



Pink elephants & red paintbrush, near Aspen, CO. Photo by Zach Dischner. CC BY 2.0. *], and they should forward it to me. If not, you may send it directly to me with a note that your Federation does not have a competition, and I will enter it as a Direct Entry. **Entry forms are on the AFMS webpage with other contest forms, <https://www.amfed.org/contests/program-competition>.**

I'm sure there are clubs that have had a great program in the past year, one that would be good to share with other clubs. Before sharing, enter it into the New Programs Competition. There is a great deal of information on the AFMS web page ( go to the web page at: AmFed.org. On the home page, look at the left side and find Contests & Awards. Click on this and then open the Programs heading. There are suggestions as well as the Entry Form on this page. ) There are suggestions about photographing objects, putting music into the program, making identifying notes

for unusual names, places, spelling, and pronunciation. Can't think of a subject? That area is wide open, and there is a place in the competition for ANY topic.



There is a special competition for juniors, and another for professional filmmakers. Anyone who is a member of an AFMS club or society can put together a program and enter it in Competition.

Even better, there are cash prizes for first and second place programs that score over 95 points. And the top winner's programs will be sent to every Federation's Program Library for any club to use for a monthly club program.

The time is now to get that program underway. It does take a little effort to get it done, but there is still time before the entry deadline of January 15, 2025.

If you have any questions, feel free to email DeLane Cox, New Programs Competition Chair, at [delanec3-at-earthlink.net](mailto:delanec3-at-earthlink.net) . If you are needing information quickly, you may call at 479-254-0894. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

So, what are you waiting for? Get that program underway now!

*Remember to drive carefully!*



*Busy\_Bees\_International\_School\_Timing.jpg,  
CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons*

## Nominate a Teacher!

Michelle Cauley, RMFMS Juniors Chair

Do you know an individual who does incredible work inspiring and teaching K-12 students in geoscience? Or maybe you know an Adjunct at a local college who teaches geoscience?

The National Association for Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) is looking to celebrate these individuals. You might know they do incredible work to move our science forward with juniors in your club or maybe you took a course by this instructor, and you were impressed when they presented and spoke at your club meeting – well it's time to celebrate them!

Yes, the AFMS celebrates our members with Rockhound of the Year and other club awards, but the NAGT would like to celebrate them as well!

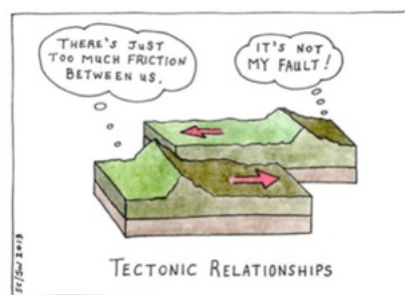
The NAGT K-12 Educator of the Year is state-based, with winners coming from each state yearly. Winners receive free membership for 2 years to the NAGT and a 3-year membership to the Geology Society of America (GSA), plus a \$700 award or travel stipend. This is a phenomenal opportunity to celebrate our junior's leaders and teachers, and awards are handed out based on "exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the Earth Sciences at the pre-college level" (<https://nagt.org/nagt/awards/oest.html>). Nominations are due in March, but they are taken at any time.

The NAGT Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award is for any instructor who teaches part-time at a 2-year college in geosciences. There are many times when

AFMS clubs have adjuncts in as guest speakers and presenters at their events and for most of these presenters, they are not members of the local club to win that coveted Rockhound of the Year Award. Instead, take this opportunity to thank that instructor by nominating them for this award from NAGT. Awards are given four times a year, with the first three awardees getting a write-up in the 2-Year College NAGT Newsletter and a membership to NAGT for a year. The yearly award winner also receives a monetary gift of \$1,000 from McGraw-Hill as a thank you for inspiring future geologists. Follow this link for more information and nomination form:

<https://nagt.org/nagt/divisions/2yc/oafa.html>

The NAGT first and foremost promotes geoscience education, which is what all our Junior Programs are promoting as well. Take the time to nominate a favorite geology teacher – and celebrate their work within your club. Nominees do not need to be current NAGT or GSA members, but they will be incredibly thankful to be nominated and even with these awards, as NAGT and GSA provide fantastic free resources for geoscience education for K-12 students and older learners as well! Questions? Want to celebrate an educator and need more guidance? Feel free to send an email my way at [michelle.cauley@dakotacollege.edu](mailto:michelle.cauley@dakotacollege.edu). Happy nominating!



Joke and toon from *10 Geology Puns That Will Rock Your World*, <https://theleonardo.org/10-geology-puns-that-will-rock-your-world/>

## Update on Website and Editor Contests

Linda Jaeger, RMFMS BEAC Chair

### 2024 RMFMS & AFMS Website Contests

The 2024 website contest guidelines, application and scoresheet have been uploaded to the new AFMS website, [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org). The forms are available on the AFMS website. The RMFMS website, [www.rmfmts.org](http://www.rmfmts.org), links to the AFMS site.

Webmasters, please consider entering the 2024 RMFMS and AFMS Website Contests. This is a great opportunity to have your site evaluated by winning website judges to help improve your website. Your club Website serves several functions. Three of the major functions of the Website are to:

- Attract new members
- Provide member information
- Assist the Club in fulfilling the Club's Mission.

The Webmaster award not only honors technical expertise but also celebrates the ability to engage and educate online audiences about the fascinating world of the earth sciences.

- **RMFMS DEADLINE Extended! It's not too late to enter: [September 30, 2024](#)**

**Webmasters** can submit their club website to your regional federation contest as a competitive or non-competitive entry. A non-competitive website entry will be scored, but the entry cannot advance to the AFMS Website Contest and cannot receive any awards.

If you submit a competitive entry and your website scores in the top two for your regional federation,

it will advance to the AFMS Website Contest. If your website advances to the AFMS Website Contest and you receive the highest score, you will receive a plaque, and you cannot submit your website competitively for the 2025 contest. You will also be asked to be a judge in the 2025 contest.

**Please send COMPLETED Website Contest application and Scoresheet filled out with your club information in the header portion, to: [jgerring@gmail.com](mailto:jgerring@gmail.com)**

For questions and more information contact:  
The **RMFMS Website Contest Chair, Jennifer Gerring, [jgerring@gmail.com](mailto:jgerring@gmail.com)**.

### RMFMS Bulletin Editors Contest Update

This year our RMFMS show/convention is after the AFMS show/convention. That means the **AFMS results** were made public (last month) before the RMFMS awards will be given at the breakfast in OKC during the RMFMS Convention. *Please see pages 6-7 of the **June RMF News** for the AFMS placements for our RMFMS winners.* I will present both the RMFMS and the AFMS awards at the Editor's Breakfast in Oklahoma City, October 27, 2024.

We are in a similar situation for the 2025 Bulletin Editors' contests. Here are the **important deadlines for the 2025 RMFMS Bulletin Editors Contest:**

- ♦ **Jan. 3, 2025-entries due to Linda Jaeger**
- ♦ **Jan. 31, 2025-judged RMFMS entries due to AFMS judges!**
- ♦ Because AFMS/EFMLS show is March 2025 **NOW** is a good time to start looking over your bulletins for entries in the 2025 contest! **I will email contest materials in early November 2024.**

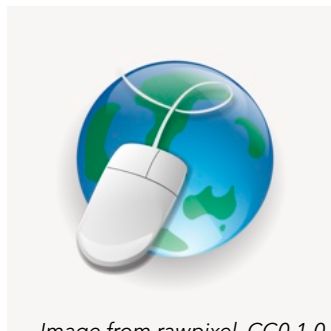


Image from rawpixel. CC0 1.0

## Club Corner – Payson Rimstones Rock Club: Outreach

Rollo Pool, Club President

A new educational committee of the Payson (AZ) Rimstones Rock Club has created several rock modules for teaching students and adults about the rocks, fossils, minerals and geology around us.

New modules include fossils, fluorescents, rocks from the Mogollon Rim and "Cool" Rocks. Class attendances have ranged from a handful of students to over 80. Most of the sessions have been in the libraries in Payson and Pine, AZ, but also have ventured outside the state to the Apache Creek (NM) Deaf and Youth Ranch.

The Payson group plans to continue and expand educational outreach this Fall and into 2025. Besides reaching schools, the Payson club suggests other groups reach out to libraries, Parks and Recreation programs, local camps, charter schools, and Native and youth groups. Funds for educational programs are raised through silent auctions, club meetings and other donations. For more information, contact Rollo Pool (928) 595-2059 or at [rollo\\_pool@outlook.com](mailto:rollo_pool@outlook.com).





## Club Corner – Old Pueblo Lapidary Club

*Helen Serras-Herman, OPLC Programs*

*Contributed by Wayne Klement, OPLC Editor*

*Check out this unique program presented to the OPLC at their August club meeting.*

### **Your Waste is My Treasure! Gemstone Painting**

We got a super treat at our August 10, 2024, OPLC monthly meeting with **Karyn Holyk**, an Artist, Crystal Alchemist, and Teacher, who lives in Tucson.

Karyn is a professional watercolor artist. She focuses on making and working with gemstone and crystal pigments as her main medium and creative guide. *Yes, she paints with crystals and gemstones!* Many she makes herself with verified, ethically sourced crystal and gemstone dusts. Karyn infuses every pigment with clear or rose quartz along with other minerals to amplify their impact and color. Each pigment—like their crystal parent—holds a story, lesson, and vibration.

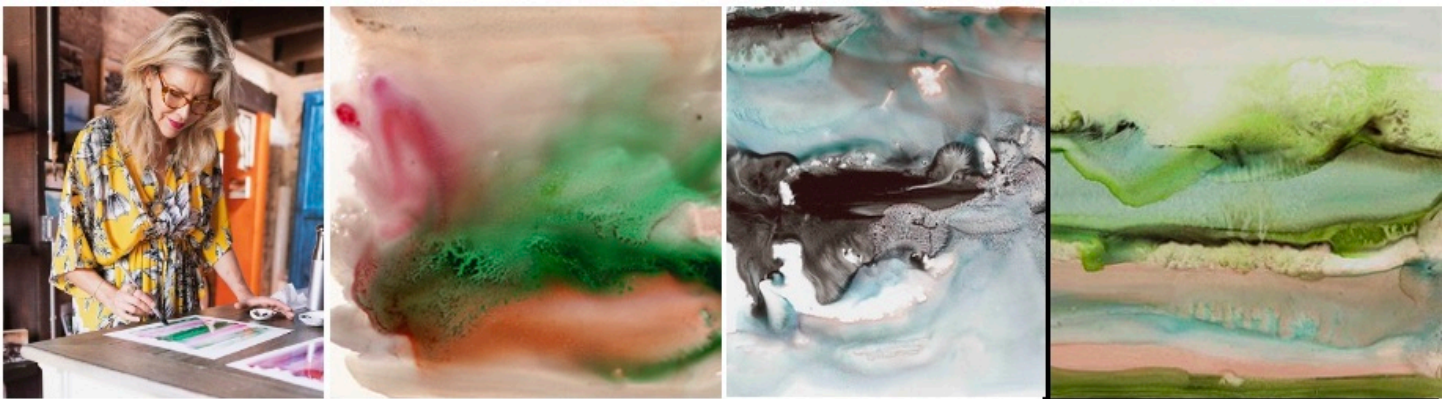
Karyn shared that “as a resident of the Southern Arizona’s Sonoran Desert, many crystals and gemstones, which become my pigments, are locally sourced. Creative inspiration is literally right under

our feet. The magic of my work is the combination of physical properties of each mineral, married with their spiritual and metaphysical attributes.” Her artwork and classes weave together a journey through history, faith, color theory, geology, and science. Each piece of artwork and every class is infused with true emotional benefit.

In her presentation and demonstration, Karyn shared her process and technique from taking 50 micron gemstone dust (often the discard) and turning it into stunning pigments. She made some beautiful paints and shared her fine art techniques. She promised that “we’ll be inspired by the process and never look at our discarded dust the same way again. Your Waste is My Treasure!”

Her focus in this lecture was on Sonoran Desert Gems, including turquoise, malachite, red Jasper, and black tourmaline.

You can also visit Karyn Holyk’s website at [www.bluesoulcreative.com](http://www.bluesoulcreative.com)



Photos courtesy © Karyn Holyk

## 2025 RMFMS/OMGS Show – Don't Miss This!

*Jamilee Poor, OMGS*

**Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society (OMGS) and Oklahoma City** extend a warm welcome to the members of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Oklahoma City is named one of the best places to visit by Fommer's Travel as it offers culture, cuisine, attractions, and amenities you expect in a modern metropolis. Known as the Horse Show Capital of the World, we are rich in cowboy culture and outdoor adventures. We have plenty of hustle without the hassle of Big Cities, and the airport is very easy to fly in and out of. We invite our guests to not only attend the Conference and our annual Mineral and Gem Show, but also to extend your time here. [Oklahoma City Travel](#) provides maps and entertainment ideas such as the Oklahoma City Zoo, Botanical Gardens, the Oklahoma City National Memorial Museum, the Cowboy & the Western Heritage Museum, and the First Americans Museum to name a few. Our host hotel, the [Wyndham Grand](#), is located downtown and is within walking distance or you can take the trolley to Bricktown, Scissortail Park, the Art District and Automobile Alley. Enjoy the local foods, craft beers and wines and distilled bourbons. Attend an Oklahoma City Thunder basketball game which starts in October. There is lots to offer!



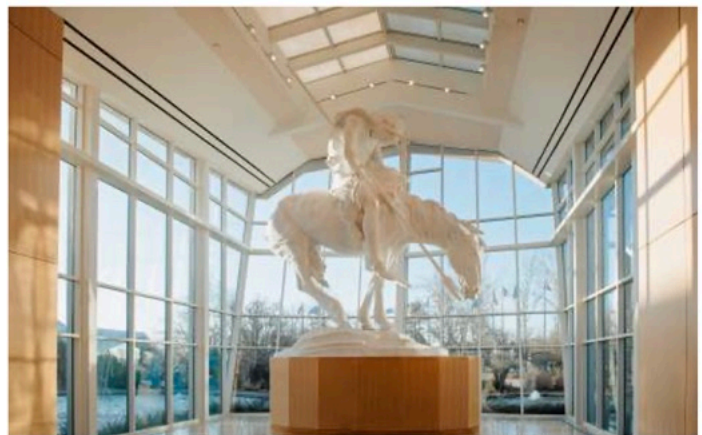
Bricktown Canal Rides



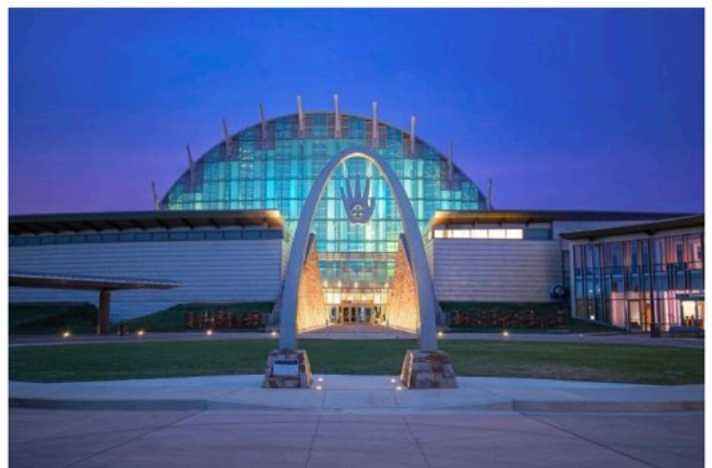
Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum



Myriad Botanical Gardens



Cowboy Hall of Fame



First American Museum



## Quick Tips for Editors – Good Bulletins

Linda Jaeger, RMFMS BEAC

### **Contest Time is Coming – What Are Judges Looking for in Bulletins?**

Whatever the size of your bulletin it should fit the needs of your club. However, there are some things that apply to all bulletins, no matter the audience.

**Appearance:** Is it neat and readable? Have you included some illustrations or photos? Will a club member be enticed to pick it up and read it? Is the name of your bulletin, issue date and page number on each page? Bulletins do not have to be done on a computer!

**Club Information:** Have you included your club name, purpose, list of officers, contact information, meeting time and place? Is the return address on the outside cover?

**Reports:** President's message? What is the program for the next meeting? How was the last month's program? What field trips are coming up? Are there any classes meeting? Minutes or a summary of the minutes of the last meeting should be included. Treasurer's report? If your club has restricted what you can put in your bulletin, just include a note explaining what they voted to restrict when you send in your entry.

**Articles:** Member-written articles can enhance each issue. So judges know an article was written by a club member, include an identifier with the author's name. For example: The Trouble with Fossils by Virgil Richards, Club Member. You can also follow the author's name with the acronym for your club (by Virgil Richards, TRMS).

When you use an exchange article be sure to include the author's name, the original source, the bulletin from which you have reprinted the article, and dates for both. An example: "The Trouble with Fossils" by Virgil Richards, TRMS. (From *T-Town Rockhound*, 8/05 via *RMFMS Newsletter*, 10/05). Notice **the**

**original source is the "from" and has the earliest date. The "via" is the bulletin you actually saw the article in and has the latest date.**

**Content:** If your club is not a single specific study area in the earth sciences (i.e.: paleontology, minerals, faceting, etc.) try to include as wide a variety of subject areas as you can each month. Fossils, minerals, lapidary, club history, safety, member news, poetry, pending legislation that affects rockhounding, kids activities, coming events, websites of interest, and hints & tips are the usual suspects.

**Federation News:** Every issue should include RMFMS news and AFMS news. What counts? You can reprint an entire article from each or you can have another club member read the most recent newsletter of each and write a summary of the high points. (Hot links to the websites do NOT count!)

**Spelling and Grammar:** Using a computer? Use the spell check and grammar options that come with your word processing software. Then have someone else proofread for you! Computers cannot catch the type of misspellings where you mean "led" instead of "lead." Not using a computer? Ask someone else to proofread for you! After reading your own typing for long periods of time you simply cannot catch all typos.

(Clip art above from Discovery Channel School Image Gallery, 2003. Permission to use for educational, not for sale publications granted.)

[The above article is from the *RMF News*, 8/2006. It has been edited slightly by me (original author) to be current.]



Above from dreamstime\_s\_19076569.jpg

## Word Origins

Melody Ulanowski, Ada GMFC, from *A View from the Arbuckles*, 7/2024

"Gutta cavat lapidem." This phrase is in a game I play. The translation is: *a drop of water can hollow a stone*. This got me to thinking about the origins of all the other words we use in our hobby. So this is my delve into word-dom.

The original quote is Greek in origin. In Latin the word for stone is "lapis." We are all familiar with "lapis lazuli" or *stone of the sky*. Also Latin is "lapidarius" or *of stone*. In the 1300s lapis lent it's root to the English noun "lapidary" to refer to a *cutter, polisher or engraver of precious stones as well as the art of such a person*.

One of the things a "lapidarist" would make is a *cabochon*. This is from a French word "caboché," meaning *head or noggin for the domed top of the stone*, first used in 1825. Also from the French language is the term "facet." French "facette" or *individual surface of an object with many surfaces*, such as a gemstone. First used in 1622.

Also from French "cul" from Latin "culus" is the word "culet" for *the small facet at the bottom of a faceted stone*. First used in 1678.

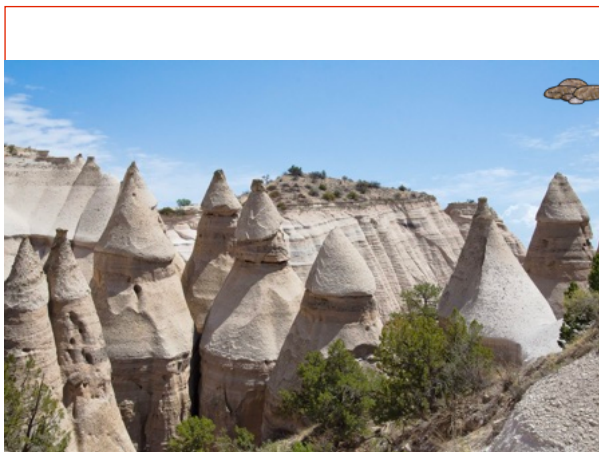
The outer-most edge of a faceted stone is the "girdle." This comes from old English "gyrdel" meaning *the part of a body encircled with a belt*. First used in the 12th century.

And all the way back to basics: the word *stone* comes from the Greek word "steat" or "stear" or might be back to old Sanskrit "styāyate."

Rock has a lineage back to the French word "roke." *Mineral* is derived from the Medieval Latin word "mineralis," first used in the 15th century.

To end my tiny search, we come to *diamond*. The Greek called the gemstone "adamas," the same word they used for *all indestructible substances*. This led to Latin "adimant" and "adamus" to "diamant" - "diamas," which then came to be *only used for the gemstone diamond*.

Thus ends my adamant search into word origins.



### Where in the RMFMS is Rocky?

- Goldsby, OK?
- Ash/pumice/tuff formations, NM?
- Gloss Mountains, OK?

Photo at left by Daniel Dyer, CC BY 2.0

Clipart at top by Phillip Martin.  
CC BY NC ND 3.0.

Answers on page 20.



## Remembering Utah and a Thallium Arsenic Sulfosalt: Gillulyite

Mike Nelson, [csrockguy@yahoo.com](mailto:csrockguy@yahoo.com), Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society



In several of my articles I have noted that my time in graduate school at the University of Utah (1967-1970) was intellectually exciting as well as personally full of satisfaction and “what more could you ask for.” Within a 10-day stint in August 1967 I

graduated with an A.M. from the University of South Dakota, drove all night to Kansas with my soon to be wife, got married, and headed to Utah with virtually no money; more grad school was waiting. I chose Utah since: 1) I wanted to live in the mountains; 2) Wyoming and Colorado rejected my applications; and 3) the NDEA Title IV Fellowship at Utah was more money than I had ever made in my life. We were still rather “poor” but found an apartment for \$70 a month; however, we could only afford payments of \$35 every two weeks! But—we found many new friends (mostly students), and we were all in the same boat—not much money but super excited about geology and our spouses (most of us were newlyweds) and Frank Ifield had it correct:

*When my life is through  
And the angels ask me to recall  
The thrill of it all  
Then I will tell them I remember you-oooh!*

Intellectually the University was an exciting place to be in the late 1960s—things, they were a’ changing in the world of geology. Plate tectonics, better then known as Continental Drift, was being discussed in every classroom. Armand Eardley had published the best-known textbook on structural evolution of North America, and it was the “go to” book in the pre-continental drift days. However, he constantly brought in external speakers to discuss the “theory” in his classes, the pros and cons.

Fridays were observed as days of field trips and/or research—we could walk to outcrops in the Laramide Wasatch Mountains bordering east campus. Evidence of Pleistocene Lake Bonneville was everywhere, and we could drive 25 miles or less to observe rocks of every geological period except the Silurian. Observing fantastic geology was an everyday experience.



The campus of the University of Utah (2005) next to the Wasatch Mountains. Photo picked up from Pinterest <https://i.pinimg.com/originals>

Lee Stokes, my major advisor, hauled his students all over the state since his Utah geological knowledge was legendary. Jim Madsen, my mentor and friend, was pulling all sorts of dinosaurs out of the Cleveland-Lloyd Quarry in central Utah. Others, such as Dick Robison took his advanced invertebrate paleo students out to the west desert to hunt for trilobites in the Cambrian rocks. We then had to write a “pretend” professional paper for publication. It was just a great time to be a student of geology.

The U.S. Geological Survey had a small office in Salt Lake City and their geologists were tromping all over the Intermountain states. As they traversed through the City the Department tried to nab them to “present a lecture on their work.”

*continued on page 14*

Utah and Gillulyite — *continued from page 13*

My classmates and I were privileged to hear, and often meet, some of the most famous geologists in the west. I remember one of the speakers was a USGS scientist by the name of James (Jim) Gilluly. I remembered his name since the grad students (“you really need to take a look at XX paper since it may show up on your prelim exams”) and one of these papers (USGS PP 150) was authored by Reeside and Gilluly describing the sedimentary rocks of the San Rafael Swell in central Utah. Now the Swell was every softrockers’ favorite place for a field trip—and there were many. Gilluly also worked with Ralph Roberts and others in describing the Antler Orogenic Belt and the giant Roberts Mountain Thrust in north central Nevada (almost unknown events in the 1950s). But perhaps Gilluly’s most interesting paper was published in 1968—*The role of geological concepts in man’s intellectual development*. Gilluly lived a long (1896-1980) and extremely productive life, and his name always sticks in my mind when thinking of those halcyon days of the late 1960s at the University of Utah.



The Oquirrh Mountains viewed from south of Salt Lake City looking west. Public Domain photo by Don Lavange.

So, how does my reminiscing relate to minerals of any sort? Many/most readers realize that past articles often point out interesting tidbits about Utah minerals. Well, a thallium arsenic sulfosalt mineral named gillulyite (after the Utah geologist)

is certainly an interesting mineral (if nothing else for its thallium content) and one of the rarest in Utah (and most likely in the country). It also has an interesting collecting history, and the following paragraph was picked up from Lehigh Minerals in Bountiful, Utah:

“ In 1990 five members of the club, Mineral Collectors of Utah, went on a field trip to the Lulu Cut in the South Mercur Pit of the Mercur Mine in search of thallium minerals. An odd-looking red mineral that looked different than Realgar was found. Two members searched for crystals, only ever finding 3 specimens with small crystals—one of which is pictured on mindat.org . The three other collectors collected a few flats of specimens of the strange mineral with dark red cleavages. Dr. Jim Wilson from Weber State was one of the three, and the analysis done the next day did not match any known mineral species. Going back the following day to collect more specimens, he was disappointed and found the Barack mining operation mined through the collecting area and the new level was 30 feet below the area of the new mineral find. Nothing more was able to be collected. The mineral became Gillulyite with the Lulu Cut being not only the type locality but still the only locality to this day in the world. One collector sold his specimens at the next Denver and Tucson shows. These are the source of specimens currently held in collections worldwide. The mine geologist collected some superb Lorandites at another location at the mine but was present when the club was there and also had a few Gillulyites. Scott Klein and Rob Lavinsky handled these several years ago. I was able to acquire the specimens that Jim Wilson collected that day. These vary in size from thumbnails to large cabinet specimens.”

I have recently corresponded with Jim McEwen, the proprietor of Lehigh Minerals, and amazingly he still has about seven specimens of this 30-year

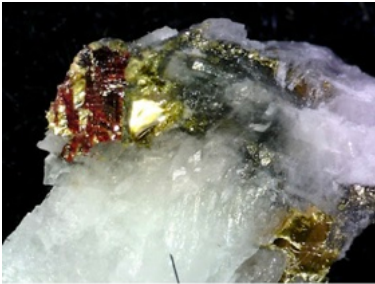
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## Utah and Gillulyite — continued from page 14

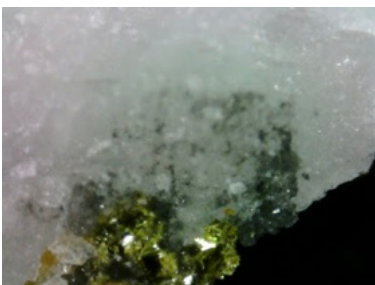
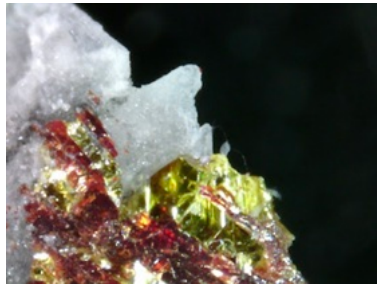
-old find sort of hidden away, but available for sale! They are listed on the Lehigh Minerals home page.

Gillulyite  $[Tl_2(As,Sb)_8S_{13}]$  is a dark red in color like many mercury minerals, is soft at 2.0-2.5 (Mohs), has an adamantine luster that commonly tarnishes to a metallic luster. It needs to be protected from light as the mineral will turn such a dark red that it almost appears black.

Crystals (Monoclinic Prismatic) are rare (some crystals shown on MinDat), and most specimens appear massive (and all are small). At Mercur, gillulyite is often associated with baryte ( $BaSO_4$ ), orpiment ( $As_2S_3$ ), and realgar ( $As_4S_4$ ). As a sulfosalt the elements in gillulyite are a metal (thallium), a semi-metal and/or tin (arsenic + tin), and sulfur---  $Tl_2(As,Sb)_8S_{13}$ .



Bright to dark red gillulyite with yellow orange orpiment on a baryte matrix. The width of the baryte in the top photo is ~4mm. The gillulyite fragments are sub millimeter, and my camera had a tough time with focusing on the minerals, partially due to the bright reflection of the orpiment. At any rate it is an extremely rare mineral from the Lula Cut, South Mercur Pit. Mike Nelson



The Mercur Mining District is on the southwest flank of the Oquirrh Mountains, one of the easternmost ranges of the Basin and Range Province that dominate the western skyline at Salt Lake City (and also home to the famous Bingham Copper Mine). The initial mining at Mercur started in ~1870 with a high-grade silver deposit that soon faded, and mining turned to cinnabar, the valuable major ore of mercury. Early miners knew that gold was present at Mercur; however, the small flakes were invisible and tied up in dark gray to black carbonaceous, silty limestone. The gold could not be extracted with traditional mercury amalgamation processes (today we know Mercur as a Carlin Type Deposit). About 1890, as the mining was about "done for," a couple of the investors decided to try a new process rumored to be effective—cyanide leaching. And it was successful—for by 1897 the Golden Gate Mill at Mercur was the largest cyanide mill in the U.S. and operated until ~1913. After that date the gold production was intermittent with starts and stops by various companies. By 1983 Getty had established a very successful, large open pit with a cyanide heap leach operation. Barrick Gold acquired this operation in 1985, added some additional equipment and produced ~ 100,000 ounces of gold per year until reserves became exhausted in 1995. The mines have now been reclaimed and gillulyite is gone forever from Mercur (the official Type Locality is Lula Cut, South Mercur Pit) and has never been located elsewhere. As for the Mercur Mining District, it was Utah's largest primary gold mining district, "despite the fact that no gold was ever recognized in hand specimens" (Utah Geological Survey). I tried to visit the dumps in the early 2000s but was turned away by signs, fences, and "guards."

*They say if you remember the '60s, you weren't there. Well, I remember the '60s, I was there, and I wouldn't have missed it for the world. (after Dave Clark)*

## Dog Days of Summer 2024 – A Haibun

Marj Becker, DGMS

What more is there to say about the dog days of summer? It's hot. Really hot. And, of course, it's come upon us knowing full well that we're not prepared. It seems that "dog days of summer" only happen in the Northern Hemisphere. Why not the Southern Hemisphere? Is it because it is hot there all of the time? Hot and muggy. Sweltering. Humid.



Then, of course, there is global warming. We think that these days are related to global warming. What I'm finding in my research, though, is that these days are specific to our Northern Hemisphere from about July 3 to August 11. So, this year, they have hit us right on time. And, although we may be thinking that they are only August-related, dog days in mid-July are not out of the range of days.

For some reason, humans have connected the star Sirius to the dog days of summer. Probably, because Sirius means Dog Star. Sirius, however, is a gazillion miles away from earth and could not possibly have any effect on earth's weather. No one seems to know when or why this expression – dog days – became something to refer to this time of year. Perhaps, it is because Sirius, the Dog Star, on July 23 rises and sets with our Sun. Humans thought that since Sirius is so bright, it made our Sun extra hot; thus, the increased temperatures in the Northern Hemisphere. And, after all, it is a part of the constellation Canis Major (the Greater Dog). How could it not be closely associated with "dog days" of summer! The heat comes, however, not from the proximity of Sirius to the Sun. Rather, it is because of the tilt of the earth on its axis.

**Dog days – too hot now**  
**Thunderstorms – Rain – Tornados**  
**Don't fault Sirius**

Are you old enough to remember when cars vapor locked? Having the car's engine stop and needing to drive the car to the side of the road was maddening, embarrassing, and scary! Then, trying to start the car to continue the journey was equally maddening. Cool the engine and, maybe – just maybe – the engine would engage.

We didn't have full-house air conditioning in those days. Some of us still don't have that kind of air conditioning. So, we close the windows and doors to keep out the heat. We use powerful floor fans to move the air. We wear light-weight clothing – shorts and tees. We do whatever we can think of to keep cool during dog days.

**Dog days – lethargy**  
**Dog days – hottest of summer**  
**Dog days – our worst days**

Personally, summer is not my favorite season of the year. It has always been way too hot for my taste. Even as a kid, summer topped my "dislike" list. Maybe, it topped my "hate" list! Growing up in Southern Colorado – in Florence, Cañon City, and the Steel City of Pueblo, summers were hot, hot, hot!



Dog Days of Summer — continued from page 16

The dog days of summer meant going into the fields, picking tomatoes and green beans, and canning them for winter meals. Of course, there were cantaloupe and watermelon – Rocky Ford had the best. They were never available in winter – until, that is, America started importing them from other countries. Things change.

**Winter holidays**  
**Snow – heating with wood – slick streets**  
**Give me winter days**

*From Tips & Chips, August 2024 - Bulletin of the Denver Gem & Mineral Guild*

*[RMFMS Editor’s Note: A “Haibun” combines a prose poem with haiku. The haiku portion has been centered in bold.]*

**September Fun Days:**

- 9/1-Pink Cadillac Day
- 9/2-World Beard Day
- 9/3-National Skyscraper Day
- 9/4-Eat an Extra Dessert Day
- 9/5-National Be Late for Something Day
- 9/6-National Read a Book Day
- 9/7-Buy a Book Day
- 9/8-Grandparents Day
- 9/9-Wonderful Weirdos Day
- 9/10-National Swap Ideas Day
- 9/11-Patriot Day (9/11 Remembrance)

- 9/12-National Chocolate Milkshake Day
- 9/13-National Peanut Day
- 9/14-National Doodle Day
- 9/15-World Engineers Day
- 9/16-Collect Rocks Day**
- 9/17-Constitution Day
- 9/18-Locate an Old Friend Day
- 9/19-International Talk Like a Pirate Day
- 9/20-National Pepperoni Pizza Day
- 9/21-Miniature Golf Day
- 9/22-Autumn Equinox
- 9/23-National Family Day
- 9/24-National Punctuation Day
- 9/25-National Comic Book Day

- 9/26-Johnny Appleseed Day
- 9/27-National Chocolate Milk Day
- 9/28-Ask a Stupid Question Day
- 9/29-National Coffee Day
- 9/30-National Chewing Gum Day
  
- National Waffle Week (9/1-7)
- Constitution Week (9/17-23)
- Classical Music Month
- Happy Cat Month
- National Little League Month
- National Courtesy Month
- Save Your Photos Month

From: <https://www.thepioneerwoman.com/holidays-celebrations/a44116843/September-holidays-observances/>



**Where in the RMFMS is Rocky?**

- Goldsby, OK?
- Ash/pumice/tuff formations, NM?
- Gloss Mountains, OK?

Photo at left by Richard Jaeger

Clipart at top by Phillip Martin.  
 CC BY NC ND 3.0.

Answers on page 20.



## The Mineral Industry of Eritrea in 2021, tables-only release

*from John Martin email*

A new publication has been posted to the USGS National Minerals Information Center website at the following link:

[The Mineral Industry of Eritrea in 2020\\_21, tables-only release](#)

07/15/2024 04:18 PM EDT

Category: Minerals Yearbook Volume III--Area Reports: International. (Published 7/15/2024)

Links to additional publications and mineral commodity specialist contact information are also available on the website. Publications are listed by publication type and time period for mineral commodities and alphabetically for countries listed on region pages.

This message is being sent to subscribers of the Mineral Commodities topic bulletins based on selections in the Questions tab in the [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). Subscribers may also unsubscribe at that link.

The USGS [National Minerals Information Center](#) provides statistics and information on the worldwide supply of, demand for, and flow of minerals and materials essential to the U.S. economy, the national security, and protection of the environment.

From *AFMS Newsletter, September 2024*

## AFMS Trophies Awarded at the 2024 AFMS/CFMS Show & Convention

Trophy 1, Open Division, A-1: Jeffrey Miller, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 1, Open Division, A-2, Jr Society: Bakersfield Junior Rockhounds

Trophy 1, Open Division, A-5, Jr Society: Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Pebble Pups

Trophy 1, Open Division, A-5, Society: Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 1, Open Division, A-5: Donna Albrecht, Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society

Trophy 1, Open Division, A-5, Jr: Valerie Churchill, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 1, Open Division, A-9: Ferdie Sanchez, Pasadena Lapidary Society

Trophy 5, Cabinet Minerals/Restricted, BC-10Y: Paul Otto, Roseville Rock Rollers

[Trophy 6, Miniature Minerals, BS-1, Jr: Hannah Brodhagen, Mineralogical Society of Arizona](#)

Trophy 13, Petrified Wood, G-10, Jr: Lucia Hetrick, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 15, Lapidary, C-3: John Cook, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 17, Cabochons I, CC-1: Steve Wick, Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club

Trophy 18, Cabochons II, CC-2: Ronald Beck, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

*continued on page 19*

AFMS Trophies 2024 — <i>continued from page 18</i>
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Trophy 21, Specialized Lapidary, CW-10: Jeffrey Miller, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 27, Educational I, EGS-5, Jr: Valerie Churchill, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 28, Educational II, EGC-5, Jr: Valerie Churchill, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 28, Educational II, EGC-4, Jr: Skyla Zuniga, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 28, Educational II, EGC-4: Mike Havstad, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 28, Educational II, EGC-5, Society: Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 30, Educational IV, EIC-1: Diane Cook, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 31, Specialized Lapidary II, CW-13: Ron Wise, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 32, Fossils, F-10: Jared McGowan, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

[Trophy 32, Fossils, F-2, Jr: Nathanael Brodhagen, Mineralogical Society of Arizona](#)

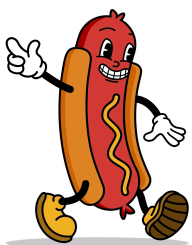
Trophy 35, Personally Collected Fossils, FC-1, Jr: Henry & Beecher Irie, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

Trophy 41, Carvings III, CA-5: Ron Wise, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

[Lillian Turner Junior Award: Hannah Brodhagen, Mineralogical Society of Arizona](#)

**Congratulations to everyone! Winners from RMFMS are highlighted in blue type.**

*From AFMS Newsletter, September 2024*




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## Hot Links – Editor’s Picks

*Linda Jaeger, Editor*

Below are some hot links you might find interesting. Just click on the link — it will open the web page in your browser.

• **Looking for RMFMS/OMGS Convention info & registration forms:**

<https://www.rmfmts.org/general-clean>

• **Partial skeleton of a previously unknown medium-sized theropod dinosaur found in Siberia:**

<https://phys.org/news/2024-05-partial-skeleton-previously-unknown-medium.html>

• **A Splashy Meteorite Was Forged in Multiple Collisions:**

<https://eos.org/articles/a-splashy-meteorite-was-forged-in-multiple-collisions>

• **Stunning trilobite fossils include soft tissues never seen before:**

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/stunning-trilobite-fossils-soft-tissues>

## Upcoming Shows and Events

9/12-15/2024	The Original Denver Gem & Mineral Show; Theme: Mineral Oddities	Westin Westminster	www.denvermineralshow.com; https://hardrocksummit.com
9/13-15/2024	Southern Utah Rock Club - Cedar City Gem & Jewelry Show	Cross Hollow Event Center I Diamond Z Arena, 11 N. Cross Hollow Road, Cedar City, UT	southernutahrockclub.org , www.facebook.com/groups/utahrocks
9/14/2024	Fall Rock Swap, sponsored by Oklahoma State Council of Mineralogical Societies	Hosted by Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society, 15048 S HWY 43, Just north of Siloam Springs, AR	DeLane Cox, 479.254.0894
9/20-22/2024	26th Annual Payson Rimstones Rock Club Gem & Mineral Show	Mazatzal Hotel & Casino on HWY 87, mile marker 251, Payson, AZ	
10/11-13/2024	Cache Rock & Gem Club Rock & Gem Show 2024	Cache County Fairgrounds Event Center, 450 S 500 W, Logan, UT	cacherockandgemclub.com
10/12-13/2024	50th Annual Huachuca Mineral, Gem, Jewelry and Fossil Show	The Mall at 2200 El Mercado Loop, Sierra Vista, AZ	Contact: Maudie Bailey, gmbailey@msn.com , 520.249.1541
10/25-26/2024	50th Annual Gem & Mineral Show	Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society, Bismarck Eagles Aerie 2237, 313 N 26th St, Bismarck, ND	Contact: Brenda Morgan, 701.202.8886 or Joe Martinetti 701.425.4450
10/25-27/2024	Oklahoma Mineral & Gem Society/RMFMS Convention	Modern Living Building, 608 Kiamichi Place, OKC Fairgrounds	omgs-minerals.org
11/30-12/1, 2024	Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Show	Hassayampa Elementary School, 251 South Tegner Street, Wickenburg, AZ	gemclub.info

If your club has show information that you would like to have listed in the *Rocky Mountain Federation News*, please email the information to the editor — <LJGRALG at aol.com>. As with many of the other email addresses in the newsletter, you will need to remove the chevrons, < >, and replace the spaces and the “at” with the correct symbol, @ .



### Where in the RMFMS is Rocky? — Answers

Linda Jaeger, Editor

We have clubs from 13 states in the RMFMS. Have you been there? Do you recognize the photos from the areas shown this month? **I would love for you to send a n awesome photo from your state with a caption and location to print!** RMFMS has amazing country and activities to fill your senses.

Here are the answers for the photos on pages 3, 12, and 17:

- page 3: Gloss Mountains, **Oklahoma**
- page 12: Ash/pumice/tuff, Tent Rocks, **New Mexico**
- page 17: Oil Derrick, **Goldsby, Oklahoma**



Look for more beautiful locations next month from our member states: Arizona, Arkansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wyoming.

Below are upcoming regional federation shows:

	California Federation	Eastern Federation	Midwest Federation	Northwest Federation	Rocky Mountain Federation	South Central Federation	Southeast Federation
2024	<b>AFMS/CFMS Ventura, CA May 24-26</b>	Sterling Hill Mine Ogdensburg, NJ June 8	East Peoria, IL August 24-25	Hermiston, OR May 10 - 12	Oklahoma City, OK Oct. 25 - 27	Mesquite, TX Nov. 23 - 24	Atlanta, GA Sept.27-29
2025		AFMS/EFMLS Hickory, NC March 27-30	Lincoln, NE April 5-6	Walla Walla, WA Sept. 12-14	Grand Junction, CO Sept. 19-21		
2026			St. Charles, IL May 23-24				

## Denver Gem & Mineral Show

September 12-15, 2024, at The Westin Westminster in Denver, Colorado.

### When?

Thursday through Saturday: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Theme: Mineral Oddities

Admission and parking **FREE**



Person pointing to displayed minerals.

### About

Since 1950, the Denver Gem & Mineral Show has been fascinating people with their collection of minerals across Colorado. The show not only displays stunning gems and minerals, but also offers a chance to explore many of the geology and paleontology organizations of the Southwest. Looking for something specific? Booths selling their collections can also be found there.

This year's theme is "Mineral Oddities." This includes minerals that have undergone *Pseudomorphosis*, a mineral compound that has undergone a chemical transformation without a physical change.



Come visit the many organizations hosted here!

They sell fossils as well as minerals!



## Southern Utah Rock Club Presents Cedar City Gem and Jewelry Show



September 13, 14, 15, 2024

Cross Hollow Event Center | Diamond Z Arena  
11 N. Cross Hollow Road, Cedar City, Utah

### FREE ADMISSION

FRIDAY: 10 am - 7 pm

SATURDAY: 10 am - 7 pm

SUNDAY: 10 am - 4 pm



southernutahrockclub.org  
www.facebook.com/groups/utahrocks

SPONSORED BY



Rocks Minerals • Fossils  
Jewelry • Beads  
Junior Club Black Light Display



# FALL ROCK SWAP

**Saturday, September 14, 10 til 4**

**At the Clubhouse at 15048 S. HWY 43  
Just north of Siloam Springs, AR**

**Free Admission, Free Parking**

There will be dealers with rough rocks, cut rocks, polished rocks, sparkly rocks. Fossils, minerals and gemstones are also possibilities. There will be jewelry from rocks, home décor from rocks, and dealers who will just love to talk about rocks.

The OSCMS will sponsor a **live auction** on **Saturday at 11:30 am**. Everyone is welcome and can bid. Proceeds from this auction goes to support the **OSCMS Scholarship Fund**, giving a boost to a deserving Junior or Senior student at an Oklahoma higher education school with an earth sciences major. All donations for the Auction are most welcome

NWAGMS will have their new Gem Flume at the Fall Swap !!!!

**NEW! Vendors** will set up on the **EAST SIDE** of the Clubhouse off Lawlis Road. **Parking** will be on the **WEST SIDE** of the Clubhouse off Hwy 43. Follow the signs.

Hosted by the Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society, and co-sponsored by the Oklahoma State Council of Mineralogical Societies.

For more information, contact DeLane Cox, 479-254-0894

26<sup>TH</sup> Annual Payson Rimstones Rock Club  
**GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2024  
FRI 1-6 SAT 9-5 SUN 10-4  
MAZATZAL HOTEL & CASINO

<p><b>Vendors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rocks &amp; Slabs</li> <li>Polished Rocks</li> <li>Fossils</li> <li>Jewelry &amp; Art</li> <li>Raffle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fun &amp; Education</li> <li>Kids Area</li> <li>Fluorescents</li> <li>Silent Auction</li> <li>Door Prizes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Admission:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adults \$3 Friday</li> <li>\$5 Sat-Sun</li> <li>Kids under 13 Free</li> </ul>
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## OCTOBER ROCK & GEM SHOW 2024

ROCKS, MINERALS, FOSSILS, JEWELRY, DISPLAYS,  
EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS, SUPPLIES, VENDORS,  
DOOR PRIZES, CONCESSIONS

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES:  
WHEEL OF FORTUNE, MYSTERY BAGS,  
AND GEM DIG

ADULTS \$3, FAMILY \$10, 12 AND UNDER FREE

**OCTOBER 11TH, 12TH AND 13TH**  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 10 AM TO 6 PM  
SUNDAY 10 AM TO 5 PM

CACHE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS EVENT CENTER  
450 S 500 W, LOGAN, UTAH





CACHE ROCK AND GEM CLUB GROUP  
CACHEROCKANDGEMCLUB.COM






**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HUACHUCA MINERAL, GEM,  
JEWELRY and FOSSIL SHOW**  
12th AND 13th, OCTOBER 2024

**THE MALL AT 2200 EL MERCADO LOOP, SIERRA VISTA, AZ**  
For Information; Contact Maudie Bailey,  
[gmbailey@msn.com](mailto:gmbailey@msn.com), 520 249-1541



## Payson Rimstones Annual Gem & Mineral Show 2024

The Payson Rimstones Rock Club from Payson AZ will be having their 26th Annual Gem & Mineral Show **September 20<sup>th</sup>-through 22** at the Mazatzal Hotel & Casino Event Center, on HWY 87 at mile marker 251, Payson AZ on the Tonto Apache Reservation.

**Admission** (adults): Fri-\$3, Sat-\$5, Sun-\$5

Under 13 years-free

**Hours:** 1-6pm Fri, 9a-5p Sat, 10a-4p Sun

Gems, minerals, fossils, opals, jewelry, slabs, cabs, geodes, rough material, plus much more will be available from our vendors. The club sponsors an education center for the children and adults with a geologist to answer questions, a Spinning Wheel (where everyone wins a rock!), a magnificent fluorescent mineral display, a free Treasure Hunt for a rock collection, sandstone/rock painting, and more. A silent auction area for those people interested in obtaining beautiful minerals and rocks is available too!

All our proceeds go toward supporting STEM scholarships for graduating Payson High School students and students who are residents of Northern Gila County attending a college of their choice, as well as books and educational materials for the local elementary schools and public libraries.

The Payson Rimstones Rock Club, INC is a 501 c (3) non-profit gem & mineral club setting aside funding for the higher and/or better education of our local students.

**2024 Annual Mineral and Gem Show**  
**Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society**  
*Hosts the*  
**Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention**

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**Modern Living Building**  
**OKC State Fair Park**  
**608 Kiamichi Place**  
**Oklahoma City, OK 73107**

**October 25th, 9-6**  
**October 26th, 9-6**  
**October 27th, 10-5**

**Daily Admission \$8**  
 Children under 12 free

**Show Features:**  
 Exhibits, Gem Stones, Fossils,  
 Earth Science Education,  
 Tools, Rough Rock, Crystals,  
 Fluorescent Room, Artisan Jewelry  
 and Children's Activities

Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society  
 omgs-minerals.org  
 See us on Facebook




**Barite Rose Rock**  
**Oklahoma State Rock**



Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society  
 & Rocky Mountain Federation Conference  
 Oklahoma Barite Rose Rock Hunt



Presently Scheduled:  
 October 25, 2024  
 9:00 am – 1:00 pm  
 Lake Stanly Draper  
 Oklahoma City, OK

Potentially a 2 mile round trip walk. Bring a rock hammer, collecting bucket, comfortable shoes and drinking water. Keep in mind that barite gets heavy the more you collect! If the lake level is low, another site near the road may be available.

Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society & Rocky Mountain Federation Conference  
 Sam Noble Museum in Norman, OK  
 Private Behind-The-Scenes-Tour of the Vertebrate Paleontology Museum.




Curator Dr. Jacqueline Lungmus will lead the group through the research and storage rooms above the museum.

Presently Scheduled:  
 October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
 10 am to 12:00 pm

**Oklahoma City Geological Society & Rocky Mountain Federation Conference**

General Material Gravel Pit  
 Oklahoma City, OK  
 Presently Scheduled:  
 October 27, 2024  
 9:00 am to 12:00 pm



Find bison bones, Alibates Flint, aragonite, petrified wood and sometimes you will get lucky and find a mastodon tooth!



# 50TH ANNUAL GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

**CENTRAL DAKOTA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**

Bismarck Eagles Aerie 2237  
313 N 26th St, Bismarck, ND

Friday, October 25, 10-6 and Saturday, October 26, 10-5

**GRAND DOOR PRIZES FRIDAY AND SATURDAY!**



- VENDORS
- DISPLAYS
- KIDS ACTIVITY TABLE
- GRAB BAGS
- ROCK & MINERAL IDENTIFICATION
- FOSSILS
- EDUCATIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS
- FLUORESCENT DISPLAY

**Special guest speaker** *Dr. Allan Ashworth*



Ashworth's distinguished career has focused on paleoecology, stratigraphy and sedimentology, with a specialization in insects and how they respond to climate change. In his research, he discovered the only known fly and beetle fossils on Antarctica.

From <https://www.ndsu.edu/news/view/detail/55473>

Contact Show Co-Chairpersons  
Brenda Morgan (701) 202-8886  
Joe Martinetti (701) 425-4450



[www.ndrockclub.org](http://www.ndrockclub.org)

*Let's Go See a Show!*



image-from-rawpixel-id-10191804-jpeg.jpg. Public Domain.

**Reminder:**

Advertise your Show in as many Free locations as possible!

- Local newspapers
- Current events sections!
- Local TV stations
- Community Calendars
- Other local shows

**Advertise in the *Rock & Gem Magazine!***

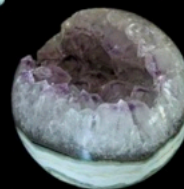
Send the information in early so it's published in the magazine as well as online:

[www.rockngem.com/showdate-submissions/](http://www.rockngem.com/showdate-submissions/)

Above from CFMS Newsletter, April 2024

## Wickenburg Gem and Mineral Show Nov 30 Dec 1, 2024

**Free Admission**  
[gemclub.info](http://gemclub.info)



**Jewelry**  
**Fossils**  
**Minerals**

**Over 40 Vendors**   **Best Rock Contest**   **Raffle**  
**Door Prizes**   **Kid's Area**   **Silent Auction**

**Hassayampa Elementary School**  
251 South Tegner Street Wickenburg, AZ  
9am - 5pm Saturday • 10am - 4pm Sunday



## RMFMS Official Convention Letter

Liz Thomas, RMFMS Secretary

*This letter was sent to all RMFMS clubs on Friday, April 19, 2024:*

A **credentials** form is for the person or persons representing the club in good standing to vote at the convention. Each club can have 2 votes either by a member of the club or by proxy for the club by someone they have chosen to vote for them.

A **Proxy** is when a Society will lack one or both votes because of the absence of Delegates or Alternates in the House of Delegates meeting, provided that the Proxy is presented to the Credentials Committee prior to the meeting so that the Committee may ascertain its validity, i.e., signed by an Executive Officer of the Society stating that they do not have a member who can attend the Delegates Meeting, and the Society wishes to have this person vote for them.

I will send out as soon as I know what we will be voting on at the meeting, but there might be things brought up at the meeting that can be voted on at that time, so prior notification cannot happen.

Rocky Mountain Federation Clubs,

The attached file is the registration and information for the Rocky Mountain Federation Convention being held in Oklahoma City, Ok. October 25, 26 and 27, 2024 [[see this information on pages following this one](#)]. It has all the forms that need to be filled out and sent in. It has the hotel link that you can go in and book your room and pay upon arrival. Please take note of the dates, if you need to add a day to the end or the beginning, just change the dates and it will let you do that for the same cost on the room. Also if you have 2 or more in the room, anyone after the first person will be charged 10.00 a day for breakfast, so you might want to call to advise them while booking you only need breakfast for whom ever. **If you are calling to**

**reserve, make sure you say you are with the Rocky Mountain Federation Convention so they will get you a discount on the room. Please call the Central Reservations number with them 833-798-4195.**

Look for the dates that all your paperwork need to be turned in. We want to make sure you do not miss a date of cut off. **I will send this out again in the first week of October** to make sure you get it and are able to share with all your members of your club.

I want to remind you that we would like to see 2 delegates from each club. This allows your club to be represented and vote on anything that comes up. You will get an email telling you what we will be voting on but there may be a few things from the floor that will need to be addressed as well. And as always, we vote on the board and state directors during this meeting. Later I will send out an email reminding you that we would like to have your honorees that have passed on from this earth that belonged to your club. We honor them during the meetings. We will want the list that includes those who passed during 2023 and up to present. You will need to send those to me or to your state director.

It is a great show, many dealers, over the top kids zone, silent auction, demonstrations and show cases. There are also some really great field trips planned during this time. I know you will want to come participate in these. So, please make sure you bring this up to your club members and pass on this email to anyone that would like to attend.

~Liz Thomas, RMFMS Secretary,  
[mygemsrock@gmail.com](mailto:mygemsrock@gmail.com)

**Additional information on following pages**

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## 2024 Executive Committee – composed of the Officers & the State Directors

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### Officers:

President	Bob Regner	<Rnregner at aol.com>
Vice President	Jim Gray	<jimgray at wyoming.com>
Secretary	Liz Thomas	<mygemsrock at gmail.com>
Treasurer	Gene Maggard	<gandpmaggard at gmail.com>
Historian	Cinda Kunkler	<cindakunkler at att.com>
Past President		
Past President	Richard Jaeger	<RjgrSci at aol.com>

### State Directors:

AZ/NV	Steve Kaminski	<scsckimin at gmail.com>
CO	Kathy Honda	<Kathrine.honda at ucden.edu>
KS	Brad Davenport	<brad7254 at gmail.com>
ND	Steve Fasching	<steve.fasching at gmail.com>
NM/TX		
OK/AR	Roberta Wagle	<waglemom at gmail.com>
SD/NE	Lori Loomis	<sdnestatedirector at gmail.com>
UT	Tracy Jensen	<tracyjensen0515 at gmail.com>
WY	Leane Gray	<lgray at wyoming.com>

**Please note:** All email addresses are enclosed in chevrons, < >, and the @ symbol has been replaced by the word "at" with a space before and after the word. This is to prevent bots from picking up our email addresses. You will need to remove the chevrons and replace the word "at" and the two spaces with the @ symbol to have the correct email.

## 2024 Committee Chairs

ACROY (AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year)	Chris Whitney-Smith	<ask.chrisws at yahoo.com>
All American Club	Roberta Wagle	<waglemom at gmail.com>
BEAC (Bulletin Editors Advisory Committee) & Bulletin Editors Contest	Linda Jaeger	<LJGRALG at aol.com>
Boundaries	DeLane Cox	<delanec3 at earthlink.net>
Convention Advisor	Liz Thomas	<mygemsrock at gmail.com>
Credentials	Roberta Wagle	<waglemom at yahoo.com>
Directory	Liz Thomas	<mygemsrock at gmail.com>
Editor of Newsletter	Linda Jaeger	<LJGRALG at aol.com>
Finance	Wayne Cox	<WayneC3 at earthlink.net>
Fluorescent Tech	Pete Modreski	<pmodreski at aol.com>
Fossils Tech	Patrick Rowe	<rowe_patrick at gmail.com>
Gold Pan Award	Richard Jaeger	<RjgrSci at aol.com>
Insurance	Gene Maggard	<gandpmaggard at gmail.com>
International Relations	Mike Nelson	<csrockguy at yahoo.com>
Juniors Program	Michelle Cauley	<michelle.cauley at dakotacollege.edu>
Lapidary Tech	vacant	
Long Range Planning	Liz Thomas	<mygemsrock at gmail.com>
Long Range Planning	Richard Jaeger	<RjgrSci at aol.com>
Long Range Planning	Judy Beck	<Lkbeckfam at gmail.com>
Mineralogical Tech	vacant	
Name Badges	Richard Jaeger	<RjgrSci at aol.com>
New Program Contest	Gene Maggard	<gandpmaggard at gmail.com>
Nominating Committee	Bob Regner	<Rnregner at aol.com>
Nominating Committee	Liz Thomas	<mygemsrock at gmail.com>
Nominating Committee	Richard Jaeger	<RjgrSci at aol.com>

*continued on next page*

## 2024 Committee Chairs – *continued*

Parliamentarian	Gene Maggard	<gandpmaggard at gmail.com>
PLAC - AZ	Dr. Alex Schauss	<Aschauss at arizona.edu>
PLAC - CO/NE/ND	Mike Nelson	<csrockguy at yahoo.com>
PLAC - KS	Jared Kyner	
PLAC - NM/TX	vacant	
PLAC - OK/AR	Stan Nowak	<snowak48 at yahoo.com>
PLAC - SD	Brandon Nelson	<nelson.bc80 at gmail.com>
PLAC - UT/NV	Jack Johnson	<j4x4jj at comcast.net>
PLAC - WY	Richard Gerow	<rgwizzard at wyoming.com>
President's Hat	all past presidents	
Program Library	Gene & Peggy Maggard	<gandpmaggard at gmail.com>
Public Relations	Brian Crocker	<brianrocktrips at gmail.com>
Resolutions		
Ribbons	Peggy Sue Moore	<moorepeggysue at gmail.com>
Safety	Jodi Brewster	<rmfmssafety2024@gmail.com>
Scholarship Committee	Richard Jaeger	<RjgrSci at aol.com>
Stationery/Trophies	Bennie Thomas	
Supplies	Roberta Wagle	<waglemom at gmail.com>
Uniform Rules	Lee Whitebay	<lwhiteba at gmail.com>
Uniform Rules	Leon Reeder	<leonreeder47 at yahoo.com>
Uniform Rules	Les Presmyk	<presmyk at cox.net>
Webmaster	Dale Bright	<webmaster at rmfms.org>
Website Contest	Jennifer Gerring	<jgerring at gmail.com>

**Please note:** All email addresses are enclosed in chevrons, < >, and the @ symbol has been replaced by the word "at" with a space before and after the word. This is to prevent bots from picking up our email addresses. You will need to remove the chevrons and replace the word "at" and the two spaces with the @ symbol to have the correct email.



## RMFMS Purpose & Policies – Excerpts from 2023 Directory (Revised)

- To bring about a closer association of the Earth Science Groups in the Rocky Mountain region.
- To increase and disseminate knowledge about minerals and other geologic materials.
- To encourage mineral study, collecting, and fashioning as a HOBBY.
- To sponsor local organizations interested in similar purposes.
- To encourage all clubs to publish bulletins and newsletters.
- To continue building up and promoting the use of the Federation Library of slide programs, videos, CDs, and DVDs to each member club.
- To distribute information and suggestions on the preparation and arrangement of specimens and materials for exhibit and display.
- To provide information and assistance to clubs holding Gem and Mineral Shows.
- To encourage clubs to support the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Scholarship Foundation Fund.

### AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind—fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found. I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material—matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes, which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

- To promote the concept that all members of all clubs are members of the RMFMS and the AFMS, and to encourage individual members and clubs to take responsibility for asking questions or making known that help is needed. To encourage more contacts between those working at the Federation level, between clubs, and between club members.
- To keep the members informed of problems and activities regarding the use of Public Lands.
- To continue to support Federation-sponsored programs.

The Rocky Mountain Federation is composed of a membership of approximately 14,000 members in the following states: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming.

The work of the Federation is directed by the Executive Committee, composed of: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, State Directors, and the two immediate Past-Presidents.

**Reminder — next RMF Newsletter is the October 2024 issue. Deadline for articles is September 15, 2024.**

- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public image of rockhounds everywhere.

