

Jade State News

Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Society, Inc.

Award-Winning WSMGS Website: wsmgs.org

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The WSMGS conducts meetings quarterly and as special events require.

2021 Wyoming Rock Show Highlights

Wyoming was the stage for several rock shows this year. Rock show season started with a bang in June with combined shows for the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, hosted by the Sublette County Rock Hounds.

The Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Show followed in July in Casper, hosted by the Natrona County Rockhounds. 2021 Rock Shows also took place in Cheyenne, Riverton and Gillette.



Wyoming jade was prominently featured in the 2021 Wyoming Mineral and Gem Show, held in Casper from July 9-11. This exhibit by John Snook of Casper suspends a long piece of Edwards black jade on a chain above the table. When hit with the hammer, the jade rings like a bell. Snook assured people that the jade will not break.

JSN photo by
Ilene Olson

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2021: Wyoming State Rock Show, Casper

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Left: Mac Goss, President of the Natrona County Rockhounds club, which hosted the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Show in Casper in July. Goss said the show was well attended.



Above: Ayu of Glorious Ethiopian Opals (left) tells Josh Marquez of Casper about the opals during the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem show in Casper. The show took place July 9-11.



Tanya Schimpf, left, and her sister, Shannon Jackett, of Casper, at their display table.

Right: Mom Cassie and her daughters Bella (center) and Addy (front) enjoy checking out all the rock displays at the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Show in Casper.



JSN photos by
Ilene Olson



Niki Paxton of Clark, Wyoming, won a rock tumbler donated by Gray's Rock Shop of Marbleton, Wyoming.



Dorine Strom of Cowley, Wyoming, won the grand prize of a large chunk of Wyoming olive green jade.

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2021: Wyoming State Showcases

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Riverton Mineral and Gem Society's showcase won first place at the Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Show in Casper.



Rex Young Rock Hounds, Lingle, Wyoming



Shoshone Rock Club, Powell



Natrona County Rockhounds



Sublette County Rock Hounds



Cody 59ers



2021: Northeast Wyoming Rock Show, Gillette



Tim Schulze with rock samples for sale at the Gillette show. JSN photos by Leane Gray



Travis Evers (left) and his son, Charlie Evers, display some of their rock collection.



Jeffrey Hullins and his rock display.



Hunter Drummond gives a double thumbs-up at the table where he helped his father, JR Drummond.

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2021: Rocking with the Rocky Mountain Federation

Story and photos by Steve Kaminski, Vice President of the Mineralogical Society of Arizona
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The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) and Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Society's (RMFMS) held their combined conventions and associated field trips in Big Piney, Wyoming between June 16 and 22. The event was hosted by the Sublette County Rock Hounds (SCRH) What an experience it was. Let's set the stage before I get into all the fun stuff.



The AFMS is a national organization that serves rockhounding clubs and mineralogical societies in multiple aspects of operation of their mineral and earth science related endeavors. Their mission is to promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and related subjects, and to sponsor, encourage and coordinate member clubs, international development of Societies and the Regional Federations.

The RMFMS is a regional subsection of the AFMS. The Rocky Mountain Federation's mission is to promote the study of earth sciences, including the lapidary arts, the study of fossils and paleontology, and related crafts. It was organized in 1941, and held its first annual convention at

the Argonaut Hotel in Denver, Colorado. There were 16 organizations in attendance. Today seven states and portions of 6 more states are represented by the AFMs and RMFMS. These include (number of member clubs in parenthesis) Arizona (20), Arkansas (1), Colorado (20), Kansas (5), Nebraska (western portion of state) (1), New Mexico (7), Nevada (1), North Dakota (western portion of state) (1), Oklahoma (9), South Dakota (western portion of state) (1), Texas (1), Utah (7) and Wyoming (7). The bolded States indicate Clubs that elected to leave their region of origin and join with the RMFMS. The map photo is modified from the AFMS website.

With 31 different committees (in the RMFMS alone) to serve member clubs, these two groups provide an extensive array of support to clubs. Some key services include providing an insurance collective to protect the clubs and allow them to corporate services and events such as field trips and show events; providing uniform rules and competition support to promote interest and avenues of growth for the general membership in each club; and support to the American Lands Access Association, just to name a few. In the end, it all comes down to developing a strong worldwide fellowship of those involved in this hobby/passion/way of life. Quite literally, "Fellowship" is the last word in the AFMS mission statement. The Conventions are where this fellowship truly comes to life. I can personally attest that this event was attended by a wide range of people and interests. In these times of strife and social stress, the hospitality, congeniality, and cooperation in the huge clean air of Big Piney, was truly a fresh breath.

Rock, gem and mineral shows are the heart of conventions and at each convention the host club is responsible for putting on that show and providing the support and meeting space needed to hold convention meetings. In this case it was the Sublette County Rock Hounds (SCRH) club that hosted the conventions this year. They also hosted RMFMS's convention last year too. The repeat was due to two major factors: A) The SCRH, led by local rock shop owner Jim Gray, is a top-notch organization with an excellent plan

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2021: Rocking with the RMFMS

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and facility, and B) Certain contributing social and health factors that helped this happy circumstance to recur.

I cannot complement Jim, his wife Leanna, and the SCRH enough. They had actually personally invited me (and pretty much everyone else at the convention that was recently early this year in Prescott, Arizona) to come to Big Piney, Wyoming, for theirs. I feel lucky and grateful that the second chance existed and I was able to attend. Thank you SCRH and the Grays, you were phenomenal hosts.

Highlights from the week

About 50 dealer booths provided a plethora of opportunities to exercise the golden pick (i.e. wallet).

At the show I met Gary Olson, one of the most inspiring rockhounds I have ever met. Gary, his wife, Ilene, and his grandson Troy Cheatham had a booth at the show with a few hundred pendants laid out for sale, each one of them made by Gary. I picked up three and brought them over to ask what was the best price he could offer on the set of them.

Gary refused to look at them — not because he was being rude; no, because he is blind. Instead, he felt the face and setting of each cabochon. On the first, he paused, turned to his grandson and asked, “Is this the one I made the day before yesterday?” to which his grandson said simply, “Yes.”

They weren’t pulling my leg, because the grandson had already told me that one was a brand-new cabochon.

Gary felt another and asked, “Is this the Louisiana palm wood?” Yes, it was.

On the third one, Troy told Gary it was a brown jasper. Gary quoted a price for all three, and now they each belong to my wife and moms. Well, his prices were already good and the pendants each came with their own chain. So, when he discounted the prices, I felt a little bad, kinda like I was robbing him blind.

Gary lost his sight just after birth, when he was placed in an oxygen chamber. He has thousands of finished and unfinished specimens in his stock and knows them each by feel. You can see his work at his website: Lapidary Gary at www.lapidarygary.com/.

Read more about Gary on Page 9 of the February/March 2021 RMFMS newsletter: http://rmfms.org/uploads/newsletters/2021/2021_FebMar_RMfms_Newsletter.pdf.



Gary Olson, a blind lapidarist from Powell, Wyoming, (right) shows Steve Kaminski (center) how he grinds and polishes rocks by touch. Observing is Gary's grandson, Troy Cheatham. Photo by Ilene Olson

Sublette County Rock Hounds

The SCRH (founded in 2016) put on a great show which include fantastic Exhibits. That is the mark of a well-experienced and energetic club. You would never suspect that the club was only five years old.

I was delighted to spend a fair amount of time with Jim and enjoyed getting to know him better.

An independent puppeteer, Timothy J. Seeber provided hours of entertainment by walking throughout the show inside his prehistoric dinosaur puppets, as pictured below.



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2021: Rocking with the RMFMS

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Visual Highlights All photos by Steve Kaminski



These are a few of the beautiful exhibits displayed by Rockhounds, from right to left: Covellite, Bruneau jasper, and fossils. The covellite and Bruneau jasper were memorial I for Gerald Ray Scharow.



Jade was the ubiquitous star of the exhibits and Wyoming Jade held fast to the Pride of Place.



Collecting at the Blue Forest Petrified Wood Site near Farson, Wyoming. Blue Forest petrified wood found by Charla and Alex Goe, with some assistance from Steve.

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Ancient Mammal Trackway Discovered

By Brett French

Billings Gazette, May 18, 2021

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The oldest mammal footprints ever found along a beach — dated to about 58 million years ago — have been identified in south-central Wyoming rock. Because the tracks are from two different species and move across 1,000 yards, they are also the most diverse and largest accumulation of Paleocene mammal tracks in the world.

The discovery is documented in the journal “Scientific Reports” by authors Anton Wroblewski, an adjunct associate professor in the Department of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Utah, and Bonnie Gulas-Wroblewski, of the Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute.

The research is interesting because it records behavior, said Rob Thomas, a Regents professor of Geology at the University of Montana Western in Dillon. “When we find skeletal remains, we commonly don’t get to understand behavior and paleoecological relationships of animals,” he wrote in an email. “Knowing that early Cenozoic mammals liked the beach shows they are not all that different from humans.”

Seaway

The footprints date to when Wyoming had beachfront property. At the time, a vast area stretching from an ancient Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Ocean was covered by the Western Interior Seaway, which flooded much of what is now Montana and Wyoming. In 2019 Wroblewski discovered the prints, fossilized in what is now Carbon County.

“Paleontologists have been working in this area for 30 years, but they’ve been looking for bones, leaf fossils and pollen, so they didn’t notice footprints or trackways,” Wroblewski said in a press release. “When I found them, it was late afternoon and the setting sun hit them at just the right angle to make them visible on the tilted slabs of sandstone. At first, I couldn’t believe what I was seeing; I had walked by this outcrop for years without noticing them. Once I saw the first few, I followed out the ridge of sandstone and realized they were part of a much larger, more extensive trackway.”

The area where the prints were found is known as the



A section of the 58-million-year-old tracksite demonstrating near-vertical tilting of the originally horizontal bedding with three separate trackways made by five-toed mammals walking in parallel. Photo courtesy Anton Wroblewski

Hanna Formation, one of the world’s largest saucer-like depressions, called an intracratonic depression.

Anton Wroblewski points to an underprint made 58 million years ago by a heavy mammal (likely *Coryphodon*) walking on the deltaic deposits above. Underprints form when sediment is displaced downward by footsteps from heavy animals. Photo courtesy Anton Wroblewski

Mammals

One set of tracks are fairly large, five-toed footprints — about the size of a modern-day grizzly. Another set were medium-sized four-toed prints. The Wroblewskis say the five-toed prints were made by *Coryphodon*, a type of semiaquatic Pantodont, similar to a hippopotamus.

The four-toed prints are similar to artiodactyls and

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Ancient Mammal Trackways

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Anton Wroblewski points to an underprint made 58 million years ago by a heavy mammal (likely *Coryphodon*) walking on the deltaic deposits above. Underprints form when sediment is displaced downward by footsteps from heavy animals. Photo courtesy Anton Wroblewski

using marine environments only 8 million years after non-avian dinosaurs went extinct."

The date of the footprints was estimated using plant and pollen fossils found in the rock.

"The tracks led to and crossed an area which also held traces of prehistoric marine mollusks and worms, as well as sea anemones, indicating the area was once a shallow tidal lagoon or bay," according to the university press release.

The authors speculate prehistoric mammals gathered by the sea for similar reasons as today's mammals, such as crossing to migrate, protection from predators and biting insects, and to find salt, which would have been limited in prehistoric North American tropical forests.

tapiroids. Artiodactyls are cloven-hoofed animals that include contemporary species like deer and elk. Tapiroids are related to modern-day tapirs, plant eaters with a short trunk-like nose. Yet the prints did not match anything in the current fossil record.

The scientists said these tracks represent the first-known prints of mammals using marine habitats, about 9.4 million years earlier than previously thought. They are also the first Paleocene mammal tracks found in the United States and only the fourth in the world. Two sets of tracks were previously found in Canada and one in Svalbard, Norway, according to the researchers.

"Trace fossils like footprints record interactions between organisms and their environments, providing information that body fossils alone cannot," Anton said. "In this case, trace fossils show that large-bodied mammals were regularly



Drawing of *Coryphodons*

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Geology of Edness K. Wilkins State Park

A publication of the Wyoming State Geological Survey

INTRODUCTION

Edness K. Wilkins State Park sits in the midst of a landscape shaped by dramatic changes over the last 100 million years. Many geologic processes have made their mark on this park, including the rise and fall of an ancient inland sea, the uplift of a mountain range, and the transport of sediment by the North Platte River.

GEOLOGIC SETTING

The bedrock exposed in Edness K. Wilkins State Park records one of the many fascinating episodes in Wyoming's geologic history—the existence and retreat of a vast body of water known as the Western Interior Seaway. The seaway covered the central part of the North American continent during the Cretaceous Period, a time before the Rocky Mountains had risen, when the earth's climate was much warmer and sea level was much higher than today. At its

maximum extent around 93 million years ago, the seaway stretched from the present-day Arctic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico.

Evidence for the seaway is preserved in the Fox Hills Sandstone exposed in the park. This rock unit consists of gray to yellow-brown sandstone interspersed with layers of shale containing marine fossils. It underlies the grassy flats paralleling U.S. Highway 20/26 and can be seen in outcrops north of the North Platte River.

The sediment composing the Fox Hills Sandstone generally coarsens upward, meaning the lower (and thus older) part of the unit contains more fine-grained material (shale) while the upper (younger) part of the unit contains more coarse-grained material (sandstone). Geologists use this evidence to infer that this layer records a regression—or retreat—of the seaway and a transition through time from a calm, shallow sea to a more turbulent shoreline setting.



Edness K. Wilkins State Park on the North Platte River, near Casper.

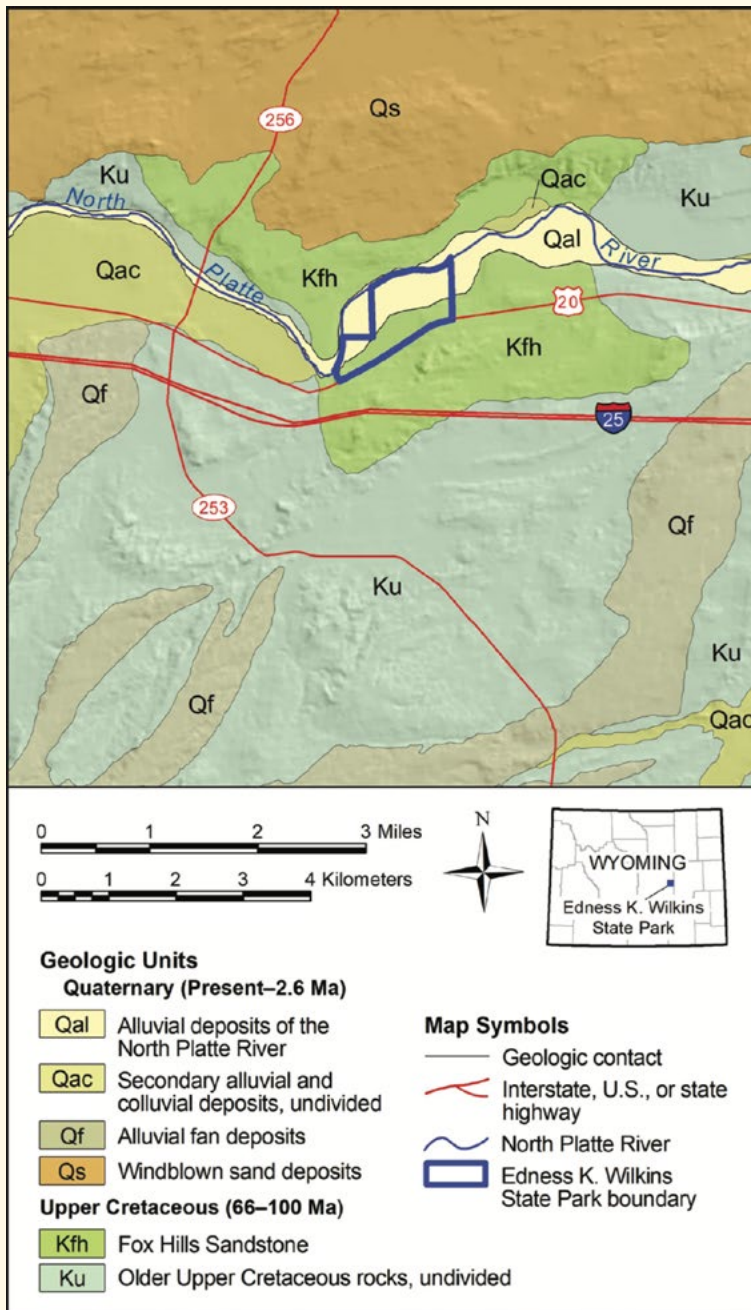
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Geology of Edness K. Wilkins State Park

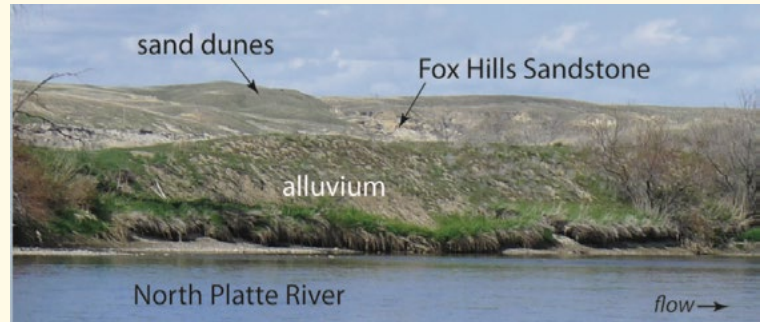
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Older Cretaceous rocks exposed in the region record different stages of the seaway's various landward advances and seaward retreats, but it is the Fox Hills Sandstone that represents the last regression of the Western Interior Seaway to the east as it exited Wyoming for the final time.

HYDROGEOLOGY



Simplified geologic map of Edness K. Wilkins State Park and its surroundings. Geologic unit ages are in millions of years (Ma).



View to the northeast from the state park. The river bank is composed of alluvium deposited by the North Platte River, while the distant hills expose bedrock of the Fox Hills Sandstone topped by sand dunes.

Edness K. Wilkins State Park sits on the banks of the North Platte River nearly halfway along its 700-mile course from the Park Range in Colorado to its confluence with the South Platte River in Nebraska. The North Platte is the longest river in Wyoming and, together with its tributaries, drains around one quarter of the state's area. After flowing north out of Colorado, the river bends to the east at Casper, heading for the Great Plains.

For hundreds of thousands of years, the North Platte River has cut into the surrounding sedimentary bedrock and deposited unconsolidated river sands and gravel, called alluvium.

The State of Wyoming purchased the quarry in 1981 to establish a park commemorating the life of long-time Wyoming state legislator and Casper resident Edness Kimball Wilkins. Over the course of several years the site was reclaimed to a more natural state, which involved tasks such as re-contouring gravel and sand stockpiles, replacing topsoil, and seeding for regrowth of vegetation.

After quarry operations ceased, the gravel pits gradually filled with water to become the ponds you see today. Alluvium deposited by the North Platte River is highly porous, meaning a large percentage of the deposit's overall volume is taken up by void space between sediment grains. This allows for groundwater to easily pass through and exchange with the river, explaining why today there is water in the park's ponds. In fact, the water levels in these ponds track with changes in the river, such that a rise or fall in the river will cause a similar response a few days later in the ponds.

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Geology of Edness K. Wilkins State Park

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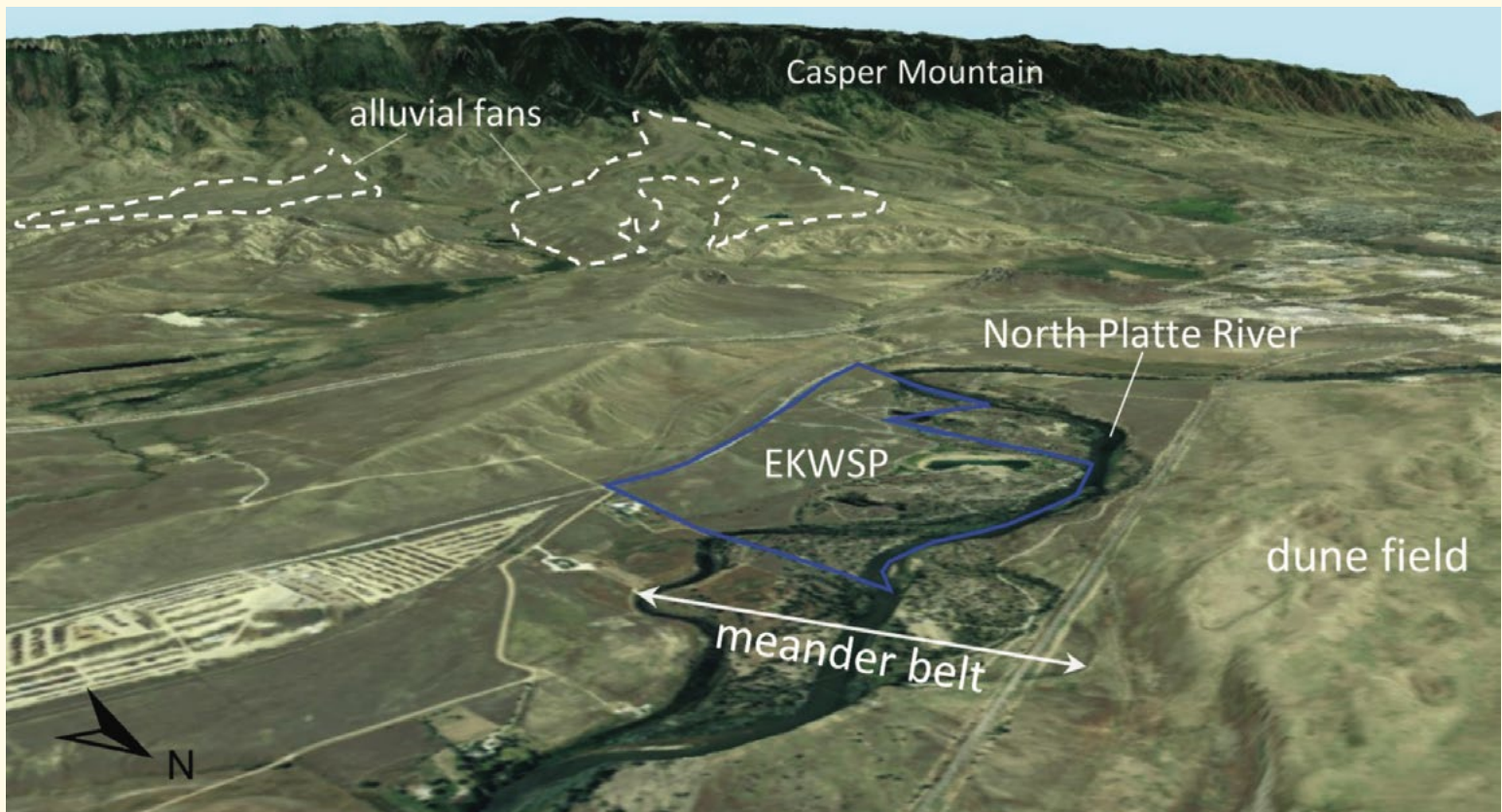
The North Platte River near the park flows within a meandering channel. The channel is constantly shifting as the river erodes its banks on the outside of bends and deposits alluvium on the inside of bends. As the river has moved back and forth through time, a meander belt, or shallow valley, has formed. Here the meander belt is half a mile wide and ~200 feet lower than the adjacent plains. The boundary between the active meander belt and older alluvial deposits (called terraces) roughly follows the southernmost extent of trees through the park. Riparian vegetation grows in the active meander belt because the soil is porous and roots can access the shallow water table.

Historically the river's flow near Casper fluctuated from less than 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) in the winter to more than 4,000 cfs in the summer from mountain snowmelt. The modern river maintains a more uniform flow regime with lower peaks and higher minimums due to large upstream reservoirs, including Alcova, Pathfinder, and Seminoe, which store water for irrigation and flood

control. Even so, the North Platte can still undergo considerable flooding in wet years.

The presence of alluvium plays a key role in the history of Edness K. Wilkins State Park, as before this area was a state park it was a gravel quarry. Gravel was mined from pits within the current park boundary and used as aggregate for road base and concrete.

The park is favorably located for viewing geologic landforms in the area. The southern horizon is dominated by Casper Mountain, which rises 3,000 feet above the North Platte River. Casper Mountain was uplifted during a mountain-building episode known as the Laramide orogeny, which occurred about 70–35 million years ago and is responsible for the formation of the Rocky Mountains. The core of the mountain exposes metamorphic and intrusive igneous rocks that are Archean in age, or more than 2.5 billion years old. In response to compression of the earth's crust during the Laramide orogeny, these Archean basement rocks were faulted to the north, up and over the

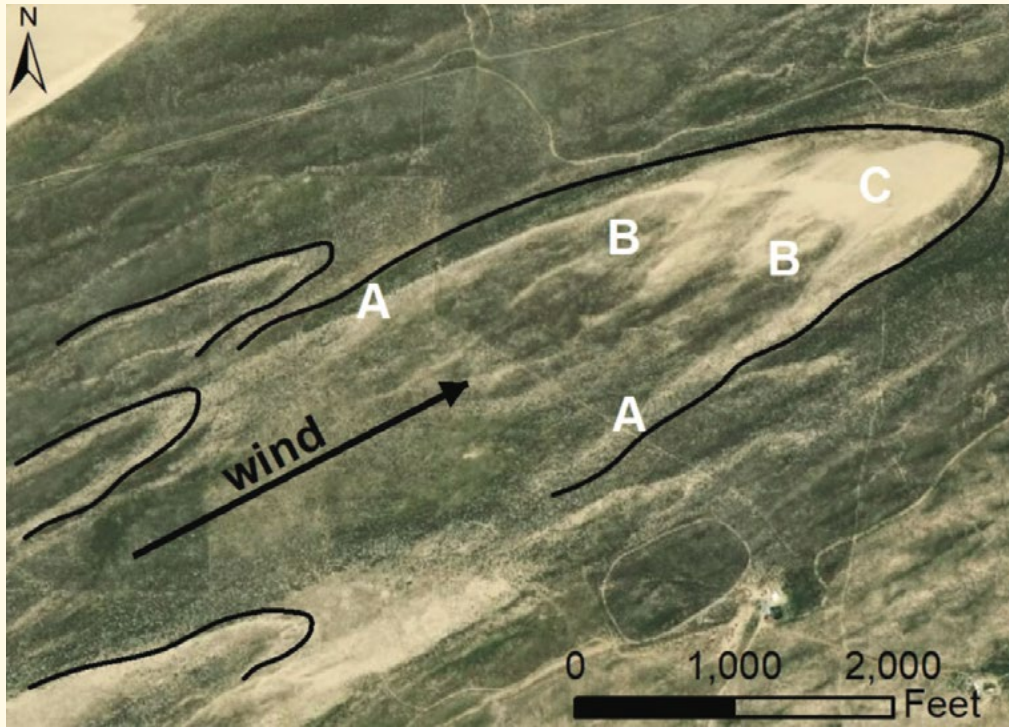


Oblique aerial view to the southwest of Casper Mountain, its flanking alluvial fans, and the valley of the North Platte River. Topography in image is 2x vertically exaggerated. Blue outline shows boundary of Edness K. Wilkins State Park (EKWSP).

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Geology of Edness K. Wilkins State Park

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Aerial photograph of parabolic dunes 4 miles north of Edness K. Wilkins State Park. Dunes are outlined in black, and the arrow shows the prevailing wind direction. Labels: A=arms of the dune anchored by vegetation, B="blowouts," or deflation basins, where wind has removed sand, C=crest of the dune, which is unvegetated and actively migrating northeast with the winds.

younger sedimentary rocks that now form the mountain's flanks.

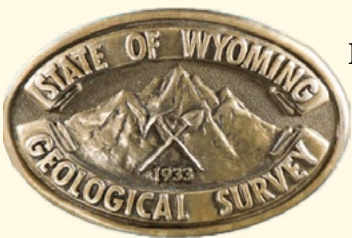
Extending north from Casper Mountain are more gently sloping apron-like surfaces known as alluvial

fans. These features are much younger than Casper Mountain itself, forming only in the last few million years. The alluvial fans are derived from sediment shed from the eroding mountain,

which is carried down in streams and deposited where the streams emerge onto the valley floor. The sediment is thickest adjacent to the mountain front and gets progressively thinner farther north into the Valley. Modern Streams have cut down into the alluvial fans to form the drainages visible from the park.

Across the North Platte River from the park is another young geologic feature formed in the last ten thousand years: a large, active sand dune field that stretches from Casper to Glenrock. The dunes are elongated in a northeast direction, reflecting the prevailing winds from the southwest. These features are classified as parabolic dunes and can be identified in map view by an extended U-shape that opens to the upwind side. The dunes are formed when vegetation anchors the two arms of the dune but cannot grow on the crest, which migrates downwind (to the northeast in this case) with time.

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For more information, visit: wyoparks.state.wy.us/index.php/places-to-go/hot-springs

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Happy New Year!

Safety Matters

By Ellery Borow, Safety Chair, American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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Signs?

Safety means different things to different people.

Safety can mean locking the doors, keeping a medical kit handy, or reading the instructions before using your new "rock desrtucto" tool.

One of the issues with safety is reading the signs of a situation before it becomes a full-blown problem. If one sees a worn cord on one's lapidary equipment, a mushroom head developing on a chisel, a broken guard on a slab saw, or a tripping hazard at a gem show - those would be safety matter "signs".

Goggles hard to see through? Clean them or replace them. Mushroom head on a chisel? Grind off the damaged part. Worn electrical cord? Replace it. Those are relatively easy issues to address. If one sees a potential problem and addresses it before it become an active problem, one has correctly read the signs.

What about the signs of someone's medical problems while participating in the hobby? Would one recognize the signs of a medical problem? What if there were a member's diabetic sugar level problem, a dehydration issue on a dig, a sunburn from a member's being too focused on hole digging, heat stroke, or heart attack at a club activity?

It is not likely everyone in a club will want to be an expert in all matters of medical emergency, but a smattering of knowledge and being aware of certain signs can be a good thing. Here are some common medical safety matters — heart attack, dehydration, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, poisoning, concussion, shock. To give any complete and comprehensive descriptions of these conditions is beyond the scope of this column. However, some basic knowledge may be beneficial.

- Heart attack — For one reason or another heart cannot do its job. Symptoms: Time of essence, severe pain or discomfort in chest region, often radiating to arms / neck, sometimes denied / dismissed because can feel like indigestion, if not breathing initiate CPR, seek medical attention ASAP.

- Dehydration — Insufficient water consumption. Symptoms: thirsty. Drink water.

- Heat exhaustion — Symptoms: weakness, faintness,

sometimes headache and nausea, skin pale, wet, and clammy from perspiring. Move to cooler but not chilly place, lay down, drink fluids if tolerated. Follow-up care suggested.

- Heat stroke — more serious than heat exhaustion. Symptoms: mental confusion, staggering walk, delirium, skin flushed, dry, and hot. Person may mention being hot. Move to cooler but not chilly place, lay down with head elevated, sponge body with cool water. Seek medical attention.

- Poisoning — Can be by inhalation, ingestion, absorption, or injection (bites). Symptoms: many and varied. Observe the situation and seek medical assistance immediately. If by ingestion of known source, follow directions on container and seek medical assistance immediately.

- Concussion — Injury to head. Symptoms: depends upon nature of injury, may have loss of consciousness, breathing or vision issues, inability to move certain body parts, headache, nausea, vomiting. Seek medical attention.

- Shock — A response to severe or sometime slight injuries including fright, severe burns, circulatory issues, blood loss, pain. Symptoms: altered consciousness; skin pale, moist, cool; rapid breathing and pulse; irritability or restlessness. Treat base cause, then lay down with feet elevated, except with head injury; keep warm and airway clear, offer water. Seek medical attention. Sometimes the signs are confusing or not easy to ascertain, but they are still worth noting.

Rockhounding is a hobby where it is still best when all end their day safe, healthy and happy — a hobby where being part of the rock-collecting family and knowing the signs is good thing.

The above is not meant to profess or prescribe current medical solutions. It is meant to convey the understanding that many medical emergencies have solutions that need quick action and club knowledge of solutions may be a part of a successful outcome. There is a huge number of emergency medical and survival guides. The American Red Cross (copyright) had a substantial number of up-to-date health and safety publications. Please encourage your club's safety committee to stay current with health and safety practices. Please consider encouraging an interest in safety being practiced by every club member.

Your safety matters.

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Safety is No Accident

By ILENE OLSON
Jade State News Editor

I've always been a very safety-conscious person. If you asked our kids (all grown), they'd tell you I'm cautious to a fault. So, if someone told me that I would be injured in an accident in my husband's lapidary shop, I'd have a hard time understanding how that could happen.

But happen it did, in late October. I volunteered to help Gary clean his rock saw — something we've both done many times before. I was busily using a scraper to scoop oil sludge (the bane of my existence!) toward the drain in the bottom of the saw's tank when I heard the bracket that was holding the saw lid open give way — something that can happen when you jar the lid in the wrong direction.

I knew instinctively that I needed to get my hands out of there, and quick. I almost made it, but I still had a few inches to go when the edge of the saw lid came down on the back of my right hand.

For those who have never seen a large rock saw, let me explain. The lid — 3 feet long, 2 feet wide, and about a foot deep — is constructed of steel and has an edge around it that fits inside the tank. It's heavy. It's hinged in the back, and before it fell, the front had been about level with our heads.

OUCH! Double ouch! It's a good

thing my parents taught me to never say bad words, or I probably would have said a few then. When I pulled my hand out from underneath the lid, I had a gash about an inch long on the back of my hand, located about an inch and a half below my knuckles. An inch or so below that, I had two more cuts that were less severe, but with more bruising in that area.

It was plain that I would need medical attention, so I paid a visit to my doctor's office, where it took five stitches to close the long gash. The shorter cuts were closed with medical adhesive.

But the thing that really hurt was the end of my ring finger, and I had a hard time figuring out why the tip of that finger should hurt so bad. An x-ray later showed that I had broken the tip of that finger. A day later, it looked like the tip of ET's finger, only bluish purple instead of red.

It took me a while to figure out what had happened. When the lid fell, I had a the handle of a scraper in my hand, and my fingers were wrapped around it. The lid crushed my finger between the edge of the saw tank and the scraper handle. How it missed the other fingers and all but a tiny bit of the edge of my thumb, I haven't figured out.

After analyzing my injuries, I realized that having the scraper handle in my hand probably saved me from much more serious injuries. It supported the bones in the back of my hand and kept them from being broken or crushed. The back of my hand and my palm

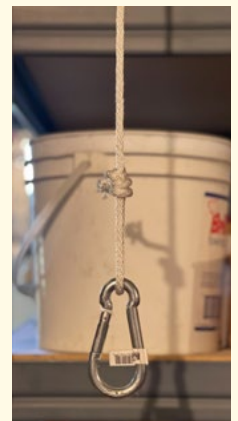
both swelled and bruised badly, and it was about a month before I had full use of my hand again, but it healed well. I thank God that I wasn't much more seriously injured.

I told our children about my injury and the circumstances that led to it. Our son Alan said we should tie the lid up when we were cleaning the saw. While that made sense, I had a hard time visualizing how we could do it.

The next day, our son Dan made the 25-mile trip from his house and rigged up a 2½-foot rope that he attached securely to the ceiling. Then he tied a carabiner hook to the other end, and that attaches to the handle of the saw lid to keep it open and prevent it from falling.

I have to admit that, without that safety rigging, I would be hesitant to reach my hands into Gary's saw ever again. But now, I have no concerns (other than the oily sludge I know I'll find in the depths of that saw). I'm thankful for our concerned and ingenious children who care enough to ensure that Gary and I are safe from injury.

If you have a rock saw, you may want to rig up a similar safety device to prevent injury and give yourself some peace of mind. If it can happen to me, it can happen to anyone.



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Club News



Rock Hound Spotlight

Bill and Linna Beebe of Powell, Wyoming, agree that rocks are good medicine.

Bill was only 6 years old in 1948 when he was pushing the lawn mower and laid down to rest in San Bernardino, California. When he tried to get back up, her found that he could not.

He was diagnosed with bulbar polio, the worst of the three types of polio.

Six other little boys had contacted it also, but Bill was the only boy in this group to be treated differently, instead of being put in one of those iron lungs.

Bill had heard an assistant say, "If you put this boy in the iron lung, he will die."

Instead, they treated him with hot cloths on his body. No one was allowed to come in to see him, but his grandmother,

Lucille Coke, would bring pretty rocks to his window for him to look at.

To this day, at the age of 79, Bill still loves rocks.

Bill and Linna met when they were both 18 years old and in college. Three years later, they were married. They celebrated out 58th wedding anniversary earlier this year.

Owners of Stoneage Industries, they have been in business with rocks, lapidary equipment and more for 36 years, since 1985.

Linna, who served in several leadership positions over the years, was awarded a lifetime membership in the Shoshone Rock Club a few years ago. She gave presentations about rocks to the Boys and Girls Club of Park County for 13 years. She was named Wyoming's Rockhound of the Year in 2014.



Bill and Linna Beebe of Powell, Wyoming

We're looking for news from your club!

Is your club doing fun things?

Do you have a story you'd like to share?

Know someone who would make a great Rockhound Spotlight?

Send stories and photos to jsn@wsmsg.org!



WSMGS Rock Clubs

Riverton Mineral & Gem Society

P.O. Box 1904
Riverton, WY 82501
rivertonmgs@wsmsg.org
www.RivertonMGS.com

Meets 2nd Mon. 7 p.m.
(Jan.-May, Aug.-Nov.)
Senior Center, 303 E. Lincoln, Riverton

President: Stan Grove
Vice-President: Open
Treasurer: Al Zelnak
Secretary: Holly Skinner
JSN: Open
Historian: Open
Field Trips Ted Knowles

Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society

P.O. Box 21412
Cheyenne, WY 82003
cheyennemgs@wsmsg.org

Meet 2nd Wed. 7 p.m. (August-May)
IBEW Union Building
810 Fremont Street-Cheyenne

President: Open
Vice President Open
Treasurer: Jan Shively
Field Trip..... Mark Shivley

Natrona County Rockhounds

P.O. Box 123,
Casper, WY 82644
natronarockhounds@wsmsg.org

Meets 1st Monday 7 p.m. (April-Dec)
Shop Open 6-8 p.m. Tue & Fri at
Clubhouse, 5211 Rambler, Mills

President: Martin "Mac" Goss
Vice-President: John Hines
Treasurer: Kenny Platte
Secretary: Martin "Mac" Goss

Cody 59ers Rock Club

P.O. Box 1251
Cody WY 82414
cody59ers@wsmsg.org
www.Cody59ers.com

Meets 4th Thursday (Sept-May) 6:30 p.m.
Park County Courthouse, EOC room,
1002 Sheridan Ave., Cody

President: Greg Jones
Vice-President: John Severeide
Treasurer: Aubrey Smith
Secretary Janet Lorher
Historian: Stan Strike
Field Trips Nella Flurkey



Sublette County Rock Hounds Club

P.O. Box 1351
Big Piney, WY 83113
subletterockhounds@wsmsg.org

Meets 1 p.m. 3rd Saturday (March-Dec)
The Bench Grill
415 Winkleman, Marbleton

President: Jim Gray
Vice-President: Mike Schaffer
Treasurer: Leane Gray
Secretary: Deb Jess

Shoshone Rock Club

P.O. Box 256,
Powell, WY 82435
shoshonerockclub@wsmsg.org

Meets 2nd Tuesday 7 p.m.
Powell Library
317 E. Third St., Powell

President: Dorine Strom
Vice-President: Mary Vogel
Treasurer: Cheryl Thomas
Secretary: Linda Thomas
JSN: Ilene Olson
Historian: Linna Beebe
Field Trips Dorine Strom

Rex Young Rock Club

112 East 3rd
Lingle, WY 82223
rexyoungrockclub@wsmsg.org

Meets 2nd Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Senior Center
216 E. 19th Ave., Torrington

President: Kim Nielsen
Vice-President: Ed Verplancke
Treasurer: Helen Vogel
Secretary: Joyce Trowbridge
JSN: Joyce Trowbridge
Historian: Joyce Trowbridge
..... Dale Tikalski

Northeast Wyoming Rockhounds

2107C N. Hwy 14-16
Gillette WY 82716
newyrockhounds@wsmsg.org

Meets odd # months
Check email for dates

President: Jeff Hulings
Vice-President: Dennis Brown
Treasurer: Beth Raab
Secretary: Gary Haptonstall

WSMGS Electronic Board Meeting

October 2021

I. Electronic Meeting Instructions to Board Members:

As a WSMGS Board Member, I ask you to read this Electronic Meeting email and VOTE on all Action Items by selecting "Reply All" after typing your name and indicating a "Agree or Disagree" vote for each numbered Action Item. The Deadline for your responses by "Reply All" email will be Monday, October 25, 2021. If you have questions about any item call, text, or email me at 307-260-6442 or pres@wsmsg.org. Board members are encouraged to submit old or new business items that have not been included in this meeting and a special attachment will be sent out for the entire WSMGS Board's consideration.

II. President's Report by Jim Gray:

WSMGS 2022 Annual Show will be hosted by Riverton Mineral and Gem Society. All Clubs are encouraged to assist, please contact Stan Grove to commit to volunteer during the Show.

Annual membership reports and dues to the WSMGS and RMFMS are to be prepared and submitted as of October 31 each year.

Section 4. Dues and Special Assessments. WSMGS member club dues and special assessments shall be fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors. Dues shall be payable annually to the WSMGS Treasurer by December 15th based on the total number of individual dues paying club members who are 12 years or older as of October 31st of that year. Nonpayment of dues or special assessments may result in action by the WSMGS Board of Directors.

April 1st is the due date for nominations for Club Rock Hounds of the Year, Junior Rock Hounds of the Year, and State Rock Hounds of the Year (R.O.Y. nominations). Forms can be found on the WSMGS website. Jim will send out reminders to the Clubs to encourage involvement in this opportunity to honor our members for outstanding involvement in our Clubs and hobby.

Need Clubs to please send in a list of activities, field trip pictures etc. to WSMGS Historian (Roger McMannis) and copies of meeting minutes once a month, after the meetings, or annually so they can be archived. Would like to post club activities in Jade State News.

If any Club has any questions, concerns, or needs please let me know and I will do my best to help.

As we all know Stan Strike has retired and we need

members to help write articles for the Jade State News Letter, please send to me and I will proof read them and send on to be edited into the News Letter, pictures of field trips, club meetings or activities will be welcome.

Scheduled shows as of today, Sublette County Rockhounds June 17,18,19, 2022. Natrona County Rockhounds July 9,10, 2022. Cheyenne usually mid May, 2022. Riverton Mineral and Gem Society will be hosting the 2022 Wyoming State Mineral and Gem show, dates have not been set yet. Northeast Wyoming Rockhounds September. Please get me the dates so we can get them posted on the web page.

III. Vice President's Report by Linda Richendifer:

WSMGS affiliated rock clubs need to submit their Annual Election of Officers Report as soon as club officers are determined for the new year.

IV. Secretary's Report By Leane Gray:

Prior Electronic WSMGS Board Meeting Minutes are printed in the Jade State News, which are available online: wsmsg.org under the heading Newsletters.

V. Treasurer's Report by Mac Goss:

WSMGS Club Report Reminders

- January 1st to May 15th — Form 990N must be electronically submitted to the IRS (The Registered agent for each club should receive this form from the IRS in advance of the deadline). Clubs may contact the IRS directly by email: la2.alt.www4.irs.gov/pub/rup_login_1

- Deadline for Annual Report to Wyoming Secretary of State Varies by WSMGS Club.

- Deadline for renewal of "Non Profit Corporation Annual Report" varies by club and is due the first day of the month in which the club was first recognized by the Wyoming Secretary of State as a Non Profit Corporation.

(The Registered Agent for your club should receive this form in advance of the club's deadline.)

WSMGS Clubs' Incorporation Dates:

- Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society — Dec. 2, 1969
- Cody 59ers Rock Club — February 1, 2012
- Natrona County Rock Hounds — April 15, 1954
- Rex Young Rock Club — Not Incorporated
- Northeast Wyoming — November 8, 2018
- Riverton Mineral & Gem Society — August 17, 2012

(Continued on Page 19)

WSMGS Electronic Board Meeting, October 2021 (Continued from Page 18)

- Shoshone Rock Club — February 8, 1962
 - Sublette County Rock Hounds — March 21, 2018
 - WSMGS Board Incorporated — November 23, 1964
- The Treasurer's Report follows at the bottom of this page.*

VI. Historian Report by Roger McMannis:

Reminder that all WSMGS clubs need to send activities and meeting minutes or annual reports please.

Please email them to Roger McMannis: hist@wsmsg.org OR mail to him P.O. Box 1081, Big Piney, WY 83113.

VII. Jade State Newsletter by Ilene Olson:

Clubs are encouraged to submit news items, articles, abbreviated minutes, and photos for publication in the Jade State News.

Submission dates for Jade State News Editor [jsn@wsmsg.org] are the 1st of February, May, August, and November.

The WSMGS would like to encourage clubs to nominate non-club members individuals/couples from your region who have been active in promoting the Earth Sciences to be recognized by receiving recognition in the Jade State News as Wyoming Rock Stars! Check out former winner write-ups on the WSMGS website: wsmsg.org-Menu-WSMGS Topic Library-WSMGS Awards. Rock Star Nominations: please submit these nominations with a descriptive paragraph and

photo to the JSN. There is not an award associated with the nominations; it is a recognition.

VIII. WSMGS Website by Marlene Sibley:

The WSMGS needs Action Photos from each of your clubs. Please include the photographer's name for proper photo credit and a short caption summary as to activity. Send photos to: webmaster@wsmsg.org

IX. Old Business:

X. New Business:

Update WSMGS Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws to reflect current Officers/Directors

+++VOTE: Action Item #1- Agree or Disagree with the proposed updates to the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws.

AGREE OR DISAGREE: All members agreed.

+++VOTE: Action Item #2 – Check to Ilene Olson, for supplies JSN. \$75.00

AGREE OR DISAGREE: All members agreed.

+++VOTE: Action Item #3 – Gift certificate to Marlene Sibley (WSMGS Web master) \$75.00

AGREE OR DISAGREE: All members agree.

XI. Meeting Adjourned- Monday, October 25, 2021.

Action	Date	Description	Expense	Revenue	Running Balance	Bank Balance
Deposit	7/1/21	Donation — Jim Gray		\$5.00	\$4,897.03	
128	7/8/21	Natrona Co. Rockhounds Meal allowance	\$200.00		\$4,697.03	
129	7/9/21	Roger McMannis-travel expenses	\$150.00		\$4,547.03	
130	7/10/21	Linda Reichendifer-travel expenses	\$150.00		\$4,397.03	
131	7/11/21	Stan Strike-travel expenses	\$150.00		\$4,247.03	
132	7/12/21	8th Street Ivy-gift to Marlene Sibley	\$50.00		\$4,197.03	
133	7/13/21	ALAA-Annual dues	\$50.00		\$4,147.03	
134	7/14/21	West Texas Trail Museum	\$100.00		\$4,047.03	
135	7/15/21	Ilene Olson-travel expenses	\$150.00		\$3,897.03	\$3,897.03
136	VOID	VOID			\$3,897.03	
Deposit	8/6/21	Proceeds Silent Auction at state show		\$1,440.00	\$5,337.03	
Deposit	8/17/21	Donation — Jim Gray		\$5.00	\$5,342.03	
Deposit	8/24/21	Donation — Mac Goss		\$5.00	\$5,347.03	\$5,347.03
Deposit	9/20/21	Annual Dues — NE Wyoming Rockhounds		\$21.00	\$5,368.03	