



Vol. 37 #3

DIGGIN'S FROM DAKOTA

3rd Quarter - 2025

This quarterly publication of the CDG&MS serves Bis/Man and the surrounding area.
Visit us on line at: ndrockclub.org or <https://www.facebook.com/CDGMS>

A message from Tim Wiser, President of Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society:

Hello everyone: I hope that everyone is having a great summer and fall.

Our show committee is still working on our October 25th & 26th annual show date preparations for our 51st Annual show, which will be held at the Bismarck Eagles. We invite anyone who wants to help set up on Oct. 24, 2025 at 12 noon and also to tear down on October 26th at 5 P.M..

On October 5th, we will stuff grab bags at my house starting at 12:00 noon. My address is 2940 Shamrock Dr. Maps of how to reach my place are available for anybody who needs one.

On Sept. 20th, we will have our annual *Metasequoia* pine cone hunt on the Cannonball River. We will leave the Legion Park in Mandan at 9:00 A.M. sharp and car pool to the site. Please arrive earlier by 8:30 A.M.

We are going to be accepting nominations for the officer positions of President & Secretary. Voting will be held during the month of November.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who have helped with any of these club sponsored events. Members are encouraged to bring "Show and tell" rocks, gems, minerals, or fossils to any of our meetings.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 701/946/1823

Your help is really appreciated.

Timothy Weiser



Metasequoia
pine cones



CDG&MS Directory:

Tim Weiser
President
Brenda Morgan
Vice President
Kristina Dirk
Treasurer
Susan Gerenz
Secretary
Lori Loomis, State Director
Representative from the Rocky Mountain
Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Darrel Spencer
Newsletter Editor

Membership:

Individual memberships \$20.00 per year.

Family memberships \$25.00 per year.

Visitors are welcome to attend.

Executive Board meetings 1:00 P.M.

Regular meetings 2:00 P.M.

We meet the first Sunday of each month at the Bismarck Public Library down stairs Room B. Dates may change due to room availability. Read the calendar dates for our CDG&MS organization.



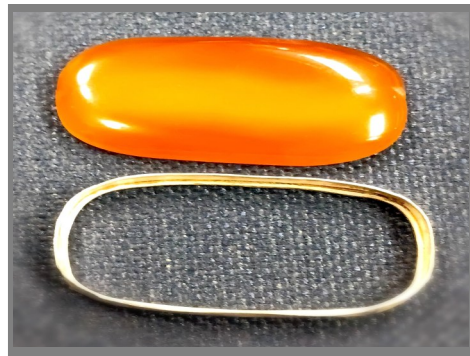
A list of very basic tools used in silver smithing for **The cutting and shaping process** would be. (#1.) A jeweler's saw and blades used for cutting sheet metal and wire into the desired shapes. (#2.) A bench pin, which is a stable surface for sawing/shaping. (#3.) Various sizes and shapes of files, for shaping, smoothing, and refining metal edges. (#4.) Either ball peen or chasing hammers for shaping or texturing metal. (#5.) Various pliers such as flat nosed or chain nose that can be used in holding, bending, and twisting metal. (#6.) A jeweler's Anvil or Bench Block.

The joining process would require a (#7.) A soldering torch used to heat the metal for soldering such as butane or propane. (#8.) A soldering block provides a safe surface for soldering and protecting your work area from heat. (#9.) A soldering pick is used to position

solder and control the flow during soldering. (#10.) Flux is a chemical that prevents oxidation during soldering. "Flux is a must". (#11.) Solder is a metal alloy that melts at a lower temperature than the silver and joins metal pieces.

The finishing process will require (#12.) polishing tools in either a cloth or wheels form, etc will help bringing a shine to the finished piece. (#13.) Measuring tools such as calipers, ruler will help in insuring accurate measurements and dimensions.

The different silvers to use. The benzal is the silver holding the stone in place. This is fine 99.9 % silver. Fine silver is more malleable so it is easy to fold over stone in order to hold it in place. Sterling silver is 92.5 % silver and 7.5% copper. It is harder than fine silver, so it is not as malleable and is used for the embellishments on the side of the piece.



Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society proudly announces our 51st Annual Gem and Mineral Show at the Bismarck Eagles
October 24th, October 25th, & October 26th, 2025

There will be lots of activities for children, demonstrations for adults, and drawings for free prizes on Saturday.

Set up time is on Friday, October 24, 2025 (12 AM - 8 PM) - (Vendors set up 4 PM - 8 PM)

Show time on Saturday, October 25, 2025 ((10 AM - 6 PM)

Show time on Sunday, October 26, 2025 (10 AM - 5 PM) - (Vendors take down & clean up)

The Grand River Museum and Petrified Wood Park Tour



This twin attraction began at the Heritage Center Parking lot where our group met and promptly left at 10:00 am on Sunday morning.

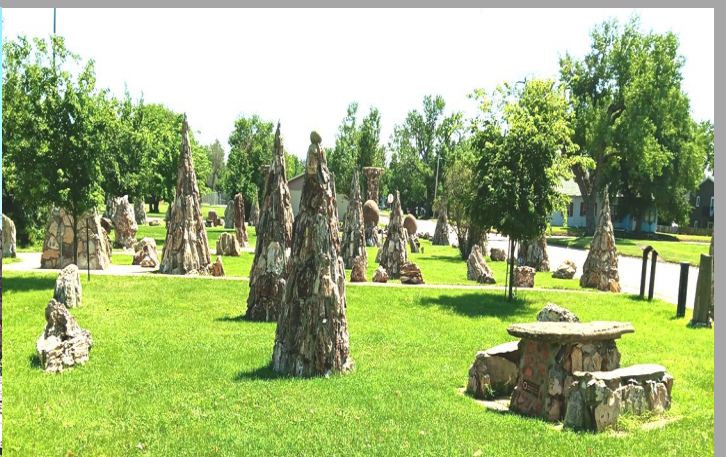
Our trip would pass very quickly as the distance from Bismarck, North Dakota to Lemmon, South Dakota is only about 125 miles. The focus of this museum is to exhibit fossils that have been located locally. Both attractions were located quite easily.

Q. S. Quammen began this fantastic project in 1931 and the Petrified Park was dedicated in 1932. It took almost two years and more than 27 tons of fossilized material within an 8 mile

radius of Lemmon, South Dakota. It covers an entire city block.

The photo of the building on the lower left side contains lots of display cases with local historical items as well as the fossilized bones of dinosaurs at the Wood Park and of course a main museum is located at the 114 10th Street W. in Lemmon, South Dakota.

John Lopaz of Lemon, SD also completed the sculpture on the upper left hand corner of this story along with several other magnificent creations within the city. (cont. p. 4)



The Grand River Museum and Petrified Wood Park Tour - from p. 3



This dynamic Sculpture is located inside the Grand River Museum and was completed by John Lopaz, a local resident. It depicts an actual epic battle between Hugh Glass and an enraged grizzly bear which took place near Lemmon, South Dakota. Hugh Glass just



This artist's rendition of "Sue" was given to the Grand River Museum from Pete Larson at the Black Hills Institute. At the time when "Sue" was recovered, it was the largest, most complete, and best preserved *Tyrannosaurus Rex* skeleton at the time.



Due to the length of this display the editor has divided this display area into two photos. The fossilized bones are laid out to better represent the length of this *Edmontosaurus*.



This is a portion of a *Triceratops* skull & face that had been found locally. Along with many other dinosaur bones that are on display for the benefit of the public. This field trip was a great experience for all of us.



While at the Petrified Wood Park our group met Lori Loomis, the Rocky Mountain Federation Representative for western North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska. Tim Weiser, CDG&MS president is standing to the right.



Picnic at Sertoma Park

Our annual picnic of August 3rd **was a celebration of our extended families.** I know that we all enjoyed getting together. We celebrated with good food, good company and even had a drawing of wonderful prizes that was a lot of fun for all of us.

Don't forget to join us at our **Christmas meeting**, at the Bismark Public Library on December 7, 2025. We always have a gift exchange, share appetizers, such as meat & cheese trays, finger foods, desserts, water, and of course a short meeting. We are family oriented.



Remembering Agnes & Melvin Berg



Agnes (1927 –2024) and Melvin (1924–2018) were longtime residents of Underwood, North Dakota. Agness had worked at Eyander's Drugstore during high school and continued to work their until 1989.

Agness and Melvin were married during the summer of 1947. During the course of life they were blessed with two wonderful children, Miles and Crystal and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Melvin had worked in an underground coal mine and also very proud of his work in helping to build the Garrison Dam. When the Dam was completed he farmed in the Underwood area and helped contractors build homes until he retired in 1986.

Both Agness & Melvin began another career in lapidary as a hobby and then in 1989 both Melvin and Agness began M & A Gemstones. Agnes was a an active member of the Washburn Civic Art Club and was an excellent artist. She won many first place ribbons as a skilled artist. Both Agnes & Melvin attended lots of craft shows and were very successful in selling jewelry made from stones that he cut and shaped.

Together they also made humorous & fanciful little birds & animals that they created from odd shaped stones that were glued together.

They also were active long time members of the Central Dakota Gem and Mineral Society and along the way made many friends. They were a great couple.



A successful weekend Rummage Sale

Rocks and Stuff owners, Marck & Diane Rau held a successful weekend Rummage Sale on June 27, 2025 thru the 29th. It featured a wonderful selection of hard to find minerals, and crystals along with lots of beautiful cabochons. There was also a variety of bowls filled with the most whimsical creatures that you can imagine. They were surrounded by beautiful scenery, and colorful mineral specimens.



A Memory of Al White & Harold Brady

Narrative by Tom Tupa with photo credits to Tom Tupa and Russ Schneider

About a year ago, Marlene White visited with a couple of our Club members, Brenda and Jolene Morgan who own Treasures of the Sea and Earth; about some jewelry repair. During the discussion she asked if there was someone in the Club who could answer questions about her deceased husband's rock equipment and also the rocks she still had in the house & garage. After some conversation among Club members, I volunteered to visit with Marlene about her husband's rocks and equipment. I called her and set up an appointment to look at the inventory. Wow!!

In the process of helping Marlene identify what she had, I have been over to her house several times and have been going through some of her husband's rock inventory. While examining some of the rocks in the garage, I came across a few penciled comments written on the garage wall.

One in particular caught my attention. (See the above example.) Al (Marlene's husband) and Harold built the garage that I was standing in. For those who are too young to remember or new to our Club, Al and Harold were two of the Club's charter members when it was organized, way back when.

How interesting and coincidental that I would find this historical information some 55 years later.