

23 February 2021

Dear RMGS members,

In this, my second letter to the RMGS membership, I have some news items to announce and a report on things that are happening (or not happening). Please note the following:

[1] In order to address some transitional matters and to plan for the near future, the new officers met on Thursday, 18 February at the Riverton public library. Stan Grove and Al Zelenak were physically present; Holly Skinner was on “phone standby” in case her vote was required on anything. Also present by invitation, to advise on relevant matters, were Linda Richendifer, Ted Knowles and Kim Brown. No minutes were taken, but the following paragraphs will serve as a summary of main points of discussion.

[2] The decision was made to hold a **general club meeting on the second Monday of April, i.e. the 12th**, at a location yet to be decided (but probably in the Riverton MakerSpace307, where we held the November meeting; stay tuned for update). The two main priorities at this meeting (besides learning to recognize each other’s eyebrows once again) will be to finalize the **summer 2021 field trip schedule** and to vote on the club’s **hosting of the 2022 Mineral Show**. We hope that, for various reasons, the epidemic concerns will have abated considerably by six weeks from now.

[3] We agreed that it would be a good thing to put in for RMGS’s hosting of the 2022 show (as opposed to the 2023 show, which is currently the club’s expectation), since the opportunity has newly arisen. This will be voted on at the April meeting, as noted above.

[4] Al gave a **Treasurer’s report** and made some proposals for streamlining the accounting. Future improvements in this regard will include an online option for paying dues (*remember, there are no dues for existing members in 2021!*), simplified membership application form, and reducing the number of paper receipts (e-banking records can be made available as needed). We also agreed that a slight petty cash discrepancy should be ascribed to confusions arising during the epidemic year, and to start afresh with a specific “best guess” amount.

[5] **New position coming!** It was agreed that the responsibilities of maintaining the membership files, payment of dues, updating of email addresses and so on should be shouldered by a person targeted, I mean chosen, for the task, rather than by the Treasurer. Any volunteers?

[6] We voted to enter an **RMGS rock/mineral/fossil display** at the Big Piney (June 18-20) and Casper (July 9-11) shows. It will be essentially the same display at each show; the theme of the State show is “Rockhounding along the Sweetwater” or something close to that. Let that be the theme of our display ... and please be thinking of truly excellent specimens that you could loan to this project. WE WANNA WIN.

[7] Other topics discussed by those present were [a] modifying the club's current name-badge-for-all policy (to save expense and clutter); [b] undertaking (and posting to club members) an inventory of the club's property, currently stored at various locations; [c] communicating more regularly and interactively with the state society, WSMGS.

[8] Three issues that I have *not* made much progress on as of yet, despite my earlier optimism: [a] the mineral-specific pages on our web site, [b] the (I hope) forthcoming online club auction, and [c] the proposed survey of member interests and suggestions. These items will be taken up in my next (March) letter, which will also be the one alerting you to the time and place of the April in-person meeting.

[9] I have installed a “**Central Wyoming Rocks and Minerals**” exhibit in the foyer of Lander's Pioneer Museum. This will be on display until early summer; check out the museum's Facebook page for details. Thanks to Ted K., Mel G. and Al Z. (and two of my students) for assistance with specimens!

Yours for a greater appreciation of our mineral wealth,

Stan Grove