

The Deming Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

ROCK CHIPS

Monthly Bulletin • Volume 64 • July / August 2026



THE DEMING GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

President's Update

Hello Rock Hounders.

I hope that you are having a good summer, in spite of the heat. Yes it has been very hot, but fall is just around the corner.

In spite of all the heat we have had the shop open every Wednesday and Saturday from 9 to 12. We have also been able to hold all of our meetings the next general meeting will be Saturday August 29th at 1 pm. If you haven't been here lately we have the new saw room building in place. There is still a lot of work to be done before we can move the saws in. We still have to get the Electric installed, the insulation

up and the paneling up. Then we can add another layer of plywood on the floor so. When it gets oil it can be removed and new put down. After everything is done then we can bring in all the saws. The old saw room will be used for storage for the new saw room.

Remember we have our craft show coming up in December. We will be needing help in sending out the flyer and application. Also we will be getting ready for the roundup in March of next year.

Hope to see you at our general meeting on Saturday August 29th at 1 Pm.

Remember we need everyone to volunteer to do something. There still needs help in getting things ready for the spinning wheel. Also we need more people to donate items for the Friday night silent auction. If you can't do a full table of 20 items do what you can then maybe some one can help feel the table.

Kaye, President.

PS. Notice the change in the date of the general meeting from the 22 to the 29. Due to the duck parade.

Vice President's Update

Rockhounding in Michigan's upper peninsula - Part 1

Greetings Rockhounds

I'm glad to finally be back in NM. Back in April I needed to return to Michigan for personal reasons, and I ended up being there for a lot longer than I expected. I did find a little time in Michigan to do some rockhounding, including a stop at Kingsley North.

Rockhounding upper Michigan in April and May can be a gamble with the weather, but this year we didn't find any snow still on the ground. We need a really tall scale to measure snow in Michigan, as last year totaled nearly 30 feet of snow.



Grand Marais is a good place to look for the elusive LSA, or Lake Superior Agate. Prized for the iron-stained vibrant bands of reds and oranges, LSA's attract a steady stream of hounders, and we encountered LOTS of friendly rockhounds everywhere we went. The best time to look for LSAs is right after the spring ice melts, or after a big storm. We had nice summery weather and lots of competition, so not much luck, but we found a good assortment of other specimens. Everyone in this picture is hunting for LSAs and they are in both directions as far as you can see.



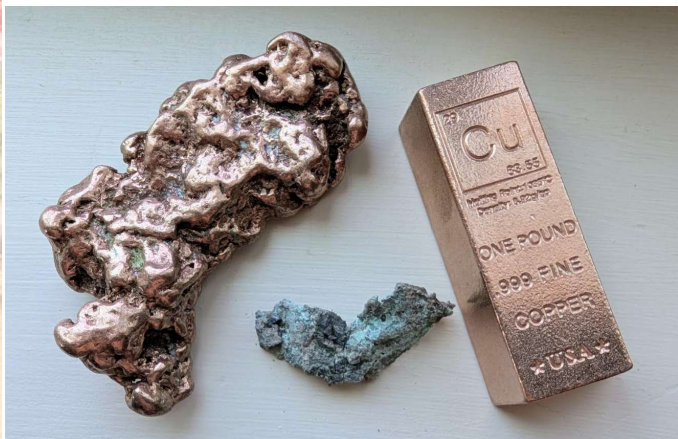
Lake Superior agates are believed to be some of the world's oldest agates. They formed as nodules within iron-rich lava flows that occurred about 1.1 billion years ago.



The road between Munising and Marquette follows the north shore of the U.P. for many miles, and there are so many places to stop I couldn't count them all. Start early, pack a lunch, bring your muscles, and make extra room in the trunk.



If you've ever driven north of Houghton, you've seen the large, odd-shaped building just outside of town. That's the Quincy copper mine historic landmark. The Quincy mine operated for nearly 100 years starting in 1846, and produced nearly one Billion pounds of copper. You can take a guided tour and visit the No. 2 shaft house, see the Nordberg steam hoist (the world's largest steam powered hoist), ride a cog tram car, and go over 350 feet underground. They have a fine gift shop that offers a large selection of copper products ranging from raw ore up to finished ingots and jewelry.



The 2 shiny pieces are from the Quincy gift shop, the oxidized copper is a piece I found at a mine near Calumet. On days when the mine isn't operating, you can walk around the gate and search the spoils pile. I didn't have a metal detector, or much time, but was able to find this one on the surface. The green patina of the oxidation was fairly obvious against the spoils and was a real treat to find.

Agates are common enough in upper Michigan that the Keweenaw peninsula boasts several places called "Agate Beach". Most of the agates aren't "banded" agates, but more like

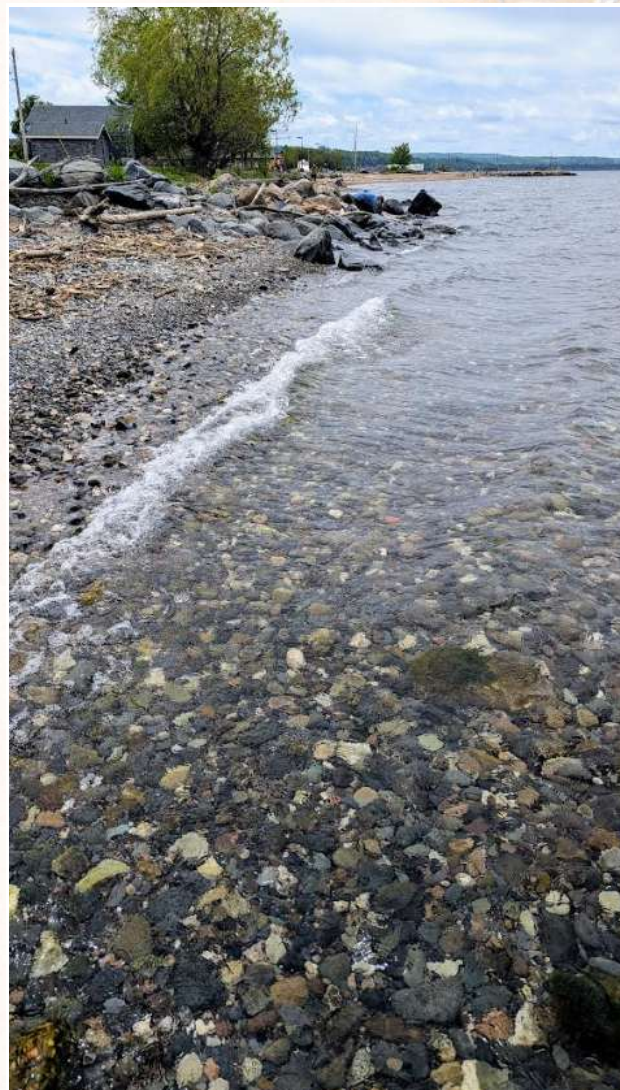
"conglomerate" agates, with a mosaic-like multi-colored pattern. Much of the agate or quartz has enough microscopic impurities that it becomes UV reactive. We visited one of the Agate beaches west of Calumet.



Rocks in both directions as far as you can see, and plenty of rockhounds too. It was pretty quick work to fill a couple of buckets with agates, but the bright sunshine made it difficult to determine which ones were UV reactive. We collected our favorites, and hit them with the 365nm UV light after dark. We had a pretty good success rate, and even the non-reactive rocks were worthy of collection.



L'anse Waterfront Park, one of the many places so full of rocks it was hard to find the sand. It was also the least-populated beach we went to, and for a brief time we were the only 2. Lake Superior water rarely gets above 38 degrees Farenheit in April, and only a few degrees warmer in May. Smart people know enough to stay out of the water, but rockhounds are too easily tempted....

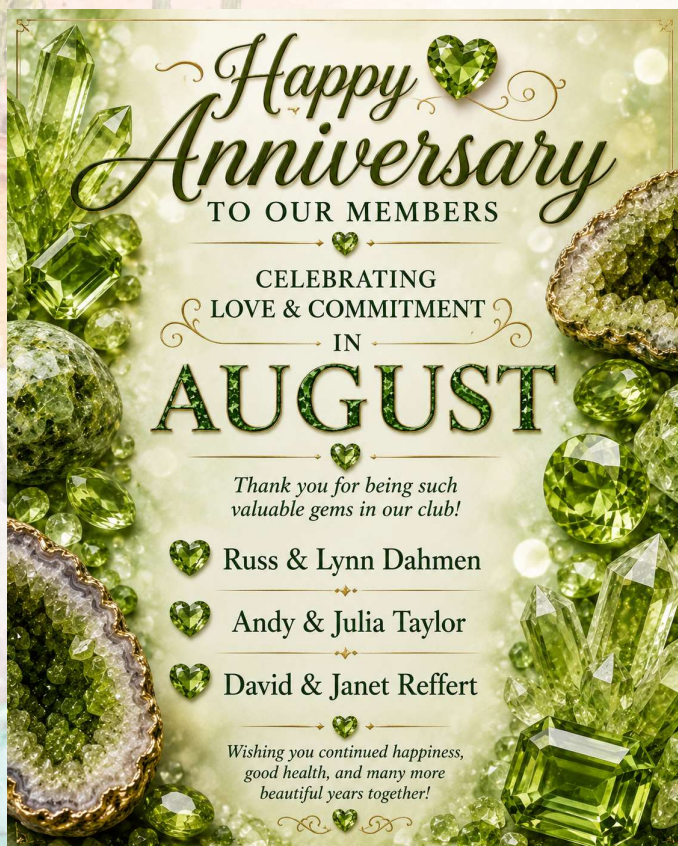
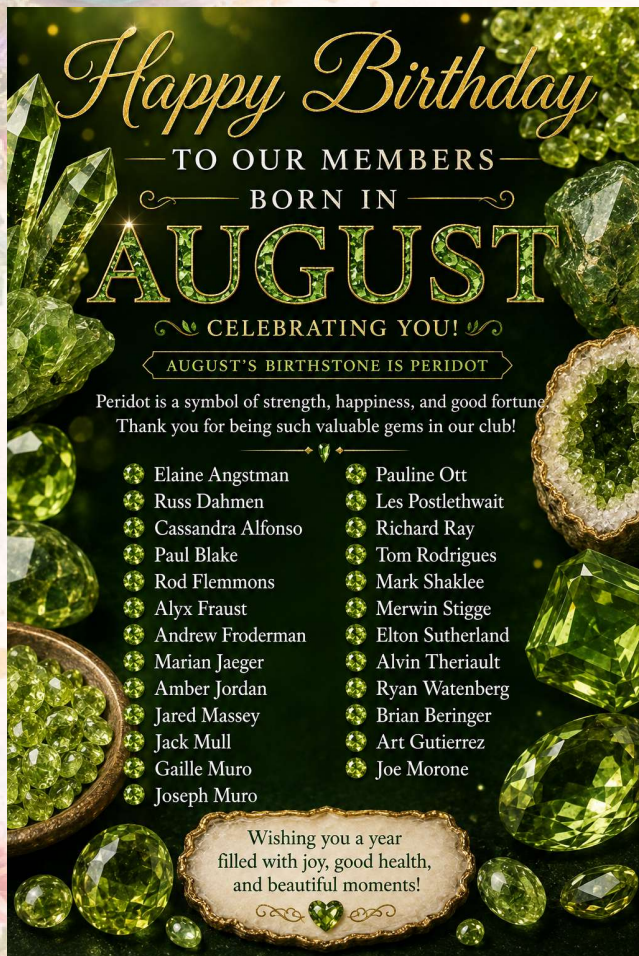


Next month I'll write about the many shops we stopped at, including Kingsley North.

Our next general meeting of the DGMS will be Saturday Aug 29th. at 1:00pm. If you have something you would like to show the group, please bring it along. We'll have time for show and tell, and Q&A time. If you would like to make a presentation to the group, please let me know and we'll get you on the schedule.

Until then, Rock on!

Dave





General Meeting - June 27th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by President Kaye

Green who then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were 12 members present and Larry by phone.

Minutes were approved as published in the Chips Bulletin.

Secretary: Martha read her letter of resignation due to too many other obligations. She said Carolyn would re-take the job until someone else could take the position of Secretary

President: Working with Marilyn before she left on vacation. Prep for FairBoard meeting in July..

Vice Pres: Nothing to report.

Treasurer: As Maria is on vacation, Kaye read the Treasurer's report. The new P&L statement will be posted on the bulletin board.

Roundup: There are a few outside spaces open and no inside spaces available.

Shop: Jim announced all is working well and the new building has arrived. Now we will purchase the insulation, paneling, exhaust fans and electrical. It was voted to purchase 30R insulation for the ceiling. Then the work begins.....

The shop will start being open on Wed. & Sat. only 9 a.m. til noon, for the summer beginning in July.

Claims: All up to date per Kaye.

Field Trips: There are none scheduled right now as it is just too hot. Hopefully in September.

Membership: Currently there are 214 paid members.

Sunshine: One card has been sent.

Library: Nothing to report.

Craft Show: Flyers and dealer applications are ready to get mailed out for the Dec. 11—13th show.

Old Business: Mary B. spoke on the new red vests she will be sewing. They will be about 6" longer than the old ones and she will be making the black bias trim instead of purchasing expensive little packs.

New Business: A Life membership was voted and approved for Roger Pratt who has given much to the Club.

A discussion on a black light display that is used at Roundup which is for sale. We voted to purchase it. It is located in Chaparral and we will need some volunteers to make the trip to pick it up.

Our big trash dumpster has been replaced by a smaller regular trash can to be picked up once a month. We will keep it inside the gate until the night before pickup and bring it back in after it has been picked up.

Thank you to Megan Seray for the refreshments she brought for break. Mary Berg said she would provide them at the next meeting.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, July 1st. At 10:00 a.m. General meeting to be held on Saturday July 25th 1:00 p.m.

Door prizes were awarded and 50/50 was won by Mary Berg.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn Abbey, DGMS Secretary



General Meeting - July 25th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by President Kaye

Green who then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were 10 members present and Larry by phone.

Minutes were approved as published on Facebook.

Secretary: Carolyn read a post card received from Maria and Marilyn in Alaska. They're having a great time.

President: None

Vice Pres: Dave is back from vacation. If you have anything to share let him know. Also, anyone interested in becoming a Shop Monitor get in touch with him.

Treasurer: Nothing to report.

Roundup: There are a few outside spaces open and no inside spaces available.

Shop: Guests can use the shop for a few days, then join the Club if interested.

The shop is now open on Wed. & Sat. only 9 a.m. til noon, for the remainder of the summer.

Claims: Julia has picked up the paperwork and said it is due in September. She also told us about a Claim that is available and we voted to have her do more checking on it as it sounds like one DGMS would benefit from.

Field Trips: There are none scheduled in August. . . Still too hot. Hopefully in September.

Membership: Currently there are 214 paid members.

Sunshine: Pauline has sent out three cards.

Property and Library: Nothing to report.

Craft Show: Kaye went to the Fair Board and got our contract signed. Flyers and applications are ready to be mailed.

Old Business: Larry will take charge of picking up the garden shed and black light equipment when he returns in late August.

Discussion tabled on whether or not to have a separate electrical pole for the new shed.

New Business: None

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, August 5th. At 10:00 a.m. General meeting to be held on Saturday August 29th at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn Abbey, DGMS Secretary



Board Meeting - July 1st, 2026

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

Members present were Kaye Green, Megan Sebay, Kathy Townsend, Jim Paddock, Carolyn Abbey, and Larry Baros by phone.

Minutes were approved as published in the Chips Bulletin.

President: Next week Kaye will turn in Craft Fair contract to the Fair Board.

Vice Pres: Nothing to report.

Secretary: Nothing to report

Treasurer: Per Kaye all bills have been paid in advance due to Maria's absence.

Roundup: Kathy has distributed 2027 flyers to RV parks.

Shop: All is up and running. Jim will be going to Las Cruces today to order the insulation, paneling and fans for the new shed.

The shop will start being open on Wed. & Sat. only 9 a.m. til noon, for the summer beginning in July, and return to Mondays in September.

Claims: All up to date per Kaye til September.

Field Trips: None scheduled until hopefully September.

Membership: Currently there are 214 paid members.

Sunshine: None.

Library: Nothing to report.

Craft Show: Flyers and dealer applications are ready to get mailed out for the Dec. 11—13th show.

Old Business: Kaye spoke with Tracey regarding when to pick up the Black Light items.

New Business: None today.

General meeting to be held on Saturday July 25th 1:00 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, August 5th at 10:00 a.m. The next General meeting will be Saturday, August 29th at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn Abbey, DGMS Secretary

— JULY BIRTHSTONE —

RUBY

THE STONE OF PASSION & PROTECTION



ABOUT RUBY

Ruby is a precious gemstone known for its stunning red color, ranging from pinkish-red to deep pigeon blood red.



SYMBOLIZES

- Love
- Passion
- Vitality
- Courage
- Protection



HISTORY & LORE

Rubies have been treasured for thousands of years by royalty and warriors, believed to bring strength, protection, and good fortune.



FUN FACT

Rubies get their red color from the mineral chromium.



BIRTH MONTH
July



MOHS HARDNESS
9 (Very Hard)



BEST FOR
Strength, confidence, protection, and heartfelt connection.

Check out this upcoming event!

The Grant County Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral Society Presents

GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

in *Silver City*
NEW MEXICO




Friday, September 4 – Sunday, September 6, 2026

41st Anniversary

SILVER CITY GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

Friday, Sept. 4 – Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026
Grant County Veterans Memorial Business & Conference Center
3031 Hwy 180 E, Silver City, NM
Friday and Saturday: 10 am – 5 pm • Sunday: 10 am – 4 pm

FREE ADMISSION • FOOD AVAILABLE • DISPLAYS
SILENT AUCTION • KIDS' ACTIVITIES • MANY GREAT VENDORS
Please no pets except service animals

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR!




— AUGUST BIRTHSTONE —

PERIDOT

THE STONE OF HAPPINESS & HARMONY



ABOUT PERIDOT

Peridot is a vibrant green gemstone that ranges from yellowish-green to rich olive green.



SYMBOLIZES

- Happiness
- Harmony
- Growth
- Renewal
- Protection



HISTORY & LORE

Peridot has been used since ancient times, even called the "evening emerald" by the ancient Egyptians. It was believed to ward off evil spirits and bring peace.



FUN FACT

Peridot is one of the few gemstones that occurs in only one color—various shades of green.



BIRTH MONTH
August



MOHS HARDNESS
6.5 – 7 (Fairly Hard)



BEST FOR
Positivity, emotional balance, growth, and inner peace.



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

Officer Contacts		
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