



Rock Chips

Vol 47 No 10

The Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

October 2015

DGMS serves to share with the community its knowledge of earth sciences and the lapidary arts

President's Message

I want to thank the Bylaws committee: Marilyn, Carolyn, Cindy and Ed, for their hard work. Thanks to Don, Alan, Dave, Carol, Forrest, Ed, Scott, Bob, Russell, Ken, and Ben for putting up partition for the fair on Sept. 19 and Ben, Ed, Marilyn and Scott for helping set up the club booth for the fair on Oct. 5.

Ben and I spent a week in Sept. traveling from here to Las Vegas, where we spent our 34th anniversary. We spent a couple days in Cottonwood, AZ near Sedona, which is peaceful this time of year. Four days in Vegas, went to a show and dinner and relaxed. We were there 11 years ago and could not believe the changes. Speaking of changes; this club started 50 years ago with just a handful of people who loved rocks. These people had a vision and were willing to change to move the club forward. In 50 years nothing stays the same, especially people. Change is inevitable and to keep any organization strong there needs to be plans for change, like good bylaws and policies. There have been some changes to the policies in the shop. Hopefully for the better. We have a mission statement (*See in the bottom of the text box above, Editor*). If we want this club to continue to exist for the next 50 years, some things have to change. The board has attended a couple of workshops to learn what their responsibilities are, to better understand the structure and purpose of committees, leadership and conflict management. We hope to implement much of what we learned, especially getting policies and procedures in place to deal with situations before a crisis occurs. We hope the next board will continue with what has been started. By the time you get this, you should have received the draft of the bylaws. You will notice they are going to be simplified, as we are trying to take out policies and they will be put into a policy manual. This is so we can change a policy without having to change the bylaws.

An election is coming up, and just about all positions are going to have to be voted on. If you want to make

things happen you need to step up and serve as an officer or board member. By the time the election comes around, we should have job descriptions and guidelines for the officers and board members.

The next general meeting will be Saturday, Oct. 31 at 2 p.m. We will vote on the bylaws at that time and have election nominations. The next board meeting will be Nov. 4 at 3:30 p.m.

One last thing I would like to ask is, if you have an email address but receive your Chips by mail, would you give us your email address. This is so you can be notified or reminded of happenings between meetings. Barb

FIELD TRIP - Jornada Del Muerto

There were eight people that went on the trip to the Space Port on Oct. 3. It was a beautiful day for a field trip. Six of us left the club parking lot at 8:05 a.m. and headed for Hatch to meet up with Marco at the Quik Pic. There we picked one other member. As we started out Russell noticed Ben had a low tire, so he had to go back to put air in his tire. Thank goodness we hadn't gotten very far. Once we got going again we went south on I-25 to the Upham exit and traveled the El Camino Real to the New Mexico Space Port. The road was pretty rough most of the way. We arrived at the site about 11am. Right off the bat Wayne Myers found a really nice piece of petrified wood. Of course we all tried to find something better. Some of us found small pieces of carnelian, petrified wood, rhyolite and fossils. But Wayne seems to have found the best piece. See it on the website. About 2 pm. it started to spit rain and we decided to head for home. Everyone had a good time just getting out and roaming around the desert. We all came back the long way through T or C and met up with some heavy rain. All and all it was a great day.

Country Christmas Craft Show

The show will be held on Sat., Nov. 14, 10 am.- 5 pm. and Sun., Nov. 15 from 12 am.- 5 pm. at the clubhouse, inside and outside. <continued>

Setup will be Fri., Nov. 13 from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. and Sat., Nov. 14 from 7 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. There is going to be a raffle and door prizes, baked goods and food. See our website thedgms.com for more information. We need people to bake pies, cakes and cookies for the bake sale. Co-ordinate with Barb Staff or Carol Duncan if wanting to bake in the clubhouse. Signup sheets will be on the table at the Roundup meeting and general meeting.

ROUNDUP

First meeting for the Roundup 2016 will be Sat. Oct. 17 at 1:00 p.m. We are looking for an assistant chair to learn the ropes. Start thinking about what station you want to work at. Carol

EVENT LISTING

Thursday, Oct. 15 ...**Deadline for comments to bylaws**

Saturday, Oct. 17 ...Roundup Meeting 1:00 pm.

Saturday, Oct. 31 ...General Meeting 2:00 pm.
Vote on by-laws, election nominations and silent auction.

Wednesday, Nov. 4 ...Board Meeting 3:30 pm.

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 13 & 14 ...Setup for Craft Fair

Sat. & Sun., Nov. 14 & 15 ...Country Christmas Craft Fair

----- Forwarded message -----

From: David Coffey

Date: Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 8:16 AM

Subject: month shop update

To: "The DGMS Inc." <thedgms@gmail.com>

Cleanup on the saws and equipment is coming along. Thanks for the help from Marvin, Ben, Allan, Russel and Scott. We still have a few more saws to clean out and work on the polishers and grinders to complete. The Shop will continue to be Open on Saturday mornings from 9 AM to 12 PM. I can only do so much by myself so we still need volunteers to be shop

stewards if we are going to continue to have the shop open and for other days. I am starting to learn the members and look forward to meeting more of you!

Dave

DGMS BOARD MEETING

Date: 9/30/2015

Present: Barbara Staff, Ken Sholar, Benjamin Staff, Scott Ehlers, Marilyn Page, Cindy Jordan, and John Edwards

Members present: Carolyn Abby, Ed Edwards

Meeting was called to order by Barbara Staff, President at 3:40 p.m.

Motion to approve Sept. 2 minutes as printed was moved by Ken and seconded. Approved

Secretary's Report - Nothing.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer's report was given and ask for approval of monthly bills, bill for website \$143.40 and domain name \$15. Motion made by Ken and seconded. Approved.

Vice President's Report: Ken gave a report on grounds cleanup.

President's Report: Two things were brought up that were not in the shop policies that had been in the policies previously and weren't listed.

- Any purchases or selling of equipment must be submitted to the board for approval.
- No Equipment is to be removed from the shop except for the use at the Rockhound Roundup or authorized exhibits and then only when authorized by DGMS President, Board of Directors or Shop Chairman.

Committee Reports

Claims: Paul is giving up doing paperwork as of the end of the year. It was brought up that the claims committee is not listed as a standing committee. It was agreed it should be.

Field Trips: A discussion on the field trip chair.

Shop: It was brought up that the motor for 24" needs repaired or replaced and will cost approx. \$200 for a new one. Ben will check with Turner in Las Cruces for repair.

Roundup: nothing

Unfinished Business: A revision of the mission statement was made.

"The Deming Gem & Mineral Society serves to share with the community its knowledge of earth sciences and the lapidary arts."

<continued>

New Business: Supplies needed are receipt books for membership and shop \$8.79 ea, 2 calculators for Roundup, which were supposed to have been purchased last year, \$35 - \$45 ea. There was a discussion on the laser printer in the office we do not use.

John made a comment, that St. Clair Winery was very appreciative of the rock donated for their silent auction.

Actions Approved

Motion made by Marilyn and seconded to approve replacing or repairing motor for 24" saw up to \$200.

Motion made by John and seconded to purchase office supplies and calculators up to \$150.

Motion made by Ken and seconded to sell the laser printer in the office.

Closure

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Submitted from recorded minutes by Barbara Staff, President

DGMS General Meeting

9/26/2015

Meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m. by President Barbara Staff, who lead the Pledge of Allegiance

Sixteen members were present.

Two returning members were welcomed, Russell Scoggin and Russ Schumacher

Motion to approve August meeting as printed in the chips was made by John and seconded. Approved.

A Letter from the Library was read thanking us for our donation.

Treasurer gave an overall financial report. Motion to approve made by Maria and seconded. Approved.

Vice President gave a report on the cleanup of the grounds and rocks being sawed for Roundup.

President announced our new mission statement: *"The Deming Gem & Mineral Society serves to share its knowledge of earth sciences and the lapidary arts".*

Committee Reports

Bulletin: There was a discussion on what to put in the Chips. Needs submission from the members.

Field Trips: Saturday, Oct 3. Leave parking lot at 8 am.

Claims: Paul Browning is giving up doing paperwork as of December 31.

Sunshine: Ernie Bent had been in the hospital and Gracie Bent is not doing well. Shirley Krasinski

would like to hear from members. Delana Lindenmuth is recovering from broken legs.

Country Christmas: Carol gave a report on progress of our craft show in November. Signup sheets will be put out for help needed.

Roundup: First meeting Saturday, Oct. 17 at 1:00 pm.

Fair: Partitions are up. Thank you to Ben & Barb Staff, Carol & Forrest Duncan, Ken Sholar, Dave, Coffey, Alan Chupa, Don Bennett, Ed Edwards, Scott Ehlers, Russell Scoggin, and Bob Querin.

Sign-up sheets for the fair gates, booth and display cases are on the table. Need lots of help. Ed Edwards is in charge of the gates and Barb Staff is in charge of the booth.

New Business: John Edwards ask about the club donating something to the St. Clair Wine Fest Silent Auction for the Cancer Society. Members present agreed to give a rock specimen from the donation we got from the Stanley's.

Cindy Jordan had made a suggestion of an open house for the club 50th anniversary in January. Sally Allen from Friends of Rockhound has ask about us joining them for their 50th which is at the same time. This will be looked into further.

Door Prizes

50/50 - Bob Querin

Door Price- Bob Querin

Badge - Carolyn Abbey

Motion made by Cindy and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Submitted from recorded minutes by Barbara Staff, President.

Reminder to Local Membership

Please remember to keep and bring in all of your Peppers Grocery Receipts!

SUNSHINE

A Get well card was sent to Ernie Bent who had been in the hospital. A thinking of you card was sent to Gracie Bent. A get well card was sent to Delana Lindenmuth, who is recovering from broken legs. Shirley Krasinski would like to hear from members. If you know someone that needs a little sunshine contact Barbara Hamilton at 575-544-8643.

Jornada Del Muerto, El Camino Real

notes after the field trip.

If you Google map "Spaceport New Mexico" you will see the area we were in and a close examination will show we were close to the "Ghost Town" of Aleman, New Mexico. Here is a little history of that town.

"Do you see that house and windmill off to the east?" said an old-time New Mexican to a New York tourist. The two were occupying the same seat in the Atchison train rolling southward over the Jornada del Muerto and had struck up a friendly acquaintance together. "That is Martin's well. The locals called it Aleman, the word for German in their tongue. Martin was a German who came to New Mexico in early days when the Jornada had the worst name of any traveled region in the territory, and deserved it."

Found in The Gazette Appeal, Marion County, Alabama, Sept 3, 1897

John Martin, a pioneer of New Mexico of 1861, now deceased, was actually born in Caledonia, New York in 1829. At the age of fifteen he ran away from home and joined the Army as a drummer boy. After the war he rounded the Cape Horn, landing in San Francisco about the year 1849. There he remained till the call for volunteers, when he was elected first lieutenant, of Company D, First California Volunteer Infantry. The regiment marched from San Francisco to the Rio Grande, and as the captain of the company deserted at Ft. Yuma, Lt. Martin assumed command and brought the troops through. For some time he was stationed at Jornada, and was engaged in escorting mail until mustered out in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Captain Martin was married in Las Cruces, to Ester Catherine Martin Wadsworth in 1865. He then went to Fort Seldon, a mile below the river crossing of the Rio Grande, where he built and conducted a ferry-boat, while his wife was in charge of the officers mess. In 1867 he went to what now is known as Aleman, on "La Jornada Del Muerto," to prospect for water. He dug to a depth of one hundred and sixty-four feet. He struck water at eighty three feet, at a cost of twelve dollars a foot. He then established a horse and cattle ranch and stage stand, and his place was known as the Aleman ranch, or Jack Martin's well. It was also a government forage agency. He worked the ranch there until 1875, when he went to Santa Fe, where he remained until his death. In Santa Fe he was the

proprietor of the old Exchange Hotel, known then as the Fonda.

About 1874, Adolf Lee built a place at Point of Rocks, hauling water from the river, and about 1877 Henry Toussaint built a place at Round Mountain.

For years, however, Captain Martin's place was the only point for a stretch of ninety miles where water could be found. Captain Martin was a typical pioneer resident of New Mexico, living in the Territory during the early staging days, when mammoth tracts of land were held by ranchers on the open range. He became well known to the visitors to the Territory, and to business men throughout this part of the country, and he aided in shaping the early historic annals of the Territory.

Now for the rest of the story...

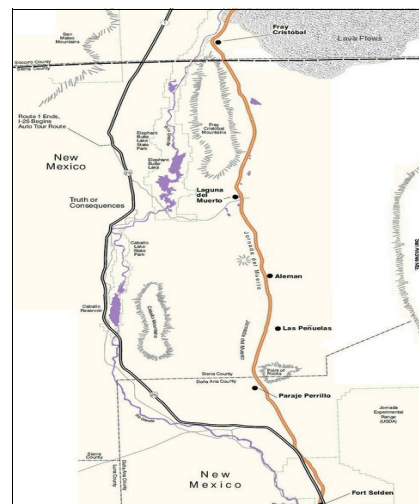
Bernardo Gruber, a trader at Quarai Pueblo in New Mexico, was called El Aleman (the German) by his friends. In 1666, during midnight mass, Gruber bragged to some friends about a spell he had learned. Word got back to the Inquisition's agent at Santa Fe, and he was arrested for witchcraft. After several years in a makeshift cell at an *estancia* near present-day Albuquerque, Gruber made a daring escape and fled southward on the Camino Real with his Apache servant, Atanasio. They headed through Lava Gate and across the desert. After a harrowing ride, Gruber, parched and exhausted, halted at a place called Las Penuelas and sent Atanasio ahead for water. The servant rode like the wind, filled up a gourd, and flew back -- only to break the gourd in his haste. He returned to the water and, with nothing else to carry it with, soaked a saddle blanket. When he got back to where he had left El Aleman, the man had taken a horse and disappeared.

Travelers across the desert found Gruber's horse tied to a bush, dead. Nearby was a mass of human hair, a skull, and a few gnawed bones. They gathered the pathetic remains for burial and erected a cross, which stood for many years, becoming a well-known landmark known as La Cruz del Aleman, the Cross of the German, or Aleman, New Mexico.

Editor



View of the Jornada from near Engle New Mexico



*View of Point of Rocks
Easily spotted Landmark!*



*Some of the different types of Petrified Wood
that can be found in this area!*



THE DEMING GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. BOX 1459, DEMING, N.M. 88031-459

FOUNDED - JANUARY 1965

DUES ARE DUE & PAYABLE ON DECEMBER 1st EACH YEAR

Membership Dues: \$15.00 per person for Adult Members

Junior Memberships: \$2.00 per person (up to 18 years of age) or \$25.00 per family

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

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

OFFICERS

President	Barbara Staff	724-712-6353
Vice President	Ken Sholar	575-639-1135
Secretary	???	
Treasurer	Benjamin Staff.....	724-256-2674
Bulletin Editor	Scott Ehlers	575-544-2826
Roundup Chair	Marilyn Page	575-544-9019
1 Yr. Director	John Edwards.....	863-221-8358
2 Yr. Director	Cindy Jordan	575-956-5144

CHAIRPERSONS

Field Trips Chair.....	Marco Franco.....	575-620-1301
Shop	Dave Coffey.....	928-302-8401
Claims	Paul Browning	575-644-6540
Custodian	Cindy Jordan	575-694-3598
Librarian	Sylvia Golden	505-717-7157
Membership.....	Monika Anderson	575-544-4655
Webmaster.....	Scott Ehlers.....	575-544-2826
Sunshine	Barbara Hamilton	575-544-8643
Photographer	All Club Members	
Refreshments	All Club members	
Reporters	All Club Members	
Historian		
Parliamentarian		
Social Chairperson .		
Publicity	Carol Duncan	575-956-5144

Past President

Pro-Tem.....Carol Duncan

...OFFICIAL SHOW OF THE SOCIETY

Held every year on the second weekend (Thursday through Sunday) in March at the SW New Mexico Fairgrounds.

“ROCK CHIPS” is the official bulletin of the Society

Email: thedgms@gmail.com

OFFICIAL WEB SITE www.thedgms.com

Letters to the Editor

Any suggestions, ideas, criticisms?

Contact the DGMS Newsletter Editor

Scott Ehlers

at

DGMS-NEWS-EDITOR@Hughes.net

THE DEMING GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY, INC. an incorporated, non-profit organization shall be dedicated to the knowledge, advancement and enjoyment of the earth sciences and associated subjects. The Society's primary purpose is the dissemination and furtherance of knowledge of mineralogy, gem cutting and geology, and to stimulate interest in the development of these studies. It is composed of individuals who have chosen gems and the aforementioned studies as a major interest in their lives.