

SEDONA RED ROCKING NEWS

Sedona Gem and Mineral Club
P.O. Box 3284, Sedona, AZ 86340
www.sedonagemandmineral.org



September 2009
Volume 55, Issue 6

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MEMBER AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

MEMBER ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION
OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

September General Meeting is Tuesday, 7:00 pm, September 15, at the Sedona Library off of Dry Creek Road in West Sedona. Guests are always welcome. The Board of Directors meets at 5:00 pm the day before the General Meeting, also at the library.

Any members are welcome to attend and participate with input.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Ice Cream Social and Members Night

The "new and improved" Members Night will be held on Tuesday September 15th, 7pm at the Sedona Public Library. We're planning a special evening of fun and ice cream with all the toppings! Who knows? We may be starting a new tradition here. We'll still have the usual participation of members bringing a prized specimen or some new finds that may have been acquired over the summer. But in addition, we'll have some special treats including ice cream, slide show, and plenty of time to peruse members' displays.

In addition to the members' display tables, a few featured members have agreed to speak about their projects. We'll hear from Rose Marie Licher who has been working her magic with fetishes; Becky Solon who's agreed to share some of her jewelry design secrets; and Toni Mahew who will tell us about the healing properties of some of her specimens.

MEMBER DISPLAY TABLES: As in previous years, we will have tables set up around the room for you to display your treasures, carvings, jewelry or anything you'd like to share with the group. You may also include "unknown" specimens that you would like to have identified by a Club expert. Please include your name and a brief description of all your items.

We want everyone to participate! Come and enjoy the evening with all your rockhound friends!

OCTOBER MEETING

NOTICE OF DATE CHANGE!

Just a reminder that the October meeting will not only be held the second week of the month (instead of the third) but also on Wednesday instead of Tuesday. Please make special note of the October meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 2009.

SEDONA GEM AND MINERAL SHOW 2009

is coming up soon! If you need any information, or have suggestions, please contact Susan Read at pdxprss@earthlink.net, or Pat McMahan at 300-8333.

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP

The field trip this month will be to Grapevine Canyon near Flagstaff for Onyx on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Additional information will be available at the September meeting, or contact Pat McMahan at 300-8333.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS from Pat McMahan

Oct. 17-18 Sedona Gem and Mineral Club Show - All the rocks you would ever want - and FUN too!!!

Nov. 21 Bloody Basin - Moss and plume agate.

Dec. 30-31 Quartzsite camp out with Coalition Members, Desert Gardens and Tyson Wells shows - Maybe even more things than our show!

Jan. 20 Quartzsite QIA POW WOW - Likely more things than our show...

Feb. 10-12 Tucson Show Tour - Definitely more things than our show!

Mar. 20-21 Burro Creek - Purple agate, dendritic agate, pastelite, and more.

April 24 Holbrook with Sedona sponsored Coalition trip - Petrified wood.

May 22 Grey Mountain - Mokie balls, (not what you think!), Agate, petrified wood.

REMEMBRANCE

Jaine Smith, who was our Refreshments Chairman some time ago for a year or two, died in May shortly after her 84th birthday.

Dorothy Serulnic, enthusiastic little lady who always sat right up in front because of her sight challenge, died on June 28 at the age of 94.

Upcoming Programs

September: Members Night

October: Walt Wright - Petrified Wood

November: Anna Dometrivec - Pseudomorphs

December: Christmas Party

Our Club puts out its annual Roster of members (addresses, phone numbers and email addresses) in April. Any new members who do not have a roster and want one can contact Rose Marie Licher at 284-9105 or rmlicher@esedona.net. Any of the officers who want an up-to-date copy as of December can also just ask.

From the Editor: This is an article I received via email in regards to some Forest Service issues in Arizona:

To all Arizona rock and mineral clubs:

I am sure that someone in each of your clubs has read the article by Hilde Zahm in the July issue of Rock & Gem Magazine, regarding her experience with the US Forest Service by now. The purpose of this email is to let you all know of another run in with the Forest Service, here in Arizona and to ask if anyone in your clubs have had a similar experience.

In the first part of June, this year, a couple of friends and I decided to go to the Old Arizona Agate Mine. A number of people had been working a particular area and were getting some large pieces of spectacular agate. We looked around and located a large piece, part of a large seam. It was open on one side, fractured across the back and on the side next to the seam. It took only a few minutes to pry it into the open. We slid the rock down the mountain. Just before pulling the rock across the stream and up the embankment to the road, a forest service truck pulled up and parked. The occupant was a Forest Service LEO, or law enforcement officer. He wanted to know what we were doing, where we had gotten the rock, how we had gotten it, what we were going to do with it, etc. We answered all his questions and took him up the mountain to where we had gotten the agate. He stated that people had frequently asked him where this mine was, but that he didn't know the location until about a week prior when he had seen fresh dirt on the side of the mountain, while driving down the road. He had investigated, found the rather large hole that exposed the seam of agate, then taken a branch and wiped out his tracks (surprise, we had seen them) and decided to watch this spot.

He stated that we had broken the law and that he would have to confiscate our agate. He could not tell us what laws we had broken, but he was sure it was unlawful to dig a hole that big and taking a rock the size of ours would not be considered rockhounding, but could quote no law, rule or regulation that said so. After wasting an hour and a half of our time, he again said he would have to confiscate our agate. In response to our asking what he intended to do with the stone, he said it would probably be put in the yard of their office building. We said to "Go ahead, there it is." After running through all the options he could think of, I offered this solution. We would load the rock into my truck and I would keep it there and he could go back to his office and find what regulations we had broken. Call me, and I'll bring the rock back, if necessary. He agreed to this, wrote up an impounded property record, took all our information and said that he would call me by the following Tuesday. Forest Service office people don't work weekends. He then watched as we drug the agate across the creek, up the embankment and loaded it in my truck.

I had not heard from him by the following Friday and my friends and I disposed of the agate as originally intended. Three weeks later, he called me and said I would have to return the rock. I told him it was long gone, as he had not called in the time agreed to. He then said that we should not do anything like that again. I asked again, for the rules, laws or regulations involved. We had searched the Internet for hours looking for any such and could not locate anything. We even stopped at a Forest Service Ranger Station and asked for any rules they had. They would have to get back to us! The BLM does post their regulations on the Internet and you should be aware of them. Again, he said he would have to get back to me about the regulations. It has been over 10 days now and no call. We have also heard of rockhounds being told that they had to 'have a permit' to be on FS land. No one knows where to get these permits or why you have to have them. It is not just rockhounds either. Some of my friends belong to back country type horse riding groups and they are getting the same hassles. It seems the Forest Service is trying to keep citizens off the National Forests, which used to belong to the people, and manage them for their own use, only.

Thanks.

UPCOMING COALITION FIELD TRIPS

From the Maricopa Lapidary Society

The September coalition field trip will be held on Saturday, September 26th and we will be heading out to Fourth of July to pick up agates. To get to the meeting area, head west on I-10 to exit 112 (Gila Bend / Yuma). You'll be heading south after getting off the freeway. At the first traffic light (MC 85), turn left, and there will be a Shell gas station near the corner. This is where we will be meeting to sign waiver forms and hand out maps. I should be there at 7:30 am (look for the big bronze F250). We will leave promptly at 8:00. The agates show good banding, are usually gray and white, although we have found some peach and white ones and are walnut-sized.

It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that you have a 4WD for this trip, as there are a few wash crossings that are quite sandy as well as some areas that require some clearance. Also, pack a lot of water – it will be warm. Bigger vehicles may get some desert pin-striping, as the trail is not very well used and overgrown.

I will have my cell phone on if people need to contact me the day of the trip – 602-703-5188. Hope to see you on the 26th!

From the Payson Rimstones Rock Club

The December Coalition trip will be a campout, tentatively in the Quartzite area.

Fieldtrips, Dec. 30 & 31; Tyson Wells Gem and Mineral show, Jan. 1-10. So, lots to do!

Details TBA.

Contact Lynne Wheeler:

Home: 928-472-7170

Verizon cell: 928-978-4062

Email: lynnewheeler@gmail.com

From Rose Marie Licher:

Hi Friends, I just checked the Club mailbox to find an invitation about the McDermitt Rock & Gem Show in McDermitt, Nevada, Sept 17-20. For information email rocks@diamondamotel.com or call 775-532-8551. Many dealers and also field trips are planned. Perhaps some of you will want to attend.



Member Toni Mahew just missed getting into the recent club roster, so here is her contact info:

Toni (Antoinette) Mahew

Home: 274-6568

Cell: 300-0856

Membership Application

(please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Renewal or New
Membership Desired (Check One)

Individual \$10.00 _____

Family \$20.00 _____

Junior (9-18) \$ 5.00 _____

If a family membership, please list the names of family members below:

Would you like to receive your Newsletter by:
(Circle Yes or No)

Post Office (printed B/W) Yes or No

Email (in color) Yes or No

You may mail this application
with your dues to:

Sedona Gem & Mineral Club

P.O. Box 3284

Sedona, AZ 86340

Cut this section from the newsletter and mail to the above address, or you are welcome to come and join at one of our regular meetings.

Questions?

Call Pat McMahan: (928) 300-8333

or Kelly Quester: (928) 203-9372

www.sedonagemandmineral.org

We're making it as easy as possible to get your dues in! Just cut out the application above, fill in the blanks, and mail to:

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

If there is anything you would like to have published in this newsletter, please be sure to get it to me by the 1st of the month. Also, any news, articles, and photos of events or rock collecting trips are greatly appreciated!

Email any info to: rockhound_86326@yahoo.com

Thank you!

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Oct. 10-11--SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA: 35th annual show; Huachuca Mineral & Gem Club; Elks Lodge, Wilcox Ave., 1 block east of Buffalo Soldier Trail; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; free admission; live demonstrations, educational displays, gems, jewelry, fossils, equipment, lapidary supplies.

Contact Ingrid Baillie, (520) 459-3718; e-mail: ibaillie@cox.net.

Oct. 17-18--SEDONA, ARIZONA: 9th annual show; Sedona Gem & Mineral Club; Sedona Red Rock High School, 995 Upper Red Rock Loop Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; speakers, kids' crafts, meteorite and other displays, raffles, mineral identification, sphere making and other demonstrations, rocks, gemstones, minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry; contact Pat McMahan, (928) 300-8333; or e-mail: pdxprss@earthlink.net. Website: www.sedonagemandmineral.org

NOVEMBER 2009

Nov. 6-8--BLACK CANYON CITY, ARIZONA: Show, "Rock-A-Rama"; Braggin' Rock Club; tailgaters, dealers, minerals, gems, jewelry; contact Don, BRC, P.O. Box 308, Black Canyon City, AZ 85324, (623) 374-0202.

Nov.7--TUCSON, ARIZONA: 8th annual silent auction; Old Pueblo Lapidary Club; 3118 N. Dale; Sat. 9-2; free admission; contact Danny Harmsen, (520) 323-9154.

OCTOBER 2009

Oct. 10-11--PAYSON, ARIZONA: 12th annual show; Payson Rimstones Rock Club; Mazatzal Hotel & Casino Event Center, Bingo Hall, Tonto Apache Reservation; adults \$3, children under 12 free; discount tickets available at Payson Chamber of Commerce, Payson Library, Parks & Recreation Office; contact Barry Jones, (928) 476-3513



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