom participated in all of the rock club meetings, especially enjoying the silent auctions, often running the bidding up "for the benefit of the club"!

He rarely missed a field trip. He was a friend who will be greatly missed!

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Obituaries

(Continued from Page 14)

Robert Earl Fischer, 68 Sublette County Rock Hounds 4/9/1954 - 8/21/2022

Bob Earl Fischer was rightfully proud of his work as a design engineer.

He was part of the group at Aero Service that developed the first commercial GPS in the late 1980s, A Macrometer GPS System that is in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. He also holds patents for his work developing telemetry systems for use in arctic marine survey and exploration.

After graduating from DeVry University, he briefly worked at Texas Instruments where he helped develop microwave oven digital controls and electronic darts.

For most of his career, he worked for Aero Service (then Western Geophysical as companies changed names). He loved flying. He spent many years doing aerial magnetometer

survey.

In 1985, he was transferred to the Houston office, where he became the design engineer for the nascent GPS group. That was where and when he met his wife, Nancy. For the last 10 years of his working life, he was a partner in small engineering design firm in Houston.



Bob Fischer

He loved to work on old Harleys. He was an avid hiker, backpacker, skier and kayaker and loved being in the wilderness. He was an avid reader. He could two-step, swing, and he loved to waltz. He traveled the world for work, and then again for fun.

He was usually the smartest guy in the room. His friends referred to him as Mr. Science.

He loved rockhounding and was a member of the Houston Gem and Mineral Society and the Sublette County (Wyoming) Rockhounds.

He was born in Denver to Judy Adams and Bill Fischer, and spent his formative years growing up in Lander, Wyoming. He spent most of his adult life based in Houston.

He essentially moved to Boulder, Wyoming, in 2019, making visits back to Houston

He leaves behind his wife of 31 years, Nancy; his stepson and new daughter in law, Matthew and Alison Sklar of Canyon Lake, Texas, and Houston; and many dear friends.

Steve Smith Cody 59ers

Long time Cody 59ers Rock club member Steve Smith, passed away on March 31, 2022, in Cody. Steve was born in Lansing, Michigan, in October 1941. He married Audrey, also an active rockhound and club member, in 1974. After moving to Wyoming, Steve drove school bus in the Meeteese area for 27 years and ran a nearby ranch. He and Audrey were regulars at 59ers meetings and on field trips. Audrey Smith is the current treasurer of the Cody 59ers Rock Club.

John Allen Cody 59ers

John Allen passed on Nov 15, 2022. John was a rock collector, lapidarist and Cody 59ers club member.

He had many other interests, including working on classic cars, shooting and fishing.

His love for rocks could be seen in the collection of rocks in his home and in the flower beds surrounding his home.

John's daughters donated his rocks and lapidary equipment to the Cody 59er Rock Club and its members.

Les Hunt Cody 59ers Shoshone Rock Club

Les Hunt was an active member of both the Cody 59ers and Shoshone Rock Clubs. He died Apr 19, 2022, while being transported from Cody to Billings after a heart attack.

He will be remembered for his kindness. He brought other members on field trips, help set up AV equipment and was willing to assist the clubs any way he could.

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WSMGS Rock Clubs

Riverton Mineral & Gem Society

P.O. Box 1904
Riverton, WY 82501
rivertonmgs@wsmgs.org
www.RivertonMGS.com

Meets 2nd Mon. 7 p.m.
(Jan.-May, Aug.-Nov.)
Senior Center, 303 E. Lincoln, Riverton

President: Stan Grove
Vice-President: Molly Fauth
Treasurer: Al Zelnak
Secretary: Holly Skinner
JSN: Open
Historian: Open
Field Trips: Ted Knowles

Cody 59ers Rock Club

P.O. Box 1251
Cody WY 82414
cody59ers@wsmgs.org
www.Cody59ers.com

Meets 4th Thursday (Sept-May) 6:30 p.m.
Park County Library, Grizzly Room

President: Greg Jones
Vice-President: ... Stephanie Melbraaten
Treasurer: Aubrey Smith
Secretary: Nella Flurkey
Historian: Stan Strike
Field Trips: Greg Jones

Shoshone Rock Club

P.O. Box 256,
Powell, WY 82435
shoshonerockclub@wsmgs.org

Meets 2nd Tuesday 7 p.m.
Powell Library Meeting Room
317 E. Third St., Powell

President: Gary Olson
Vice-President: Elyse Lynn
Treasurer: Lara Myers
Secretary: Charis Cervantes
JSN: Ilene Olson
Historian: Linda Jennings
Field Trips: Dorine Strom

Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society

P.O. Box 21412
Cheyenne, WY 82003
cheyennemgs@wsmgs.org

Meet 2nd Wed. 7 p.m. (August-May)
IBEW Union Building
810 Fremont Street-Cheyenne

President: Open
Vice President: Open
Treasurer: Jan Shively
Field Trip: Mark Shively



Rex Young Rock Club

112 East 3rd
Lingle, WY 82223
rexyoungrockclub@wsmgs.org

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

President: Kim Nielsen
Vice-President: Ed Verplancke
Treasurer: Helen Vogel
Secretary: Joyce Trowbridge
JSN: Joyce Trowbridge
Historian: Joyce Trowbridge

Natrona County Rockhounds

P.O. Box 123,
Casper, WY 82644
natronarockhounds@wsmgs.org

Meets 1st Monday 7 p.m. (April-Dec)
Shop Open 6-8 p.m. Tue & Fri at
Clubhouse, 5211 Rambler, Mills

President: Martin "Mac" Goss
Vice-President: Renee Eddi
Treasurer: Ken Platte
Secretary: Kim Platte

Sublette County Rock Hounds Club

P.O. Box 1351
Big Piney, WY 83113
subletterockhounds@wsmgs.org

Meets 1 p.m. 3rd Saturday (March-Dec)
The Bench Grill
415 Winkleman, Marbleton

President: Jim Gray
Vice-President: Mike Schaffer
Treasurer: Leane Gray
Secretary: Deb Jess
Field Trips: Roger McMannis

Northeast Wyoming Rockhounds

2107C N. Hwy 14-16
Gillette WY 82716
newyrockhounds@wsmgs.org

Meets odd # months
Check email for dates

President: Dennis Brown
Vice-President: Juli Roller-McDougall
Treasurer: Open
Secretary: Open

Rock Shops in Wyoming

Casper

Rick's Rocks

511 South Melrose Street

Casper, WY 82601

(307) 265-7625

Facebook:

caspermonumentsandricksrocks

Storefront: Mon – Fri 9-5,

closed 12-1

Engraved memorials and river rocks

Wonder!

1825 Cy Avenue

Casper, WY 82601

(307) 268-8732

Facebook: Wonder!

Storefront – regular hours

Metaphysical products and books

Cheyenne

Bohemian Metals

314 West 17th Street

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

(307) 778-8782

Facebook: Bohemian Metals

Store Front: Tue – Sat 10-6

Jewelry, minerals, fossils, crystals, beads,
rough rock, slabs, and teaching studio

Evanston

Antares Fossils & Minerals

431 Front Street

Evanston, Wyoming 82930

(307) 789-8737

Facebook: Antares-Fossils-Minerals

Storefront – regular hours

Gillette

Rocks to Riches

1758 US – 14

Gillette, WY 82716

(307) 670-8011

Kemmerer

In Stone Fossils

413 Coral Street

Kemmerer, WY 83101

(307) 723-1141

www.instonefossils.com

Facebook: In Stone Fossils

Storefront – Mon – Sat 8-5

Wyoming Fossils

921 Pine Avenue

Kemmerer, WY 83101

(254) 223-3204

www.wyomingfossils.com

Facebook: Wyoming Fossils

Storefront – regular hours

Ulrich's Fossil Gallery

4400 Co Rd 300

Kemmerer, WY 83101

(307) 877-6466

<https://ulrichsfossilgallery.com/>

Facebook: Ulrich's Fossil Gallery

Storefront – Regular hours

Kinnear

R&G Rock and Doll Shop

Linda Richendifer

10709 US Hwy 26

Kinnear, WY 82516

(307) 856-1532

Storefront – by appointment only

Porcelain dolls, rocks, jewelry, rock-
related items

Marbleton / Big Piney

J L Gray Rock Shop

614 E. 3rd Street

Marbleton, Wyoming 83113

(307) 260-6443

Facebook: Friends Who Like J L Gray
Rock Shop

& J L Gray Rock Shop

Storefront – March to Dec 15, Mon –

Fri 9 – 4

Some weekends & by appointment

Rough rock, slabs, cabs, specimens,
fossils, jewelry, beads, books, rock-
related gifts, equipment dealer, lapidary
supplies, classes

Powell

Stone Age Industries

Bill and Linna Beebe

654 Lane 5

Powell, WY 82435

(307) 754-4681; (888) 331-7625

www.stoneageindustries.com

Facebook: StoneAgeIndustries

Store by appointment & online

shopping

Equipment, rocks, gems, grit, polish,
lapidary supplies

Riverton

Rock Solid Lapidary

Melvin and Alice Gustin

518 E. Main Street

Riverton, WY 82501

(307) 856-1388

<https://rocksolidlapidary.com>

Facebook: rocksolidlapidary

Storefront – regular hours

Rocks, beads, rock-related gifts, classes

Star Valley

Star Valley Rock Shop

Fairview, WY 83119

(307) 886-4334

Storefront – Mon – Sat 10 – 5

www.quartzeclipse.com

Thermopolis

Ava's Silver & Rock Shop

631 Shoshone Street

Thermopolis, WY 82443

(307) 864-3800

Facebook: Ava's Silver & Rock Shop

Storefront – Regular hours, closed
Wed.

Torrington

Torrington Rock Shop

4102 US Hwy 26 / 85

Torrington, WY 82240

(307) 532-5938

www.torringtonwyrockshop.com

Facebook: TorringtonRockShop

WSMGS Electronic Board Meeting

December 2022

I. Electronic Meeting Instructions to Board Members:

As a WSMGS Board Member, I ask you to read this Electronic Meeting email and VOTE on all Action Items by selecting "Reply All" after typing your name and indicating a "Agree or Disagree" vote for each numbered Action Item. The Deadline for your responses by "Reply All" email will be Monday, December 26, 2022. If you have questions about any item call, text, or email me at 307-260-6442 or pres@wsmsg.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.

II. President's Report by Jim Gray:

A. WSMGS 2023 Annual Show will be hosted by Natrona County Rock Hounds at the Ramkota Hotel and will include the annual convention of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The Show is July 14-16, 2023

B. State clubs in the past have helped the club doing the state show by donating tumbled rock, rock for silent auction, cash donation to help with advertising, etc. So, if your club wants to help Casper let Mac know. Contact Mac Goss at 307-439-9873 or email macogre13@gmail.com.

C. WSMGS will have a sales table at the STATE show. We are asking for donations in the form of rock, used equipment, whatever you have that can be sold to help fund the WSMGS would be greatly appreciated, this is the only WSMGS fund raiser.

D. If any Club has any questions, concerns, or needs please let me know and I will do my best to help.

E. We need members to help write articles for the Jade State News Letter, please send to me and I will proof read them and send on to be edited into the News Letter, pictures of field trips, club meetings or activities will be welcome.

F. Reminder that all memberships dues are due end of the Year, December 31, 2022 if you have not paid your

membership for 2023 you will be deleted from the WSMG. Send payment to Mac Goss, Treasurer.

G. Membership for the RMFMS is also due December 31, 2022. If not paid your club will not be listed as a RMFMS member and will not be listed in the RMFMS directory. Send payment to Gene Maggard, Treasurer RMFMS.

H. Annual election of officers form on the WSMGS website needs to be completed and mailed to Linda Richendifer. WSMGS Vice President.

III. Vice President's Report by Linda Richendifer:

A. Please submit any changes in the WSMGS membership directory to Linda. This directory is not to be copied or shared outside the club membership.

IV. Secretary's Report By Leane Gray:

A. Prior Electronic WSMGS Board Meeting Minutes are printed in the Jade State News, which are available online: wsmsg.org under the heading Newsletters.

V. Treasurer's Report by Mac Goss:

A. WSMGS Club Report Reminders

a) January 1st to May 15th- Form 990N must be electronically submitted to the IRS (The Registered agent for each club should receive this form from the IRS in advance of the deadline). Clubs may contact the IRS directly by email: la2.alt.www4.irs.gov/pub/rup_login_1

B. Deadline for Annual Report to WY Sec. of State Varies by WSMGS Club -- Deadline for renewal of "Non Profit Corporation Annual Report" varies by club and is due the 1st day of the month in which the club was first recognized by the Wyoming Secretary of State as a Non Profit Corporation.

(The Registered Agent for your club should receive this form in advance of the club's deadline

WSMGS Clubs' Incorporation Dates:

Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society	Dec. 2, 1969
Cody 59ers Rock Club	February 1, 2012
Natrona County Rock Hounds	April 15, 1954
Rex Young Rock Club	Not Incorporated
Northeast Wyoming	November 8, 2018
Riverton Mineral & Gem Society	August 17, 2012

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WSMGS Electronic Board Meeting

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Shoshone Rock Club February 8, 1962
 Sublette County Rock Hounds March 21, 2018
 WSMGS Board Incorporated November 23, 1964

The treasurer's report follows on this page.

VI. Historian Report by Roger McMannis:

A. Reminder that all WSMGS clubs need to send activities and meeting minutes or annual reports please.

B. Please email them to Roger McMannis: hist@wsmsg.org OR mail to him P.O. Box 1081- Big Piney, WY 83113.

VI. Jade State Newsletter by Ilene Olson:

Clubs are encouraged to submit news items, articles, abbreviated minutes, and photos for publication in the Jade State News.

Submission dates to Jade News Editor [jsn@wsmsg.org] are the 1st of February, May, August, and November.

The WSMGS would like to encourage clubs to nominate **non-club members** individuals/couples from your region who have been active in promoting the Earth sciences to be recognized by receiving recognition in the Jade State News as Wyoming Rock Stars!

Check out former winner write-ups on the WSMGS website: wsmsg.org-Menu-WSMGS Topic: Library-WSMGS Awards.

Rock Star Nominations: please submit these nominations with a descriptive paragraph and photo to the JSN. There is not an award associated with the nominations; it is a recognition.

VII. WSMGS Website by Marlene Sibley:

A. The WSMGS needs Action Photos from each of your clubs. Please include the photographer's name for proper photo credit and a short caption summary as to activity. Send photos to: webmaster@wsmsg.org

B. Marlene would like to update the website and need club photos in order to do this.

VIII. Old Business: N/A this meeting.

IX. New Business:

IX. New Business:

We appreciate the service of Ilene Olson as the Jade State News editor. It is time for a new editor to be appointed by the WSMGS President. All interested persons please apply by email to pres@wsmsg.org by January 31, 2023. Also need reporters to help with articles to be published in the Jade State News. Please send an email expressing interest in being a reporter, several reporters are needed.

Please vote AGREE or DISAGREE to the action item.

***** VOTE Action Item #1-Agree or Disagree issue a gift certificate to Marlene Sibley, for appreciation for being the Webmaster.**

MOTION CARRIED.

X. Meeting Adjourned- Monday, December 26, 2022.

WSMGS Treasurer's Report — December, 2022

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	EXPENSE,	REVENUE,	BALANCE
Deposit	1/19/22	Annual Dues – Rex Young		\$27.00	\$5,978.17
Deposit	1/19/22	Annual Dues – Cheyenne & Cody		\$151.50	\$6,129.67
141	2/24/22	Ilene Olson – JSN editor supplies	\$75.00		\$6,054.67
151	2/16/22	Cincinnati - Trailer Insurance 1 year	\$429.00		\$5,625.67
152	2/10/22	Stan Strike for Marlene Sibley gift card	\$50.00		\$5,575.67
Bank Charge	2/28/22	No Deposit fee	\$10.00		\$5,565.67
153	3/14/22	Wildcat Auto – repack trailer bearings	\$347.95		\$5,217.72
Deposit	3/7/22			\$10.00	\$5,227.72
Debit Card	3/17/22	Wyoming Secretary of State, annual filing refund		\$25.00	\$5,252.72
Deposit	4/5/22	Donation -		\$5.00	\$5,257.72
Deposit	4/28/22	Donation - Jim Gray		\$5.00	\$5,262.72

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WSMGS Electronic Board Meeting, March 2021

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WSMGS Treasurer's Report — December, 2022 (continued)

154	5/1/22	Ilene Olson – JSN editor supplies	\$75.00	\$5,187.72
Debit Card	5/24/22	Picture Frames for ROY certificates	\$31.80	\$5,155.92
Deposit	5/31/22	Donation – Jim Gray	\$5.00	\$5,160.92
155	6/9/22	Stan Strike – Trailer Plates reimbursement	\$49.32	\$5,111.60
156	6/9/22	Roger McMannis - Travel expenses	\$150.00	\$4,961.60
157	6/9/22	Jim Gray – Travel expenses	\$150.00	\$4,811.60
158	6/9/22	Leane Gray – Travel expenses	\$150.00	\$4,661.60
159	6/9/22	Ilene Olson – JSN editor supplies	\$75.00	\$4,586.60
160	6/9/22	Linda Richendifer - Travel expenses	\$150.00	\$4,436.60
Deposit	6/21/22	Proceeds Silent Auction at State show	\$479.00	\$4,915.60
Debit Card	6/10/22	The Print Shop, copies for meeting	\$6.28	\$4,909.32
Debit Card	6/13/22	Sutherlands, stretch wrap for showcases	\$39.13	\$4,870.19
Deposit	7/19/22	Proceeds Silent Auction at Casper show	\$134.00	\$5,004.19
161	7/19/22	VOID	\$-	\$5,004.19
162	7/19/22	Pioneer Museum, Lander, donation	\$100.00	\$4,904.19
163	7/20/22	American Lands Access Association, membership	\$50.00	\$4,854.19
164	7/27/22	Wyoming State 4-H Foundation, donation	\$100.00	\$4,754.19
Deposit	8/4/22	Donation – Jim Gray	\$5.00	\$4,759.19
Deposit	9/19/22	Donation - Jim Gray	\$5.00	\$4,764.19
Debit Card	9/30/22	Wyoming Secretary of State, annual filing	\$27.00	\$4,737.19
165	10/18/22	Ilene Olson – JSN editor supplies	\$75.00	\$4,662.19
166	VOID			\$4,865.31
167	11/14/22	RMFMS – Annual Dues for WSMGS	\$12.90	\$4,852.41
Deposit	10/26/22	Donation – Jim Gray	\$5.00	\$4,667.19
Deposit	11/10/22	Donation – Jim Gray	\$5.00	\$4,672.19
Deposit	11/16/22	Annual Dues -	\$303.00	\$4,975.19
Debit Card	12/1/22	Walmart – Two \$50 gift cards for Marlene Sibley + fees	\$109.88	\$4,865.31
Deposit	12/29/22	Annual Dues -	\$231.00	\$5,083.41



**We hope to see you at a
rock show this summer!**

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