

SEDONA RED ROCKING NEWS

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



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MEMBER AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

MEMBER ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION
OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

January General Meeting is Tuesday, 7:00 pm, January 19, 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.

JANUARY PROGRAM

Jeffrey Goebel, "King Of Gems"

by Becky Solon

Jeff Goebel, owner of Ramsey's Rock and Minerals and long-time member of Sedona G&MC, will be our speaker for the first meeting of the new year, January 19th, 2010. Presenting on the topic of "Gemstones of Arizona", Jeff will discuss the array of gemstone material that is found right here in Arizona. He will provide examples of the most coveted stones sought by collectors and jewelers like himself.

Living in one of the richest rockhounding states, Jeff has often found himself in the field discovering new and ever more exciting minerals at the mining location or mineralogical origin. He is intimately familiar with the source material that has made Arizona famous for its wealth of precious and semi-precious gemstones. His work in jewelry design exemplifies his passion for collecting high quality specimens and applying his skills and knowledge to his art. He will show some slides of his collection and his work, and he'll bring some interesting specimens he's gathered in the field. Jeff has been an active member of SG&MC for 15 years.

Known locally as the "King of Gems", Jeff received his education at Northern Arizona University where he met his wife Marcia in the early 1970s. He grew up in the Middle East where he fondly remembers first becoming interested in the craft of jewelry making while watching and listening to the sounds of jewelers pounding away at metal. He then began apprenticing with fine jewelry training in Germany at the age of 20. He gained experience as a jeweler working in fine jewelry stores around the U.S. and the Caribbean before making Sedona his home. Twelve years ago Jeff and his wife Marcia purchased Ramsey's Rocks and Minerals, a business which has a 60-year history in Sedona and a tradition as a haven for collectors since 1949.

JANUARY FIELD TRIP

The field trip this month will be to the world famous Quartzsite POW WOW show in Quartzsite, Arizona on Wednesday, Jan.20th. Additional information will be available at the January meeting, or contact Pat McMahan at 300-8333.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS from Pat McMahan

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.



Our esteemed speaker, Jeff Goebel, at his jeweler's bench. To see some of Jeff's exquisite jewelry, visit his website at : www.ramseyssedona.com.



Upcoming Programs

January: Jeff Goebel

February: TBA

March: TBA

April: TBA

May: TBA

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.

January Birthstones

By Marge Schwartz

As we venture into 2010, have fun with lucky stones for January. Even if it is not your birth month, birthstones mentioned below are thought to have higher energy during this month. Enjoy !

Traditional Birthstone:

Garnet is a naturally occurring gemstone. Its name comes from Latin granatus meaning seed, because it often resembles small round pomegranate seeds when found in its matrix rock. Garnets have been widely known for thousands of years. Even Noah, it is reported, used a lantern from garnet in order to safely steer his Ark through the darkness. Garnets are found in jewelry from ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman eras. Many travelers wore garnets for protection. They were considered popular talismans and protective stones, because it was believed in those days that garnets illuminate the night and prevent their wearer from any sort of evil.

For the Rockhounds:

Rather than a single gemstone, garnet is a family of related minerals, some of which occur as gemstones. Each has a common crystal structure, and a similar chemical composition.

Garnet occurs naturally in a large range of colors including: red, orange, brown, green, yellow, and brown. Its variability of color reflects the variations in its composition

There are two main theoretical groups or "families" of garnet:- aluminium silicates, and calcium silicates. The most valuable stone may be the Demantoid garnet, a rare and beautiful bright grass green gemstone. It appears to have first been discovered around 1892 in the Bobrovka area of Russia.

Planetary Stones:

Saturn is represented by Lapis. - It is thought to promote wisdom and insight.

Uranus is represented by Turquoise.

Zodiac Birthstone:

Aquarius stones include garnet, amethyst, opal, and sugillite.

Capricorn stones are garnet, black onyx, agate and ruby.

Mystical Birthstone:

The Mystical Birthstone list is of Tibetan origin from over a thousand years ago. Emeralds were used to protect children from epilepsy and it was thought to enhance clairvoyance and improve memory.

Ayurvedic Birthstone:

The Ayurvedic Birthstone list is from Ayurvedic Indian Medicine - a type of medicine used for over a thousand years.

Garnet is also recognized as the stone for this birth month. Early cultures felt that garnet could cure blood disorders and help eliminate infections.

That sounds like a great start to a Happy New Year. See you in 2010!

CLEANING MINERAL SPECIMENS

Mineral Specimens may be poisonous under certain conditions or when mixed with cleaners.

Never heat cinnabar or stibnite. They produce poisonous gases.

When in doubt about how to clean a mineral specimen always consult a professional.

Here is a list of rules to use when cleaning with chemicals:

- * Use chemicals that are clearly labeled and store chemicals that are clearly labeled.
- * Keep a large container of clear water handy to wash off any chemical spills.
- * ALWAYS wear safety goggles & rubber gloves.
- * Don't work alone.
- * Avoid splattering.
- * Never pour water into acid, always add acid to water.
- * Keep an ample supply of baking soda handy for acid spills.
- * Keep an ample supply of vinegar for alkali spills.
- * Rinse specimens well.

Remember some minerals are damaged by chemicals or can be dissolved by liquids. Some methods may work on one type of mineral and not on another.

Now to cleaning...

I always start with dish soap and warm water. If that doesn't work then I use other chemicals.

You can use oxalic acid to clean iron stains from minerals such as quartz. Use it 1 cup oxalic granular to 1 gallon of water. It works best when warm. The hotter it is the better it works. This is also true of its fumes and vapors! Do not breath the vapors.

Hydrofluoric acid is the strongest acid there is. Do not use this unless you know what you are doing. It can cause serious injury or death.

Hydrochloric acid can be used to dissolve carbonate minerals and deposits. A 5% to 10% solution is more than enough to do the job. The fumes from this acid can cause pneumonia, care should be taken when using it. Always make sure you have adequate ventilation.

One of my favorite chemicals to clean with is Lime-a-way® or CLR®. They remove oxidation from most minerals include pyrite, arsenopyrite, & galena. You can use them straight from the bottle on a very soft cloth.

To clean oxidation off of native metals (copper or silver) the best thing to use is a copper or silver polish and a soft cloth.

I once used a bottle of nitric acid to clean a large copper specimen and could not get the last little bit of oxidation off and a good friend (who happens to be a chemist) suggested a good copper polish. It worked better than the nitric acid.

Nitric acid will clean copper well, but should be used with great care as the fumes become nitric gas and can overpower a person very fast. Even small amounts can cause pneumonia.

Always do a test run in an inconspicuous place first.

Here are some specific ways to clean certain minerals:

Barite can be cleaned with a strong solution of hydrochloric acid (30%).

For pyrite or marcasite, use oxalic acid, hydrochloric acid, Lime-a-way® or CLR®.

For the following you can try any acid except hydrofluoric acid. quartz, feldspar, labradorite, hornblende, tourmaline, & tremolite or any silicate mineral.

Water soluble minerals, like the salts and sulfur, use only ethyl alcohol to clean.

Ammonia or bleach can be used to clean lichens or algae off.

Soaking any mineral in any solution can cause the luster to disappear. When soaking a specimen, do it for only a few seconds at a time until you see how fast it is coming clean. Some minerals may require a few seconds to weeks in an acid. (Disclaimer: Information is provided as a guide only. Please follow instructions of any cleaning product you use, as well as common sense!)

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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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frontage road; 9-6 daily; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry; contact Sharon or Sandy, Desert Gardens RV Park, 1055 Kuhen St., P.O. Box 2818, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; e-mail: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Web site: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

FEBRUARY 2010

Feb. 20--PHOENIX, ARIZONA: Annual show, "Family Fun Day at the Museum"; Maricopa Lapidary Society; 1502 W Washington St.; Sat. 10-4; free admission; dealers, demonstrations, kids' activities, gold panning, metal detecting; contact Laurette Kennedy, (602) 771-1611 or (602) 738-2552; e-mail: lkennedy11@aol.com

MARCH 2010

Mar. 12-14--COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA: Show, "Verde Valley Gem & Mineral Show"; Mingus Gem & Mineral Club; Verde Valley Fairgrounds, 800 E. Cherry St.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$1 (Fri.) and \$3 (Sat./Sun.), children free with adult; worldwide minerals and gems, fine and costume jewelry, gem and mineral displays, raffles, silent auctions, jewelry, lapidary tools, supplies, equipment, children's activities, free mineral and gem identification; contact Sue Valek, (928) 634-7452

JANUARY 2010

Jan. 8-10--MESA, ARIZONA: 38th annual show, "A.L. Flag Gem & Mineral Show"; Mesa Community College, US Hwy. 60 and Dobson Rd.; free admission; Peralta Stones display, more than 100 dealers, local clubs and organizations, displays, free activities for children, kids' egg carton kits. Contact Ray Grant, (480) 814-9086; email: raycyn@cox.net. Web sites: www.azminfun.com and www.flaggshow.info

Jan. 1-28--QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show, "Desert Gardens International Gem & Mineral Show"; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1064 Kuehn Rd., south side of I-10, along



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