

# The Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

# ROCK CHIPS

Monthly Bulletin • Volume 61 • April 2026



## THE DEMING GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

### President's Update

Hello Rockhounds,

I would like to thank everyone for electing me as your President for another year.

I am looking forward to a harmonious year and working for the betterment of the DGMS>

Wishing all the Snow Birds a safe journey home and will be looking forward to seeing you again in the fall. Just a reminder we will be setting up for The Heritage Days at the fair grounds on May 15th Thru May 17th.

We will have a table to make and demonstrate how to work with beads, The spinning wheel, Tee Shirts, membership, and an educational table. More information about it later. We will, of course, need help from many of you for this event.

I will be looking forward to seeing everyone on Saturday April 25th at 1PM for the general meeting. I

still need one or two to bring refreshments to the meeting,

Kaye - President

### Vice President's Update

Some of our responsibilities as DGMS club members are to help promote the club, encourage new people to get interested in the lapidary arts, and give assistance to those who request it.

On Monday April 6th, the DGMS was honored to welcome a group of visiting rockhounds from the Tulip City Rock and Gem club (<https://www.tulipcity.org/>). Fellow rock lovers travelled from Michigan to hunt the great southwest in search of mineral treasures. High on their list of sights to visit included the DGMS Big Diggings claim.

After a brief meet and greet at the clubhouse, field trip coordinator Jim Paddock, along with Darlene and I led the group to several sites along the Hermanas road area. Rain started moving in so we ended the day a little early, finding limb casts with some interesting red and black centers at a sight off Flying W rd. On Tuesday the group went to Round Mountain for chalcedony, and on Wednesday we were exploring several sights in and around the Hatch area.

In the end, lots of nice material was collected, the beautiful scenery of New Mexico was enjoyed, new friends were made, connections to other gem and mineral clubs were made, a good time was had by all, and several of the traveling group joined the DGMS. I believe they will visit again soon, and bring some friends we haven't met with them.

Until next time, Keep Rockin!

Dave

# APRIL Birthdays!

- ◆ Russel Bradley
- ◆ Galen Hayes
- ◆ Kevin Schicticdanz
- ◆ Asher Lichtig
- ◆ Luke Jagow
- ◆ Diana Plummer
- ◆ Nancy Banks
- ◆ James Schneider
- ◆ Justin Barnes
- ◆ Al Spencer
- ◆ Dan Brookshire
- ◆ Tracey Swinford
- ◆ Fred Curtis
- ◆ Andy Taylor
- ◆ Clair Donnataria
- ◆ Bob Teuscher
- ◆ Albert Fairweather
- ◆ Pat Turner
- ◆ Paul Granroos
- ◆ Alleson Wingo

CELEBRATING OUR GEM OF A COMMUNITY!

# APRIL Anniversaries!

- ◆ Steve & Lisa Barnhill
- ◆ Steve & Rose Fowers
- ◆ Marco & Felicia Franco
- ◆ Ronald & Carol Wolfe
- ◆ Tony & Dolores Sibert
- ◆ Cary & Barb Voss

CELEBRATING THE LASTING BEAUTY OF CONNECTION

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**GENERAL MEETING**  
April 25th at 1 PM

**BOARD MEETING**  
April 4th at 10 AM

NEW MEXICO GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**GENERAL MEETING**  
May 23rd at 1 PM

**BOARD MEETING**  
May 2nd at 10 AM

NEW MEXICO GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY



## **General Meeting - March 28th, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 1:11 P.M. by President Kaye Green who then led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 18 Members present and one by phone. There were no guests or new members present today.

**President :** Kaye thanked Ron Kuharski for all of the work he has been doing.

**Vice President :** No Report given and the Secretary had no new correspondence to share.

**Treasurer :** Maria presented the P & L Statement from the Rock Hound Roundup.

**Roundup :** Discussion about the help that is needed.

**Shop :** It is currently open on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 9 A.M. to Noon. Jim is busy replacing wheels on the grinders.

**Bulletin Editor :** Kathy T. read Ron's Report and a discussion on Facebook as he was present by phone.

**Claims :** All is up to date.

**Field Trips :** The third Saturday in April (18TH) we're going to Marilyn Page's old homesite. Meet at the clubhouse at 8 A.M. Leave at 8:30 A.M.

**Membership :** We now have 193 members after the Roundup, with several new ones.

**Sunshine :** Pauline will continue in the Sunshine position.

**Property :** Art is currently working on the West Side.

**Librarian :** There are several magazines on the glass cases. Please help yourselves to them. Some are Rock N Gem.

**Craft Show :** This year the show will be on December 4th to the 7th. Kay will not remain as the chair. Need to submit a contract to the fair board for the show.

### **New Business :**

A Letter on the Roundup was read and decided to have it printed in the Bulletin.

A Vote for new officers was taken. The Officers will be :

President - Kaye Green

VP - Dave Bleicher

Secretary - Caryolyn Abbey

Treasurer - Maria Costa

Shop - Larry Baros

Bulletin - Ron Kuharski

Claims - Julia Taylor

Director 1 YR - Darlene Bleicher

Director 2 YR - Kathy Townsend

Director 3 YR - Jim Paddock

### **We still need someone to chair the Roundup!**

A discussion of the upcoming Heritage Days ( May 15th - 17th ) held at the fair ground was held. It was voted that the DGMS will take part in this event. We will have the spinning wheel and sell T-Shirts from one table.

Discussion again on the new large shed. A vote ensued and was carried to spend up to \$15,000 for the building and strengthened flooring or a cement slab.

There was a reading and discussion of the Roundup Critique notes.

Upcoming Meetings : It was voted to change the Board meetings to the first Saturday of each month at 10 A.M. The next one will be on April 4TH.

General Meetings will be held on the Fourth Saturdays at 1 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn Abbey, DGMS Secretary.



## Board Meeting - April 4th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 10: 10 a.m. by President Kaye Green Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present were Dave & Darlene Bleicher, Kathy Townsend, Maria Costa, Kaye Green, Carolyn Abbey, Jim Paddock, and Ron Kuharski (By Phone). Three Club members present were Joette, Martha and Marilyn.

**Vice President :** The Shop policies and rock cutting fee raises for non-members and members where discussed (Prices have not raised since 2021). Dave will coordinate with Silver City's Rock Club and there shop policies. We will wait till fall to purchase new grinders.

The new proposed building estimate was discussed figuring about \$16,000 including wiring, fan and floors that would be done by members. Dave will check with Home Depot for comparison pricing.

**Secretary :** Carolyn passed out the new Club Badge. They will be for sales for \$5 each. Discussed next year's Roundup Shirts, Would like to have them before December 1st to sell at the Craft Show. She introduced Martha Weaver as she would like to take the position of Secretary. Carolyn would then become a 2 YR Director. To be voted on at the general meeting.

Decided to order several more of the new Club T-Shirts, to have for sale, That the board introduced at the last Roundup.

Discussed having canvas rock collection bags designed to sell at Roundup. Order 50 to begin. Also consider entering at 9 - 10 inch patch of our new logo to wear on back of vests. Will check out prices with our local printer.

No new Treasurer or Roundup Reports.

**Shop :** Most items discussed at VP Report.

**Bulletin Editor :** Ron gave updated numbers on our facebook, website, etc visitations.

**Claims :** Letter read from the US Department of Interior.

**Field Trips :** Jim will lead a trip out to Marilyn Page's old place on Saturday April 18th, as there is a lot of rocks she'd like gone. Meet at the shop at 8:00 and leave at 8:30. Jim also told us about a visitation from the Holland, Michigan Club on Monday April 6th. They will go to Big Diggings and other collecting sites. We will give them a very nice souvenir Big Diggings rock to take back home.

**Membership :** 197 Currently paid dues. Martha will help Kay with Membership.

Sunshine, Property, Librarian and Craft Show nothing to Report.

**Old Business :** Dave & Darlene will measure Paulie's Garden shed to arrange to bring it to the Club.

**New Business :** The City will hold a Heritage Days event on May 15th Thru 17th. DGMS will participate with a booth selling Tees, Having the Spinning Wheel, and a beading Demo and short classes by Mary Berg on the 16th of red, white, blue, silver and gold beading. It will be held at the Fairgrounds from 10 AM to 3 PM. It was noted that Tina's Rock Shop in Deming is having a half off outside rocks sale.

Our next General Meeting will be April 25th at 1 PM.  
The next board meeting will be May 2nd at 10 AM.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:57 AM

Respectfully Submitted, Martha Weaver.

## **Technical Support Update 4/1/26**

Good day everyone I wanted to provide a update on our social media pages.

Facebook we had 40.3 thousand views in the last 28 days. Of those views 88.4% came from non-followers of the page. We had 1.3K visits to the actual facebook page. There was 743 interactions on our posts and it was about a 50/50 split on if it was from page followers or non-followers. We are up to 157 Followers.

Instagram is up to 6 followers which is up one from last month and no interaction. Instagram we get limited feedback and statistics back from unlike facebook.

- Ron Kuharski

## **Bulletin 4/1/2026 :**

I apologize that the one for March came out late. I have already started on the one for April. I would appreciate any feedback. Anyone who needs to send me stuff for the bulletin are free to text me or email me. If you need to call please text first due to my work schedule and sometimes my phone wont let people do voicemails for some reason. My email is [MN-Rich@hotmail.com](mailto:MN-Rich@hotmail.com) or [tistherich1@gmail.com](mailto:tistherich1@gmail.com) and the best number is 320-296-6845. There are a handful of emails that bounced back when trying to send the bulletin if it is appropriate and alright I will try to reach out to the members who they are tied to and try and get an updated email.

If there are any events coming up that we want to have in the bulletin please also let me know and if there are any graphics that are needed I can attempt to help make some if I know what we are looking for. The software I use only allows me so many changes / creations a day so sometimes it will take a few days to be able to get them refined to what we want.

## **A letter from a Volunteer**

Attention Members and Volunteers!

The Deming Gem and Mineral Society was founded by volunteers in 1965. Why? Because they wanted to learn and know about the gems and minerals in this and other areas. The Organization has stayed open because of Volunteers.

Members and Volunteers volunteered to become members. So... Why did you, as a member, volunteer to become a member? Was it to learn more about rocks, Gems and minerals or because .....?


For an organization, such as The Deming Gem and Mineral Society to grow, thrive and succeed, it needs volunteers, IT NEEDS YOU!!

So When the Rock Hound Roundup is in the planning, set-up and the break-down stages come about Volunteer to Help! Because eventually there won't be a Round-Up to take kids to or to learn about Gems, Minerals or Geodes or Glow in the dark minerals. Also learning how a rock becomes a beautiful finished product.

Written by a volunteer who doesn't live here, but enjoys volunteering when she is here.

- Vicky Cleveland

April  
**DIAMOND**



The word diamond comes from the Greek 'Adamas' meaning invincible, or unbreakable.

All diamonds are at least one billion years old, and if it wasn't for volcanoes we would never have discovered them!

One of the best sources of coloured 'fancy' diamonds, is Western Australia!

### Gem of the Month

The dazzling diamond is the official birthstone for April and is one of the most prized and recognizable gemstones in the world. Known for its unmatched brilliance and durability, diamonds symbolize strength, love, and eternal commitment.

#### 🌟 What Makes Diamonds Special?

Diamonds are the hardest natural material on Earth, ranking a **10 on the Mohs hardness scale**. This incredible hardness makes them not only beautiful but also extremely durable—perfect for everyday wear in jewelry.

They are formed deep within the Earth under intense heat and pressure over **billions of years**, making each diamond a true natural wonder.

#### 🌍 Where Are Diamonds Found?

Diamonds are mined in several parts of the world, including:

- South Africa
- Botswana
- Canada
- Russia

#### 💡 Fun Facts

- The word “diamond” comes from the Greek word *adamas*, meaning “**unbreakable.**”
- Diamonds can be found in a variety of colors, including yellow, blue, pink, and even black.
- The largest diamond ever discovered is the **Cullinan Diamond**, weighing over 3,100 carats!

### Check out this upcoming event!



★ ★ ★ NM State Championship BBQ Cook-Off

Deming, NM

OLD WEST HERITAGE DAYS 1881

LUNA COUNTY  
**OLD WEST HERITAGE DAYS Festival**

May 15 - 17 2026

Exhibits - Vendors - Food  
*Special Events City Wide!!*  
*Live Music - Art - History*  
*Ranch Rodeo & much more*

For Vendor and Exhibit interest please contact Rebecca Hughes  
crhughes04@msn.com

brought to you by the Luna County Old West Heritage Festival Committee



The Grant County Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral Society Presents  
**GEM AND MINERAL SHOW**  
in *Silver City*  
NEW MEXICO

Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral Society

Friday, September 4 - Sunday, September 6, 2026

Some Photos from the visiting rockhounds from the Tulip City Rock and Gem club



# UPCOMING Events

UPCOMING EVENTS		SHOP HOURS	
APRIL 4 <sup>TH</sup>	<b>BOARD MEETING</b> 🕒 10 AM	<b>MONDAY</b> 9 AM to Noon	
APRIL 18 <sup>TH</sup>	<b>FIELD TRIP TO MARILYN PAGE'S OLD HOMESITE</b> 🚌 LEAVE AT 8:30 AM	<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 9 AM to Noon	
APRIL 25 <sup>TH</sup>	<b>GENERAL MEETING</b> 🕒 1 PM	<b>SATURDAY</b> 9 AM to Noon	
MAY 2 <sup>ND</sup>	<b>BOARD MEETING</b> 🕒 10 AM	Come explore unique treasures and support local history!	
MAY 15-17 <sup>TH</sup>	<b>HERITAGE DAYS</b>		
MAY 23 <sup>RD</sup>	<b>GENERAL MEETING</b> 🕒 1 PM		



**THE DEMING GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.**  
**4200 Raymond Reed Blvd., Deming, NM 88030**  
**FOUNDED - JANUARY 1965**

**DUES ARE DUE & PAYABLE ON DECEMBER 1st EACH YEAR**  
**Membership Dues: \$15.00 per person and \$25.00 per family**

**All meetings are held at the Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. building**  
**4200 Raymond Reed Blvd., Deming, NM**  
*Visitors are invited and welcome at membership meetings.*

**"ROCK CHIPS" is the official bulletin of the Society**  
**Email: DGMS.Rockhounds@gmail.com**  
**OFFICIAL WEB SITE [www.thedgmsclub.com](http://www.thedgmsclub.com)**



Position	Name	Phone Number
President	Kaye Green	575-545-3906
Vice President	Dave Bleicher	810-322-0634
Secretary	Caryolyn Abbey	575-543-8916
Treasurer	Maria Costa	603-738-1921
Shop	Larry Baros	719-225-0184
Bulletin Editor	Ron Kuharski	320-296-6845
Claims	Julia Taylor	662-364-8697
Director 1 YR	Darlene Bleicher	810-338-7689
Director 2 YR	Kathy Townsend	575-545-1806
Director 3 YR	Jim Paddock	575-494-8522
RoundUp Chair	OPEN	

## Sunshine Greetings



**If you know of someone who could use a little sunshine greeting, please call Pauline Ott at 979-618-3432**



**Change your address, or phone or email address?**  
**Please let us know!**

Send the changes to DGMS Membership, 4200 Raymond Reed Blvd., Deming, NM 88030



If you are not already saving your Peppers cash register receipts for a non-profit organization, please

**SAVE THEM FOR OUR CLUB.**

Peppers will pay us 1% of the total receipts turned in. This is a community project that they sponsor for non-profit organizations and another easy fund raiser for our Club.

## Deming Gem & Mineral Society

Ron Kuharski, Editor

4200 Raymond Reed Blvd. Deming, New Mexico  
 88030