

Rock Writings

December, 2023

Newsletter of the Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society

Vol. 56, #12



Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society Holiday Party Time!

It's that time! We do not have a "normal" December meeting but instead have a Pot Luck holiday get-together, on the normal meeting day on the First Tuesday in December: Dec. 5, 2023.

Dinner will be at 6:30.

The club will provide Ham and Turkey.

Members are asked to provide the trimmings, by last names:

- Appetizers.....A - C
- Bread and Rolls.....D - F
- Salads.....G - J
- Vegetables.....K - S
- Deserts.....T - Z



Bring your own eating utensils. Plates, cups, napkins and drinks will be provided by the club.

Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 3:00 pm we will be decorating at the hall. Anyone wanting to help will be welcomed... a pre-party?

If you are going to play "The Game", bring a wrapped gift valued at **\$10.00 or less** (this has been changed from the email sent before). "The Game" is one of exchanging gifts, being passed from person to person as "The Night Before Christmas" is read by Anita.

See you there!



Election Results – 2024 Board

At the general meeting October 3rd we elected a new Board for 2024. The results are:

President – Blaze Baker
 Vice President – Lori Woodhall
 Treasurer – Mike Field
 Secretary – Sheila Baker
 Director – Edwina Swenson
 Director – Cathy Field
 Director – Eric Trygg



John Dolman will continue as trek leader, and with Blaze taking on a new role, Rich Cross has offered to do the newsletter.

Reminder to new board members they need to get write-ups to the newsletter editor by the 15th of each month so there is time to produce and get it to the webmaster around the 20th for distribution. This includes birthdays, sunshine, new members, president’s nuggets, program, juniors news, scholarship, minutes from meetings, field trips (upcoming and past), and news or stories from members to make this a solid newsletter.

Congratulations to all, and best wishes to the NCGMS 2024 Board!

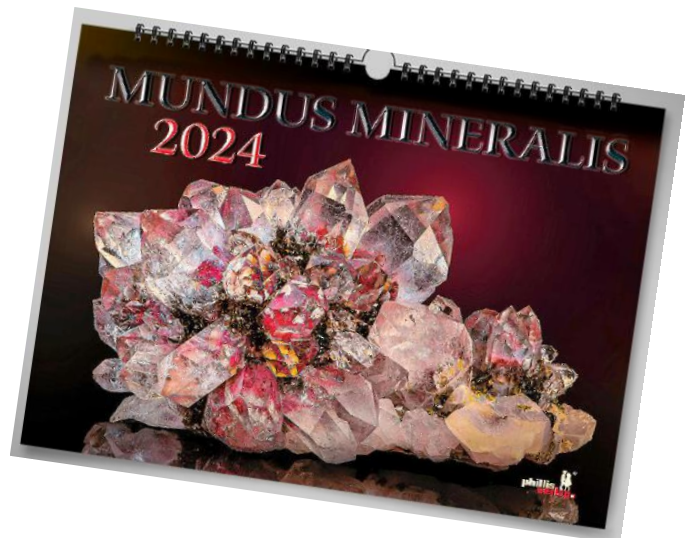
NCGMS 2023 Field Trips (*please double check before the trip to ensure it is still planned*):



2023 TRIPs	HOST
Nov/Dec – TBD – Big X Mtn for smoky quartz crystals – contact John if you wish to go!	John Dolman

Proposed Trips for 2024:

- Jan 27 Colefax petrified wood & other river rocks
- Feb 3 CO-OP meeting
- Mar 2 Big X area
- Mar 23 Colefax rain\snow date
- Apr 13 Rhodonite Saw mill peak
- Apr 20-22 Peterson peak
- Apr 26-28 Chinese Camp\Bagby
- May 13 Traverse Creek
- May 24-25 Ford Point area
- Jun 15-16 Markleeville area
- Jun 22-23 Nevada Lapis
- Jul 4-6 Crystal Peak
- Jul 18-21 Davis Creek



- Aug 30-31 Bagby
- Sep 1-2 Bagby
- Oct 11-14 Tuledad
- Nov 28-30 Big X area or Dec 7/14/21/28 (weather replacement dates)
-

Shorter, easy, weekday, and local trips are being planned - if you have any ideas please share them with the club . . .

At present, Blaze has offered to lead a couple trips to include weekday trips in 2024:

- A vernal pool/wildflower tour and general soils/geology of Beale Air Force Base – April/Earth Week. *Note: for that trip, base access requires submission of SSN, Driver’s Lic # a week ahead for Security Forces approval (you need a clean record) and a Real ID to access base, access would only be from the Wheatland Gate. The benefit is little walking/flat ground, a surrey would be provided by Beale AFB for the tour at no cost, and as a botanist Blaze is an expert on the plants and natural history of the base. If the access requirements are disagreeable, we can change the trip to Beale Falls in Spenceville Wildlife area which is open to the public and a closer drive – but a much longer hike.*
- The Devil’s Postpile on the Tahoe National Forest – likely the week of July 8.

Blaze will also reach out to the new owners of the Original 16:1 Mine in Allegehny to see if they would offer a mine tour, and hopefully at least a surface pick for some “Blue Jay” Mariposite and then a mine museum visit. Also, he will reach out to the North Star Mine Museum and see if we can do a private tour. Hopefully others can work with Sierra College for a natural history museum tour.

October Board meeting Minutes

Called to order:1805hr

Board Members Present

President-Dennis Greare

Vice-President- Eric Trygg

Secretary-John Dolman

Treasurer- Sheila Baker

Directors 1. Polly Marie

2. Christie Harris

3. Blaze Baker

Others Present-Web Master Charles Lindquist, Edwina Swenson

Motion I: Made by Sheila Baker

a. Seconded by: John Dolman

b. Vote-carried Yes

2. Correspondence: No

3. Treasurer's Report: Accepted

Motion II: Made by: Blaze Baker

a. Seconded by: John Dolman

b. Vote-carried Yes

New Business- Field trip to Markleeville 10/14-15/2023 is on! Flatscreen, Aux. speakers, and wood cabinet for installation and use by everyone. To be approved by the property owner. Tailgate for next year 2024.

Meeting Adjourned at 1825hr.

October General Meeting Minutes:

Meeting called to order: 1915hr

Guests: 7 Members: 23

Showcase signups and door prizes awarded a total of 5!

Daniel Chaplin has a 10'X24' area setup for lapidary-member users to work in at his home. Please call first.

Program 2011hr by Gwen Fissel, subject on California Dinosaur, as illustrations.

Raffel: 2035 hr

Meeting adjourned: 2035 hr



Other Club News

Exiting things are coming:

- March Meeting Auction is being planned
- Tailgate Mid May TBD
- New 75" TV for presentations and programs has been purchased, Charlie is working on the installation needs
- Edwina Swenson has offered to do a soapstone carving program
 - She needs to out how many are interested and that the cost will be \$10
 - Reason for the cost is that if we just give the kits, it might be put aside and forgotten BUT if they have been paid for, hopefully they'll worked on
 - Her cost is \$20 per kit, but with a shared cost split between club and members only \$10 each, good new business for the January meeting!





2024 CFMS Shows

<p>January 20-21, 2024 – Exeter, CA Tule Gem and Mineral Society Exeter Veterans Memorial Building, 324 North Kaweah Ave., Exeter, CA 93221 Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM 2024 Gemboree Contact: Gayle Bingaman, Show Chairperson, (559) 802-6029, bandgbing@aol.com Website: http://www.tulegem.com</p>	<p>February 17-18, 2024 – Antioch, CA Antioch Lapidary Club Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10th Street, Antioch, CA Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM-5PM Jewelry, Gems, Findings, Supplies, Auctions, Grab Bags, Exhibits and hands on projects for kids. Admission \$6.00, Children 12 & under, scouts in uniform and Active Military Free. \$1.00 off admission with show flyer. Contact: (510) 693-9075, kellyplumb900@yahoo.com Website: http://antiochlapidaryclub.com</p>
<p>February 24-25, 2024 – Vallejo, CA Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo, CA 94589 Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM Vallejo Gem and Mineral Show: We host vendors offering gems, geodes, fossils, raw rocks and minerals, carved stone animals, beads, findings and minerals from around the globe. The Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society invites you to discover lapidary and related crafts through our educational displays and live demonstrations. There is something for everyone, for crafters, jewelry lovers and science enthusiasts. We have a silent auction, geode cuttings, drawings for beautiful hand-crafted pieces and games of chance and discovery for kids! Contact: (415) 254-1506, dduhonvgms@gmail.com Website: https://vjgems.com</p>	<p>April 13-14, 2024 – Mariposa, CA Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007 Fairgrounds Rd., Mariposa, CA 95338 Hours: Sat 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun 10 AM – 4 PM We'll have a great selection of vendors with all sorts of gems, minerals, fossils, rough lapidary material and many other rock-related items, a fabulous raffle, silent auction, geode cutting, and, of course, food... Website: http://mariposagemclub.org</p>
<p>April 13-14, 2024 – Placerville, CA El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society El Dorado County Fairgrounds, Placerville, CA Hours: Saturday 10 AM -5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM Contact: (530) 676-2472, office@edcmgs.org Website: http://edcmgs.org</p>	<p>March 2-3, 2024 – Ventura, CA Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Ventura Co. Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd. Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun 10 AM-4PM Dealers and exhibits, demos, gold panning, kids activities, raffle & silent auctions, Country Store an plant sale, free resources for teachers. A SoCal tradition for 60+ years. Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org Website: http://www.vgms.org</p>

<p>March 23-24, 2024 – Angeles Camp, CA Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society 2465 Gun Club Rd., Angeles Camp CA 95222 Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM Annual Calaveras Gem and Mineral Show: Adults \$5.00, Children under 12 FREE with paying adult. Amazing displays, vendors and demonstrations, silent auction, Fun and interesting activities for children. Treasure Hunt, Door Prizes! Food on sit. FREE PARKING. Great Fun. Contact: (209) 736-4892, dbrooks49@att.net Website: http://CalaverasGemandMineral.net</p>	<p>May 4-5, 2024 – Lancaster Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club 2551 W Ave. H, Lancaster, CA 93536 Hours: Sat 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun 10 AM – 4 PM AVGMC Rock, Jewelry and Gem Show. Parking and Admission are free. Plenty of vendors, displays and activities for the whole family. Contact: marylandoriole@gmail.com</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">October 2024, Date TBD Grass Valley CA Our Show! Also, “Google” the words “oregon gem and mineral society shows”: many shows (closer than the SoCal shows – <u>and no state tax</u>) show up. Nationally: http://www.amfed.org/fed_shows.htm</p>	

Christmas Rock Painting Ideas for Kids

Adapted from www.craftsonsea.com, by Kate Williams

Kids love painting and finding rocks and these simple Christmas Rock Painting Ideas for Kids are a great way to help inspire their imaginations. We love rock painting ideas for kids and originally used these to make story stones which are a great way to encourage a bit of creative storytelling too so I’ll be telling you about both ways the rocks can be used with children and also sharing some more rock painting ideas (including some festive ones) that I think you’ll love!

What You Will Need

Rocks – kind of obvious right? Try the Yuba River or Deer Creek, they’re easy enough to find in gardens and clean up or you can buy them online – but why?



Pens – normal pens do not work well for this so you will need something a bit specialist, I used Chalkola pens (chalk pens) for these painted rocks but I really like these ones too. Some people use paints for rocks but as both me and my kids are used to holding pens we find them easier to draw with, go with what works for you.



Varnish – chalk paint can rub off stones after a while. While you're painting the stones it's actually pretty handy to have a paint that's not permanent (I've successfully removed the paint from kid's faces, hands, my dining table and the floor just with baby wipes or a wet cloth) but if you want these to last a long time and especially if you plan on hiding the rocks outside you'll need some varnish. You will have to experiment, but generally spray varnish works well.

How to Make Painted Rocks

In my opinion the most important part of painting rocks is that it's a fun activity for kids and adults and. My daughter has been doing squiggles on rocks over the years that have now turned into proper drawings but she's enjoyed the creativity and fun of it the whole time. Painting rocks really is a fun activity for kids and adults so I've kept these as really nice, simple ideas to inspire you and the kids and that are achievable.

To make these rocks I used a mixture of both the normal and earthy colored Chalkola pens to get the colors that I wanted. I like these pens because they're non-toxic and water based which means that any mistakes can be removed pretty easily with a baby wipe or a wet cloth.

When you are making your painted rocks make sure you leave time between each layer of paint drying otherwise the colors will bleed a bit.

Try decorating around the house, mantle, little baskets on the orderve table, etc. That way your kids can participate meaningfully in the annual Christmas decoating tradtions!



It is Time to Renew Your NCG&MS Membership for 2024!

Yes, folks, it's that time again,

Your membership dues pay for a number of things, including dues to the AMFS, the CFMS, Insurance for field trips and other club activities, rental for our meeting hall, and help to produce (and mail) the newsletter. We all get a lot for such a small amount!

Please fill out the form below, and along with a check please send to our Post Office Box:

Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society
Membership Chair
P.O Box 1686
Grass Valley, CA 95945-1686

Dues are due by March 1, 2024.

Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society (NCGMS) 2023 Membership Renewal Form

Please provide Name, and the following information if anything has changed:

Name(s): _____

Address (Street, City, ZIP): _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

(Note: Email Address will be part of the club roster unless omission is requested).

Type of Membership (check one):

Adult 18 Years or Older: \$25.00 per year.

Family (one address): \$30.00 per year.

If you wish to receive newsletter by Email only, deduct \$5.00 from normal membership dues.

I wish to receive my newsletter by email and have entered an Email address.

Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society (NCGMS) is a not-for-profit corporation under the statutes of the State of California and is recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 23701f of the California Revenue and Taxation Code. Contributions made to NCGMS are NOT deductible for tax purposes.

Membership Notes

The winner of the "Free for one year" membership to NCGMS has surfaced: he is Mark Hutchison, and he wrote "Thank you so much".

Hope to see you at meeting!

December Birthdays:

Gerry King

Marty Patton

Eric Blaisdell

Anna Woodhall

Michael Forwood

More Field Trip Notes

Field Trip Report: Trip to Markleeville, CA. October 14-15, 2023

Three rockhounds attended the dig, meeting at the Carson River Resort at 11 Am. On Saturday went in on the Levition Mine Road. There were no washouts. On the forest road, a sign was posted [NO OUTLET] we found 3 sizeable trees across the road just before the Spring watering troughs, Two-thirds the way in we could see the Morning Star Mine just 1/2 mile away. We collected at 5 spots on the way in and the way out, Rhyolite, yellow opalite, and jaspers. We also did some maintenance on the road 1.5 miles in, before the dead end.

We went over the short way in to Gene and John's campsite. The road up to the top of the mountain was also blocked by fallen trees. We drove up to the mine but the creek was 20" deep and 26" wide and u-shaped with vertical walls. We walked in, and I found 6 chunks of silver ore for Gene, about fist size. Lots of Iron pyrite, 20 mesh, all over the ground. Zane walked everywhere around and reported nothing grand found. The weather was great!

Submitted by John Dolman

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society

P.O. Box 1686, Grass Valley, CA 95945-1686

2023 Officers

PRESIDENT	Dennis Geare	(530) 263-1648	dgeare@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Eric Trygg	(530) 273-9161	
SECRETARY	John Dolman	(530) 272-3752	john95670@yahoo.com
TREASURER	Sheila Baker	(530) 263-3362	godisago@gmail.com
DIRECTORS	Christie Harris	(530) 798-8480	hchristie887@yahoo.com
	Polly Marie		
	Blaze Baker		oominerals@gmail.com

2023 Committee Chairpersons

CLUB PICNIC	Lori Woodhall	(530) 432-1750	loriwoodhall@earthlink.net
FEDERATION DIRECTOR	Frank Van Hecke	(530) 575-4252	4vanclan5@att.net
HISTORIAN	Beverly Glenn		bglenn1357@att.net
HOSPITALITY	Christie Harris	(530) 798-8480	hchristie887@yahoo.com
JUNIOR PROGRAM	Julie DeHollander		carusojmc@gmail.com
	Cheryl Hendrickson		cheryl.l.hendrickson@gmail.com
LIBRARIAN	Beverly Glenn		bglenn1357@att.net
MEMBERSHIP	Charles Lindquist		webmaster@ncgms.org
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Blaze Baker acting		oominerals@gmail.com
NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER	Charles Lindquist		webmaster@ncgms.org
REFRESHMENTS	Monthly Birthday Honorees		
SCHOLARSHIP	Polly Marie		
SHOW ORGANIZER	Frank Van Hecke	(530) 575-4252	4vanclan5@att.net
SUNSHINE	Lori Woodhall	(530) 432-1750	loriwoodhall@earthlink.net
TREK LEADER (Field Trips)	John Dolman	(530) 272-3752	john95670@yahoo.com
WEBMASTER	Charles Lindquist		webmaster@ncgms.org

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Meetings

The Nevada County Gem and Mineral Society meets monthly with few exceptions. Membership is informed of exceptions on the website, 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:

Membership Information

- 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

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 information or an application, email our Membership Chairperson Charlie Lindquist at gvrnner99@yahoo.com

Check out our website at: <https://www.ncgms.org>





Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
PO Box 1686
Grass Valley, CA 95945-1686

First Class Mail



December 2023

General Meeting: Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Program: Annual Christmas Party! Note: the Christmas Party Starts early at 6:30, come a bit earlier to bring your potluck item



Meetings Monthly First Tuesdays

Board Meeting (All are welcome!) 6:00 p.m.

General Meeting and program at 7:00 p.m.

(no meeting in July - Picnic)

Golden Empire Grange Guild

11363 Grange Ct., Grass Valley

 **Bring a Friend!** 

2023 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.