Nuggets From The Prez

Hello everyone. I wanted to start off talking about Spring, the past St. Patrick’s Day and good happy thoughts but things happen so bear with me for a little while. I’m talking about this horrible thing that is sweeping the world. It’s so hard to understand that it could affect so many people. It doesn’t care who you are, be you rich or poor. I’m talking about the COVID-19 also known as the coronavirus-19. I noticed that our county, WESTERN Nevada, happens to be free of it SO FAR. Let’s keep it like that. What’s so sad is the greedy people who buy up the things that are needed and then sell it for way more than it’s worth. Shame on them. Ever try to not touch your face, nose, and eyes? I can’t.

There’s a new scam, to me, that is going around and it’s the PG&E one. A man tells you that they will come out to change your meter and gives you a phone number, work order number, his name etc. when you question him. Oh they’re good. I naturally called PG&E and they checked that it was false. The next day in the paper I read that several people had also heard from them. All false. People tell me that my computer and a program was having trouble. How nice, but wrong computer. Scam. And it goes on. Voices change. Then on Facebook you receive in the message section from a known friend telling you that they have received money and you should check it out. It’s from a lawyer but the language or word spelling doesn’t sound right. Like “men” for “man”, a “package” for a “check $” and “u” for “you”. If he really was a lawyer he wouldn’t use those words. Oh the bottom line was that if I sent $300, I’d receive $3000 -- and more money for bigger amounts of money. Free money is free, not that you have to buy it. I told him that I don’t have any kind of money, so he asks how much do I have? Good bye. The list goes on.

Happy thoughts. Spring is trying to be here. This month has many religious days for some people like Palm Sunday, Easter, Passover and Ramadan. Don’t forget April Fool’s Day and Arbor Day when we plant trees (so we can cut them down later) and Earth Day. We really should be nice to her because she so generously gives up her gems, minerals and many other things.

Back to this Coronavirus, we’re hearing about all of the Gem shows that are closing down. I wonder if the CFMS show in June will also close?

Next month is May and our meeting will fall on the 5th of May. Known as Cinco de Mayo. Oh just think of all of the yummy treats we’ll have at the break. Looking forward to the Juniors program. Did you all see the wonderful article in the newspaper?

Wash your hands and use your hand sanitizer and stay healthy. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting. Those pink flowers that are blooming are Bergenia crassifolia.

Sincerely yours, Edwina

ALERT!
April 7 Meeting Cancelled
Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society Board Meeting Notes

March 3, 2020

Called to order: 5:36 pm

Treasurer’s report: Treasurer paid the bills that were okayed by the board last month. A new bill for the show covered the sales taxes for the silent auction and the kid’s corner. The following bills were presented to the board and they were moved and passed. Membership chair had bills from Raley’s and for badges for the members. Junior leader had bills from the kids’ projects for cases for each child. A request for vests for the juniors was passed by the board.

Co-op: There will be a meeting and lecture Saturday 3/7/2020. Jim Hutchings will present “Favorite field trips in Nevada”. This is something that all members can attend.

Federation: Show will be in Lodi, CA June 25 – 28th

Show Chair: We are continuing to work on our show. Beverly Glen will take care of the sign-up sheets.

VP: today’s presentation will be by the juniors showing us the cases they have worked on the last six months. If time permits it will be followed by show and tell and rock polishing information. Next month the speaker will be Debbie Bunn presenting “What is in your backpack”.

Old Business: Sue printed up copies of the guidelines for a field trip so that we could review, add suggestions and then finalize them next meeting. We also looked over other materials presented and reviewed the incident report.

Minutes: approved as printed.

Scholarships: Frank and Eric reviewed the large amount of candidates and chose Skyler Mims who is studying geography.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

- Submitted by Gwen Fissel

In this issue:

Nuggets From the Prez
March Minutes
2020 Earth Treasures Show
April Program (cancelled)
April Birthstone/Birthdays
Field Trips
You Might be a Rockhound if...
Quarantined Rockhound Activities
CFMS Updates & Shows
Membership Form

WANTED!
A Secretary is needed to take down the minutes for the Board and General meetings.

Please email the NCG&MS Club President at: edwina.m.swenson@hotmail.com or come to the next meeting at 5:30 pm at the Grange Hall.

Thanks to Gwen Fissell for filling in!
Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society General Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2020

Called to order and flag salute: 7:00 pm

Kid’s Presentation: The cases were made for each child and they set them up and presented their individual displays. They will take the cases home and will bring them back to our yearly show. The juniors passed out programs in which they were each listed with their chosen subject and the Junior Geologist mission (to foster friendships, have fun, continue learning about geology, minerals, fossils and develop creative skills). There was a great write up on each child and the program in the Union Newspaper two weeks later. The general members were able to talk to the juniors during the break and talk about each project.

Break

Sunshine: Sandy announced that she is now CANCER FREE. She had surgery for brain cancer at the first of 2019. Be sure to let us know if someone needs a card or phone call. Call Lori with Sunshine information.

Drawing for rocks by President from names in sign in sheet: Dylan (junior) and Sandy Dent both were able to get a special rock from the president.

Treasurer: All bills are paid. Treasurer needed the general meeting to okay the price of the cases for the juniors. It was moved and passed. Thanks to B & C Lumber for a $72.00 discount when materials were bought.

Historian: April will be the anniversary of the club. Photo albums will be out for all to see and birthday cake at break.

Show Chair: Frank read the final tallies of the October 2019 show.

Field Trips: The trips are out on table for all to pick up and sign in. The co-op will be going to Topaz Mountain in Utah next month.

Gwen presented some items from the CFMS and AFMS Newsletters. There were articles in the March newsletters explaining an Endowment Fund set up by the American Federation for all clubs to access the Junior Rockhound badge materials and get free badges for all participants. This next month there are articles explaining the guidelines for Show cases. There should always be one copy out at door and copies can be found at http://www.amfed.org/ and https://www.cfmsinc.org/.

Raffle

Meeting adjourned: 8:45 pm

-Submitted by Gwen Fissel
2020 Earth’s Treasures Show
As you are all aware in the current national health climate, many gem shows have had to cancel or reschedule their dates. Since our show is in October, the current crisis may have subsided enabling our Earth’s Treasures Show to be staged. Planning for the 2020 show will continue to happen. However, a slower approach may have to be taken. This topic will be discussed in detail with the show co-chair Dan Chaplin and the Board at the next board meeting.

-Submitted by Frank Van Hecke, Show Co-Chair

April’s Program  (Cancelled)

“What’s In Your Backpack” will be a talk and show and tell, by long time Fossils For Fun member Debbie Bunn. Debbie has been leading Fossils For Fun field trips for many, many years and Debbie gives a very informative and sometimes humorous presentation of what you should have in your day or fanny pack. Field trip season is coming and you won’t want to miss this timely talk. In addition we will also honor our club’s history this month. Beverly Glenn, our Historian/Librarian has revamped our clubs printed archive’s into new user friendly binders. Come see what the old timers were up to make our club the success it is today. Nevada County Gem and Mineral will provide a special cake to help celebrate this special club event. -Hopefully all can be rescheduled.

-Respectfully submitted for Keven Clark, Program Chair, By Frank Van Hecke

Happy Birthday to our April Birthday members Tyler C., April and Dylan C., Lillian K., Guy S., and Laura W. We hope you have a wonderful birthday month. Diamond is the birthstone for April. Unfortunately April’s meeting would also be an annual celebration of our club’s history as well.

Diamonds have been admired for centuries. Some historians estimate they were traded as early as 4 BC. One of the reasons diamonds are so admired and valued is because of the process by which a diamond gemstone forms deep beneath the Earth’s crust and is then forced upward until it is uncovered. But before this process was understood, many ancient civilizations believed that diamonds were lightning made real on Earth. Perhaps this is the reason that diamonds have often been associated with great healing powers. Old legends stated the diamond could cure brain disease, alleviate pituitary gland disorders, and draw toxins out from the blood. Historically, the diamond first became a popular gemstone in India, when the Moghuls and Imperial Colony easily mined diamonds from deposits along three major rivers. Today, the diamond gemstone is most widely known as the gem to feature in an engagement ring. Throughout history, the diamond has nearly always symbolized eternal and lasting love. So, whether you’re getting engaged, or simply want to give yourself a truly meaningful gift of jewelry, the diamond is an enduring symbol.

You probably already know of the diamond’s toughness. In fact, it’s the hardest gemstone and is made of just one element: carbon. Its structure makes it 58 times harder than anything in nature. A diamond can only be cut with another diamond. While it’s become nearly synonymous with wedding engagements, it’s also the perfect gemstone for individuals who want something that’s just as appropriate for everyday wear as it is for special occasions. Diamond gemstones come in several colors, including brown, yellow, red, pink, blue, and green. They range in intensity from faint to vivid. Generally speaking, the more saturated the color, the higher the value. In fact, diamonds sparkling with intense color are rare and may be priced higher than a colorless diamond of equal size. Because fancy-color diamonds are very desirable, color is sometimes introduced in a laboratory. These are correctly called “color-treated” diamonds.
### NCGMS 2020 Field Trips:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trip</th>
<th>Trip Leader/Contact/Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 7-8 - Nevada: Lapis, Quartz Crystals</td>
<td>John Dolman</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 20-23 – Chinese Camp: Opalite, Mariposite, Quartz. Crystals, Jade</td>
<td>John Dolman</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 12 - Placer County/Ford point: Quartz. crystals</td>
<td>John Dolman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 15-17 - Nevada: Tulead agate, Pet.wood</td>
<td>John Dolman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 23-24 - Near Washington CA: Argillite</td>
<td>John Dolman</td>
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<td>Sep 19, 20 - So. Markleeville, Ca: Crystals in Rhyolite,</td>
<td>John Dolman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 25-28 – Davis Creek CA, Geodes, Petrified Wood, Crystals</td>
<td>John Dolman</td>
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</tbody>
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**Redneck Rock Tumbler**  
(Admit it – you are jealous!)

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**You might be a rockhound if... (with apologies to Jeff Foxworthy)**

- First on your Christmas List is to attend the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.
- Your chisel hand is covered with scar tissue and your hammer hand has blisters.
- One eye is constantly squinting as if looking thru a magnifier.
- Your face is scarred from walking into things while searching the ground looking for rocks.
- The local university's geology department requests permission to hold field trips in your back yard.
- Your spouse has ever had to ask you to move flats of rocks out of the tub so she could take a bath.
- Your employer has asked you not bring more rocks to the office until they have time to reinforce the floor.
- You care more about what happened to the diamond in the movie "Titanic" than the people.
- You were the only member of the group who spent their time looking at cathedral walls through a pocket magnifier during your trip to Europe.
- The sign on the side of the highway says "Falling Rock" and you pull over to look.
- You can pronounce the word "molybdenite" correctly on the first try.
- You think the primary function of road cuts is for easy mineral collecting.
- The rockpile in your garage is taller than you are.
- Your children are named Rocky, Jewel, and Beryl.
- The polished slab on your bola tie is six inches in diameter.
- You’ve spent more than $20 for a book about rocks.
Quarantined . . . . and not at the Quarry!

With life at a standstill due to Corvid-19, only “non-essential” travel allowed, what are rockhounds to do when we’d ordinarily be planning trips, attending shows, and meeting up with our mineral-loving family. Of course winter tasks can still be enjoyed: cutting and polishing stones, cataloging specimens, and getting rocks together to trade or sell. Some have b-o-r-e-d kids at home that can’t go play - and to be sure all are getting restless. At some point will come the time when we are free to roam the planet again in search of rocks, go to shows, and resume normal life. In the meantime, in our homes, the best we can do is surf the “rock web” and educate, plan trips, and entertain ourselves and children. Listed below are a variety links to do just that and hopefully will allow the time to pass quickly. . . .

Links for Kids

Geography & Geology for Kids  www.kidsgeo.com
Science Kids  www.sciencekids.co.nz
One Geology Kids  www.onegeology.org/extra/kids/home.html
Kids.gov Geology  kids.usa.gov/teens-home/science/geology/index.shtml

Future Rockhounds of America  http://www.amfed.org/fra/fut_rock.htm
FRA Badge Program  http://www.amfed.org/fra/fra-badge.htm

Lapidary Equipment Manufacturers and Suppliers

Barranca Diamond  www.barrancadiamond.com
Covington Engineering  www.covington-engineering.com
Diamond Pacific  www.diamondpacific.com
Graves  www.gravescompany.com
Highland Park  www.hplapidary.com
Lortone  www.lortone.com
Raytech  www.raytech-ind.com
Rio Grande  www.riogrande.com
Simple Elegance  www.simpleelegancerockshop.com
Kingsley  www.kingsleynorth.com
Rock Tumblers  https://rocktumbler.com/
Lapcraft  www.lapcraft.com
Lasco Diamond  www.lascodiamond.com
UKAM  www.ukam.com

Don’t forget eBay and Etsy!

KEEP CALM
AND WASH YOUR HANDS
Publications

American Mineralogist  www.minsocam.org/msa/ammin/ammineral.html
Mineralogical Record  www.mineralogicalrecord.com/index.asp
Nature Geoscience  www.nature.com/ngeo/index.html
Lapidary Journal  www.jewelrymakingdaily.com/magazines/jewelry-artist-magazine
Lite Geology  geoinfo.nmt.edu/publications/periodicals/litegeology
Mineral News  www.mineralnews.com
Rock and Gem  www.rockngem.com
Rocks & Minerals Magazine  www.rocksandminerals.org
Geology  geology.gsapubs.org
Geological Magazine  geolmag.geoscienceworld.org

Rockhounding

If any of the following articles sound interesting, email the newsletter editor - and it will be emailed to you!

About_Our_Miner_World.pdf: By Paul F. Hlava, 53 KB
KBGuidelines_for_Collecting_and_Preparing_Mineral_Specimens.pdf: By Adam Frus, 25 KB
Mohs_Scale_of_Mineral_Hardness.pdf: By Joel Johnstone, 19 KB
Rock_Identification.pdf: By Don Peck, 166 KB
Safe_Collecting.pdf: By Paul F. Hlava, 23 KB
Tips_for_Cleaning_Your_Minerals.pdf: By Mary P. Allen, 32 KB

Unfortunately the April 7 meeting was cancelled, and the Grange is closed indefinitely. While we do not have any confirmed cases of COVID-19 within western Nevada County (as of March 21), it was determined that the health of our greater community requires a proactive postponement of the meeting and other activities (still waiting on the October show).

While our younger population has not been considered at the same risk level as older people, there is concern that youth can pass the virus to parents, grandparents and vulnerable people in the greater community. Please keep in mind that our children can feel anxious and overwhelmed with information and negative news. This includes having their routines dramatically changed and their favorite activities postponed.

These are uncharted times and they will look to the adults in their lives for reassurance. You can help your children by avoiding exposure to sensationalized news and reminding them to follow good hygiene practice and stay connected to friends and family for support (virtually if possible). Hopefully some of the provided links will be useful for home activities.

This will be an opportunity to get creative with at home activities and projects. If this continues, we will work to provide more activities for families in the next newsletter. Until then . . . stay healthy!
California Federation of Mineralogical Societies Updates

Please start clipping any used stamps from your mail. Long time CFMS member Dick Panky, Contra Costa Gem and Mineral Society, collects bags of stamps from member societies at the annual CFMS Directors meeting, in November. These stamps are donated to the Easter Seal Society, which sells them to dealers and collectors as a fund raiser for Easter Seals. Please bring your stamps to any future meeting and give them to Frank Van Hecke, NCG&MS CFMS Director.

Camp Paradise Lapidary Camp is once again being held in La Porte, CA, with two sessions, late August and early September. Many of our members have attended this superb camp, with many of them being repeat attendees. Application forms will be available soon. For more information go to [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org).

-Submitted by Frank Van Hecke, CFMS Director

### CFMS SHOWS 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winter/Spring</th>
<th>Summer/Fall</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>April 4 – 5: CHICO, CA</strong>&lt;br&gt;Paradise Gem &amp; Mineral Society&lt;br&gt;Silver Dollar Fairgrounds&lt;br&gt;2357 Fair Street&lt;br&gt;Hours: Sat 9 – 5; Sun 9 – 4&lt;br&gt;Contact: Trish Haggerty, (530) 966-5112&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:hagboyz5@gmail.com">hagboyz5@gmail.com</a>&lt;br&gt;Website: <a href="http://www.paradisegem.org">www.paradisegem.org</a>**</td>
<td><strong>April 11 – 12: MARIPOSA, CA</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mariposa Gem &amp; Mineral Club&lt;br&gt;Mariposa County Fairgrounds&lt;br&gt;5007 Fairgrounds Road&lt;br&gt;Hours: Sat 9 – 5; Sun 10 – 4&lt;br&gt;Contact: Meredith Meehan, (559) 868-3535&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:mgmc@sti.net">mgmc@sti.net</a>&lt;br&gt;Web Site: <a href="http://mariposagemclub.org">http://mariposagemclub.org</a>**</td>
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<td><strong>April 4 – 5: RENO, NV</strong>&lt;br&gt;Reno Gem &amp; Mineral Society&lt;br&gt;Reno Convention Center&lt;br&gt;4390 S. Virginia Street&lt;br&gt;Hours: Sat 10 – 5; Sun 10 – 4&lt;br&gt;Contact: Daniel Ellis, (775) 229-2442&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:greybeard65@hotmail.com">greybeard65@hotmail.com</a>&lt;br&gt;Website: <a href="http://www.renorockhounds.com">www.renorockhounds.com</a>**</td>
<td><strong>April 25 – 26: LANCASTER, CA</strong>&lt;br&gt;Antelope Valley Gem &amp; Mineral Club&lt;br&gt;Antelope Valley Fairgrounds&lt;br&gt;2551 West Ave H&lt;br&gt;Hours: 10-5 Daily&lt;br&gt;Contact: Susan Chaisson-Walblom; 661-839-7403&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:ali_cares@aol.com">ali_cares@aol.com</a>&lt;br&gt;Website: <a href="http://palmdalegemandmineral.org">palmdalegemandmineral.org</a>**</td>
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<td><strong>June 1-2: CAMBRIA, CA</strong>&lt;br&gt;San Luis Obispo Gem &amp; Mineral Club&lt;br&gt;Cambria Veterans Hall&lt;br&gt;1000 Main Street&lt;br&gt;Hours: 10 – 5 daily&lt;br&gt;Contact: Kim Noyes, (805) 610-0603&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:kim@gmail.com">kim@gmail.com</a>**</td>
<td><strong>September 26-27: Lancaster, CA</strong>&lt;br&gt;Palmdale Gem &amp; Mineral Club&lt;br&gt;Antelope Valley Fairgrounds&lt;br&gt;2551 West Ave H&lt;br&gt;Hours: 10-5 Daily&lt;br&gt;Contact: Allison McClung; 661-839-7403&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:ali_cares@aol.com">ali_cares@aol.com</a>&lt;br&gt;Website: <a href="http://palmdalegemandmineral.org">palmdalegemandmineral.org</a>**</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>June 23-28: LODI, CA</strong>&lt;br&gt;Georgia Federation of Mineralogical Societies&lt;br&gt;Grape Festival Fairgrounds&lt;br&gt;413 E Lockeford Street**</td>
<td><strong>October 11: FALSBROOK, CA</strong>&lt;br&gt;Falbrook Gem and Mineral Society&lt;br&gt;123 W Alvarado St&lt;br&gt;Hours: 9-4&lt;br&gt;Contact: Michelle Shearer; 760-805-2184&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:info@fgms.org">info@fgms.org</a>&lt;br&gt;Website: <a href="http://www.fgms.org">www.fgms.org</a>**</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 10th and 11th</strong>&lt;br&gt;Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society&lt;br&gt;Nevada County Fairgrounds&lt;br&gt;More Details to follow**</td>
<td><strong>Check websites or call to ensure shows and field trips are still planned during the 2020 CORVID-19 crisis</strong></td>
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</table>
It is Time to Renew Your NCG&MS Membership for 2020

It’s that time again! Well, actually past time to renew your Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Membership. What do your dues cover? They go a long way to keep our club going. They also go to pay dues for AFMS and CFMS, Insurance for fieldtrips and other club activities, rent for our meeting hall, and to help produce our newsletter. There are many other things we haven’t mentioned. We get a lot from such a small amount. When you look at it that way, don’t you get some real “Bang for Your Buck?”

Please fill out the below form and bring along with a check to the next General Membership Meeting or Mail to:

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
Sue Valencia - Membership Chairman
PO Box 1686
Grass Valley, CA 95945

If your personal information is the same, just write SAME on the form, under your name(s)

Dues are due by December 31st, and will be delinquent after that date. Paid-up members will be listed in the 2020 Membership Roster and continue receiving the Newsletter.

Yearly membership dues for NCG&MS are $25.00 for singles and $30.00 for families. Deduct $5.00 if you receive your newsletter via email.

Thank you. Sue Valencia, 2020 NCG&MS Membership Chairman

NEVADA COUNTY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Please provide the following information along with the appropriate dues payment:

Name(s) ________________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________

            Street          City/State          Zip

Phone: (    ___ ___ ) ___ ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ ___

Email Address: _____________________________________________________

(Email address will be part of Club Membership Roster unless omission is requested)
Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
P.O. Box 1686, Grass Valley, CA 95945

2020 Elected Officers

PRESIDENT
Edwina Swenson

VICE PRESIDENT
Keven Clark

SECRETARY
Vacant

TREASURER
Frank Van Hecke

DIRECTORS
Christie Harris
Eric Trygg
Christy Busch

2020 Committee Chairpersons

FEDERATION DIRECTOR
Frank Van Hecke

TREK LEADER
John Dolman

HISTORIAN
Beverly Glenn

HOSPITALITY
Vacant

LIBRARIAN
Beverly Glenn

MEMBERSHIP
Sue Valencia

JUNIOR PROGRAM
Vacant

CLUB PICNIC
Lori Woodhall

REFRESHMENTS
Birthday Honorees

SUNSHINE
Lori Woodhall

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Blaze Baker (acting)

WEBMASTER
Charles Lindquist

2020 SHOW ORGANIZER
Frank Van Hecke
Dan Chaplin

SCHOLARSHIP
Joyce Emerson

* Call if sending email

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Meetings

The Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society meets monthly with few exceptions. Membership is informed of exceptions at meetings and through Rock Writings. You are welcome to attend any meeting.

General Membership Meeting: First Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.
Executive Committee Meeting: First Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m.
Golden Empire Grange Building, 11363 Grange Ct., Grass Valley, CA

NCG&MS is a non-profit organization with the following objectives:

• To promote the study of mineralogy, geology & fossils
• To encourage the collection of minerals and gems
• To foster the study and practice of the lapidary arts
• To provide field trips to mineral localities
• To promote good fellowship, education and recreation

Membership Information

Yearly membership dues for NCG&MS are $25.00 for singles and $30.00 for families. *Deduct $5.00 if you receive your newsletter via email* For more information or an application, email our Membership Chairperson Sue Valencia at susanmoody08@comcast.net

Check out our website at: http://www.ncgms.org
Program: “What’s in Your Backpack”

Tuesday April 7 at 7:00 p.m.
Golden Empire Grange Guild
11363 Grange Ct., Grass Valley

** Bring a Friend! **

Reminder:

2020 Membership dues

Yearly membership dues for NCG&MS are $25.00 for singles and $30.00 for families. Deduct $5.00 if you receive your newsletter via email. Dues are annual and payable in January.