

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEAD SOCIETY

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VOL 2026, ISSUE 01

2026 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

(Meeting Activities Subject to Change)

JAN – NO MEETING!

JAN 24 - Polymer Clay SIG

FEB 7 – 1st Mini Challenge
announcement, Workshop with Rita
Caldwell

FEB 28 - Polymer Clay SIG

MAR 7 – Bead In

MAR 28 - Polymer Clay SIG

APR 11 – Playdate: Photo Tips and
Tricks with Bertha

APR 25 - Polymer Clay SIG

MAY 2 – 2nd Mini Challenge
announcement; Bead In

MAY 23 - Polymer Clay SIG

JUN 5, 6 and 7 - SAMPLER!

JUN 27 - Polymer Clay SIG

JUL 11 – De-Stash

AUG 1, 2 – 3rd Mini Challenge; Carrie
Tahquechi (2-day class)

SEP 12 – Bead In

SEP 26 - Polymer Clay SIG

OCT 3 - TBD

OCT 17 – Trunk Show

OCT 18 – Nikia Angel Class

OCT 24 – Polymer Clay SIG

NOV 7 – 2026 UFO Challenge Drawing

NOV 28 – Polymer Clay SIG

DEC 5 - Holiday Luncheon

OUR NEXT MEETING IS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WELCOME 2026!

Let's give a big welcome and thank you to Diane Roybal for stepping up as our new president! She has big shoes to follow (Clare) but I have no doubt she will do a wonderful job. She is already thinking of new ideas for fundraising and possibly a way to increase attendance at the Trunk Show.

I imagine most of you know her, but I thought I would just say a few things to those who don't. Diane was introduced to RMBS while attending the Bead Bazaar that we hosted in the past. She has been a member for around 8 years. She likes everything about beading, from stringing to bead embroidery. Her other hobbies include playing Mahjong, knitting, quilting, sewing and counted cross stitch. She stays active with her family as well: her husband, son, twin daughters, a grandson and a granddaughter. Once again thank you Diane for stepping up!

POLYMER CLAY SIG

The guest for the January 24th PCSIG is Phyllis Cahill, Colorado polymer clay artist. Her presentation will walk you through how to use a Cricut machine with Polymer Clay. Even if you are not a "clayer" I imagine this will be a very interesting program for those who have a Cricut machine or those who need another reason to get a Cricut machine. She will touch on Cricut basics, acquiring artwork, cutting raw and baked clay, etching designs, cutting stencils, templates and rubber stamps to name a few of the techniques she will be going over. This is definitely one program worth attending!

SHOWCASE DISPLAY AT LOWRY CONFERENCE CENTER

Have you checked out the showcase display at the Lowry Conference Center? Clare Pramuk and Bertha Adamson worked with Helen

Littlejohn to update the display and include new signage. **There is room for more members to share their work in the showcase.** Items can be any medium and can be for sale or display only. **If you have a piece or pieces you'd like to display, please bring to one of our meetings.**



2026 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

Tracy D'Angelo Knight has started planning for the 2026 meeting and workshops programs. If you have any suggestions for topics, playdates, workshops or instructors that you might like to see in 2026, please reach out to Tracy at programs@rockybeads.org.

The February meeting will showcase our own Rita Caldwell. She is teaching a class on how to incorporate bugle beads into your beadwork (image to the left). More information regarding Rita's class can be found under "Workshops" at the end of this newsletter. There were spots for 15 people and they are all filled, only one by a non-member. Thanks to everyone who signed up! If you have taken any of Rita's classes, you know she always encourages members to use her pieces as a starting point and modify the design at your pleasure. Feel free to alter or add beads to suit your taste.

Bertha Adamson will be teaching a playdate at our April meeting on tips and tricks for successfully photographing your handcrafted items. I think most of us struggle with this. Bertha suggests bringing one or two pieces that you can use to photograph. Anyone who may have photo props to use that day is encouraged to bring them.

Carrie Tahquechi will be teaching a two-day class (or 1.5 starting after the regular meeting) Aug. 1-2. She is still working on what project she will be sharing with us. As you all know it will be terrific whatever it is.

Returning events for 2026 include the UFO Challenge (throughout 2026), the Sampler (June 5, 6 and 7), the De-Stash (July 11) and the Trunk Show (October 17). If you think you have a project or technique you would like to teach other members at the Sampler, start pulling together information now. A call for instructors will be issued in mid-March!

If there is a problem when you think you registered for a class but didn't, please let Bertha know. You should always receive a confirmation email! The most it should take is an hour but, in most cases, just a few minutes. Bertha would need to know how you signed up (on your phone or computer) as well as what web browser was used. You can contact her at webmaster@rockybeads.com.

2026 CHALLENGES

For 2026, we will have our third annual UFO Challenge. Do you have class projects, kits, components, beads . . . , that you've started or purchased prior to January 1, 2026? Now is the time to finish those projects! For each piece that you complete after January 1, your name will be entered into the random drawing for prizes to be given at our November 2026 meeting.

We will also be having three mini-challenges in 2026. The theme for the first challenge will be announced at our February meeting with the pieces to be presented at our May meeting; in May the pieces to be presented at our August meeting; and in August for the pieces to be presented at the November meeting. Any piece submitted for a mini challenge must be completed between the announcement of the theme and the meeting when the pieces are presented for voting by members. If we continue to have good participation in the mini-challenges, prizes will be awarded to the three pieces receiving the most votes from members.

2026 SAMPLER

Do you have a project or technique that you would like to teach to other members? The Sampler will be June 5, 6 and 7, with up to four classes per session, so put your thinking caps on so that you will be ready to submit your application as an

instructor when the call for instructors opens in March. No technique is too small! Something basic could be a good segue for some of our new members to feel encouraged to join a class. There is always something to learn by taking a class from a new instructor.

KING SOOPERS COMMUNITY REWARDS

FREE MONEY!! RMBS receives donations quarterly through the King Soopers Community Rewards program based upon amounts spent at King Soopers by registered participants – you don't have to do anything other than sign up! If you haven't signed up, instructions are here: <https://rockybeads.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/FREE-MONEY-FOR-RMBS-1.pdf>.

Something I was not aware of is that the bottom of your receipt shows where your money is going. All this time I thought I had signed up designating RMBS, but it lists nothing. I will be changing this immediately!! So check our receipt.

HOW TO CONTACT 2026 BOARD MEMBERS, OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER

If you need to reach out to a board member, officer or committee chair with any questions or additional information, please go to our website: www.rockybeads.org. You will need to login to your account and then click on "About Us" and "Board Members" for email contacts.

WORKSHOPS

Saturday, February 7, 2026

10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Instructor: Rita Caldwell

Bugle Bead Embroidered Pendant

Have you been wondering what to do with all those bugle beads in your stash? This necklace/pendant was designed to give you an idea of different ways to use them. You can decide between a moon face or dragonfly glass button and silver or bronze filagree. Rita will also bring a few finished pieces of other designs to class to give you some ideas.



This project is suitable for all skill levels but some knowledge of peyote stitch is helpful.

Registrants will need to bring: Size 12 beading needles, 6 lb. Fireline black/smoke (please don't bring anything else), E-6000 glue, gel pen, beading surface and scissors.

This workshop will be held in person at the Lowry Conference Center.