

Sedona Red Rocking News

Sedona Gem and Mineral Club

PO Box 3284, Sedona, AZ 86340
www.sedonagemandmineral.org

Next Club Meeting – Nov. 18, 7:00 pm

General SGMC meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m. at the Sedona Library, 3250 White Bear Road in West Sedona.



November, 2014

Volume 60, Issue 8

Member American Federation
of Mineralogical Societies

Member Arizona Coalition of Rock
Hound Clubs

Newsletter Editor: Ray Topp
Email: radio@rconnect.com



President's Message

Pat McMahan – SGMC President

WOW ... What a Show!

Attendance was up and the attendees had a very fun time. Our admission crew greeted everyone at the entrance and started them out by directing them through the show.

We had a lot of very happy dealers, as those in attendance were buying from a wide variety of rock related items presented by our dealers. Several merchants at our show had their best show ever – anywhere. This year we had an opal dealer, some fire agate, finished faceted stones, lots of jewelry, rough, slabs and finished lapidary material and more.

Our Club members had a great time. Many volunteered for security, raffle, admission, kids' corner and other important activities. Mike Read was a big help with security, electrical and more. Ed Perry was right there with electrical and anything that was needed. Some of you graciously helped dealers if they had to leave their booths for a break. And some helped other members when needed. Many members just wandered around and shopped for Christmas gifts and much needed rocks for their collections. We all need more rocks.

Our Kids' Corner was a hit, as most all kids that came with parents dropped by and stayed there for some time. Plinko was popular and a new roulette game was a favorite with the kids. They were given an egg carton filled with 12 different kinds of rocks or minerals, and the kids were very excited about their rock collections. When I was 8 years old I was given a piece of sagenite agate and most of you know what happened to me ... OMG! We're hoping to steer some of them into this fun hobby and activity. Hopefully they will learn there is more than iPads, smart phones and the like. Rose Marie Licher and Heather Redden were the super stars here. They had some great help also.

The raffle was spirited and at times very exciting. Some participants got pretty fired up when their names were called. There were great prizes throughout the entire raffle leading up to the grand prizes. Laura Castre and helpers were the engines behind our successful raffle. Great job Laura.

Tom Helgeson signed up about 17 new Club members. That was the most ever, new members at any of our shows. He designed and created a very professional sign touting our Club features and benefits of membership. Prospective members could see and touch

rock specimens found on Club field trips. He did a great job of educating new members about our Club. It is a pretty darn good club to belong to.

Our display room was filled with eye candy. John Brown and helpers fired up our members and got some of them to display the best, most beautiful specimens ever displayed at any of our shows. I didn't know our members had such wonderful things.

Amy Koba organized and provided breakfast treats for our dealers and helpers each morning. In order to do this she had to take a food serving class just to keep us legal with the health department – that's dedication! Thank you Amy.

Behind the scenes, Nadine Cummins organized our dealer info into an Excel spreadsheet that allows us to generate labels, contracts and name tags, saving us a lot of time going forward. She also spent considerable time collecting payments from some of our vendors. Full payments were collected at the show this year to avoid this additional work next year.

Set up and take down was orchestrated by Susan Read, and 15 or 20 ready and willing Club members. It is awesome to see our Club work as a team to put this show together. We put together one of the best shows of our type ever, thanks to you. We really appreciate your help. There are a lot of members who helped that haven't been mentioned here. Please know we couldn't have done this without you.

Susan Read oversaw the organization of the Show. I don't think anything slipped through the cracks – she did an awesome job! She was the first one there and last to leave, and made herself available any time anyone needed things done. Thank you Susan for being our leader and for putting on one of our best shows ever. Her work began, along with our Show committee heads, almost a year ago planning this great show.

Remember, elections for next year are handled at the November meeting. Volunteering at the Show we hope was a fun experience for each of you. Being a part of our Club's operation can be even more fun. It's a chance for you to cement friendships and have a say in how this club is directed. Call me at 928-300-8333 to discuss the three job opportunities we have remaining. It will of course look very good on your resume.

Thanks again for all your help – Pat

November Program

Evelina Dunton – Programs Chairperson

Our Sedona Gem and Mineral Club meeting will be on November 18 at the Sedona Public Library at 7:00 p.m. Evan Jones will be the presenter and the program title is: *The Ben Williams Collection – A Trove from 19th Century Bisbee, Arizona*. Ben Williams was the first superintendent of the Copper Queen Mining Company in Bisbee from 1880-1899. His mineral collection was unknown until it was discovered in California in 1998. The collection contained fabulous minerals, artifacts, papers and old photographs.

Evan Jones is a longtime mineral collector, dealer and Arizona mineral specialist. He was born in Arizona in 1961 and began collecting minerals at the age of nine. He is the son of well-known collector, editor and author Bob Jones, and began visiting museums, attending mineral shows, went on collecting trips and visited mineral dealers from an early age.

In the early 1970's he entered mineral exhibits at the Arizona State Fair in the junior division, winning several trophies. During this time period, he had already met many luminaries in the mineral field through his father.

During college, in the early 1980's, he worked part-time at the Arizona Mineral Museum helping to curate the state collection, and worked at Arizona State University for both Dr. Peter Buseck and Dr. Edmund Stump. Summers were spent with older brother William R. Jones at Root & Norton Assayers, prepping ore samples for fire assay and doing field work in Silverton, Colorado.

After graduating from Arizona State University with a B.S. degree in Geology in 1985, he immediately started working with minerals. After 1998, he struck out on his own as a fine mineral dealer, setting up at numerous shows across the U.S. By the 2000's, he had transformed the family mineral collection into one focused largely on the minerals of Arizona, now generally known to be one of the finest in private hands.

In 2007, he became one of the first dealers to bring fine azurites from the Milpillas mine in Mexico to market and is widely known as a specialist in this material. In 2012 he formed a new fine mineral dealership, Unique Minerals, Inc. with Marc Miterman of Philadelphia, supplying fine minerals to collectors throughout the world.

Evan helped organize "Arizona Minerals Treasures" Centennial exhibition at the 2012 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and has co-written an article on the minerals of Milpillas.

The Club Meeting will feature member displays, closing with the monthly raffle of superb rock and mineral specimens. Visitors and guests are welcome.

Program Presentations for 2014 & 2015

- November 18, 2014 - Evan Jones - "The Ben Williams Collection - A Trove from 19th Century Bisbee, Arizona."
- January 20, 2015 - Pete Pilles - National Forest Archaeologist - "Indian Relics and Red Rock Art."
- February 17, 2015 - Jeff Scovil - "Fine Minerals of Madagascar."
- March 17, 2015 - Anna Domitrovic - "Minerals of Arizona."
- April 21, 2015 - Keith Horst - "Morsenite."
- May 2015 - Bob Jones - Topic to be announced.
- September 15, 2015 - Members Night, no speaker.
- October 20, 2015 - Les Presmyk, mining engineer. No topic yet.
- November 17, 2015 - Paul Lindberg - "Mineral Deposits of Northern North America."

November Birthstone

Marge Schwartz – Membership Chairperson

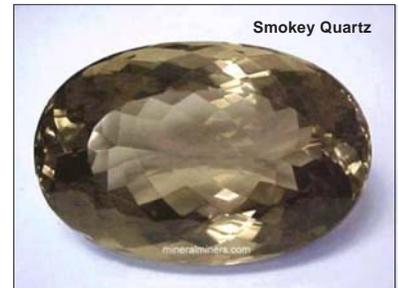
It feels like fall and our fieldtrips have been great this season. I hope you will enjoy the weather and the rocks you find. This review of the birthstones information and folklore for November is brief, but I hope it is entertaining and informational.

Topaz, Citrine and Smokey Quartz

Topaz is a silicate mineral of aluminum and fluorine. Topaz crystallizes are prismatic and terminated with pyramidal and other faces. Our October presentation by Stephan showed us the beauty of these gems when faceted. Topaz Mountain in western Utah has yielded crystals from pegmatites or vapor cavities in rhyolite lava flows. Colorless and light blue varieties of Topaz are also found in the Precambrian granite in Mason County, Texas within the Llano Uplift. Texas is associated with "big" and I can only imagine it applies to Topaz as well. Topaz comes in many colors including blue, champagne, pink and clear. The best sources of Topaz are Brazil, USA, Sri Lanka, Australia, Pakistan, Mexico, Japan and Africa.

Topaz was considered one of the twelve sacred mighty angels who guard the gates of Paradise. The Topaz has been said to be a soothing, empathetic stone that will direct energy to the place it is most needed. So activate your awareness and enjoy any color of Topaz that you like. I will be wearing one for sure as it is said to attract helpful people into your life what will benefit you and may bring new friendships. I can never have too many friends.

Since ancient times, the Topaz has been confused with another mineral, citrine, that is also considered as a birthstone for November. Both gems were found on an island in the Mediterranean called Topazios in ancient times. Smokey Quartz and Bloodstone are considered alternate stones for the month of November.



A Message From the 2014 Show Chairman

I personally want to thank our Club Members who volunteered, along with June Doty from the Mingus Club, in helping with the success of this year's Show.

With the untimely resignation of Greg and Ann Capatch, we quickly formed a Show Committee to organize this Club sanctioned event. Our Members stepped forward and took on separate tasks needed to put on our Show. Over the Summer we met a couple of times to start the organization the Show, and met a week before the start of this event.

The Show Leads this year were: Heather Redden – Kid's Corner, Bill Schwartz – Advertising, Tom Helgesen – Road Signs and Membership, John Brown – Displays, Rita Topp – Table Rental, Pat McMahan – Dealers, Laura Castree – Raffle, and Amy Koba – Food Court. I also want to thank those who helped in the set-up and tear-down on Friday night. As you can see, it takes a village to put on an event of this size.



We asked for volunteers to man the Admissions Table, Raffle Table, Membership Table, Security, and Kid's Corner. We had great Club Members who stepped up and helped, and I want to acknowledge our gratefulness for their volunteering. Without their help, we wouldn't have had such a great Show. We hope next year many more of our Club Members can find time to help out. Next year's Show will be held on the 17th and 18th of October, so please mark this event on your calendar.

Also, I don't want to forget to extend a job well done to our Display Cases Exhibitors this year. The displays looked great and we got wonderful compliments from attendees and our Club Members.

Once again I would like to extend a personal thank you, to all of you for your help, and extend a job well done. It's a huge task and with your help we put on a great Show.

Susan Read – Show Committee Chairman

✉ SGMC Annual Elections ✉

This is a reminder that at our November meeting we will have Elections for Club Officers and Directors. This is a great opportunity for you to step forward and help lead our great Club.

Other key positions also available to support the Club are, Membership/Roster, Refreshment Committee, Remembrance & Sunshine Committee, and Education.

We urge our Club Members to consider volunteering for any of the above positions. If you wish to have your name placed on the ballot, please contact Pat McMahan at 928-300-8333.

You Might Be a Rockhound If...

- You find yourself compelled to examine individual rocks in driveway gravel.
- The baggage handlers at the airport know you by name and refuse to help with your luggage.
- Your spouse has asked you to stop identifying mineral occurrences in the road cuts at 70+ mph.

• Please Contribute to Your Newsletter •

Many of you have knowledge of rocks and minerals, as well as lapidary experience that could be shared.

What might seem ordinary to you, can often be invaluable and new to other club members.

We welcome your articles, in addition to news and announcements, to be included in this newsletter. Please include photos if you have them.

Submission deadline for the December newsletter content is December 1st.

– Contact Ray Topp: radio@rconnect.com



Tips From the Shop

Common Rock Saw Problems

Problems using your rock saw will occur at some point when slabbing rough. Pay attention to any unusual high pitch sounds during the sawing process. If this occurs, immediately shut the saw off. Check to see if the rock has shifted and is loose, or if the coolant level is high enough to lubricate the blade.

When the saw is turned off, note the duration and length of spin of the saw blade. If the blade doesn't spin freely, and instead comes to an abrupt halt, then the blade could be in a bind. This occurs when the rock shifts in the vise and pinches the sides of the blade against the saw kerf, or when the blade becomes dull.

If the blade becomes dull or requires cleaning, or if the saw blade and carriage are out of alignment – these problems should be remedied before sawing resumes. A clean saw blade is essential when sawing very hard or dense gemstones. When the blade needs cleaning, there is no need to take the rock out. Use a blade dresser or a piece of an old grinding wheel, and clamp it to a board; attach this board to the vise ahead of the rock and in line with the diamond saw blade. Small “C-clamps” are handy for this procedure – just make sure the “C-clamp” will clear the top of the saw hood before closing.

Several minutes of cleaning is all it takes. The dresser may be left clamped on the vise, for extremely hard or metallic material, which demands that the blade be cleaned regularly.

Remember to use wooden wedges for an odd shaped rock, to securely hold your rock in the vise to prevent it from coming loose or starting to slip, and clean the blade regularly – especially for agate, jasper, metallic material, etc.

November Coalition Field Trip

Hosted by: Rockhounds West

Material: Jasper – Red, Yellow, Green

When: Saturday, November 22, 2014

Meeting Time: 9:15 a.m

Location of Trip: North of New River, AZ

Rockhounds West will lead the coalition to find jasper – red, yellow and green. The trip will be November 22, 2014.

Take I-17 to Table Mesa Road (exit 236) and go west. At the end of the pavement, continue 1/8th mile to a large parking area on left side of the road – this is a parking area and *not* the shoulder. We will meet there at 9:15 to sign in, and be ready to leave by 9:30.

There are about 4 miles of a gravel, oiled road suitable for any car. Just before the hill leading to the collecting site, there is a parking area. From there we can “ferry” those up the hill who do not want to drive their cars the last hundred yards or so.

Watch for traffic - gravel trucks and ATVs. Don't block the road. Pull off the road to park.

Contact: Nancy Woods, Rockhounds West, Sun City West. 623-214-9045. My cellphone number for the trip 623-523-3422.

Payson Field Trip Report

On Saturday, October 25th, eighteen members of the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club traveled to Payson to join the Payson Rimstones Rock Club for their Coalition Trip for Shoofly Agate. The term Shoofly is in reference to the Shoofly Village Indian Ruins in the Payson area. The agate we collected was nicely banded and colorful and everybody was able to gather some nice specimens. Later that morning, we left the coalition group and headed over to Diamond Point. The quartz crystals found at Diamond Point are usually very clear and many are double terminated. Although you can find crystals on the surface, the best are found by digging.



At Diamond Point, you can legally dig for crystals from October 1st through February 28th. The rest of the year is surface collection only. We had eight new members who had never been to Diamond Point before. After showing them the basics of digging, and what to look for, they were all very productive in finding some very nice crystals. A great time was had by all and I'm happy to say our group practiced “Safe Rockhounding” which means everyone back-filled their dig site before leaving.

Ted Schultz – Trip Leader

November Field Trip to Slag Pile

Date: Friday, November 21, 2014

Meeting Time and Place: 8:30 a.m. at the Cottonwood Slag Pile. Take 6th Street to East Birch Rd, and enter through Taylor Waste Facility to the Minerals Research & Recovery Facility. Parking will be up by the Slag Pile to the left. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE TAYLOR WASTE YARD.**

Vehicle: Passenger cars can make it to the meeting place.

General Itinerary: Because the Cottonwood Slag Facility is in its final development stages for mining the slag, this will probably be the last chance to collect from the Slag Pile. Once they become fully operational in December, the public will not be allowed into the facility or area. It's estimated that they'll be mining the copper slag for the next 20 years.

We're very happy that Minerals Research and Recovery has given us this opportunity to collect some copper slag before the mining process begins. After signing Minerals Research and Recovery Waiver of Liability, the Project Manager will give us a quick intro of the area and where to collect. There will be members of the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club and the Verde River Rockhounds participating in this trip, so wear your name badge. Please be sure to sign up at your next Club's meeting so we can get a participant count.

What to Collect: 100 year old Copper Slag from the smelting process when they mined copper in Jerome. For all practical purposes, slag can best be described as iron glass. There are many different textures, patterns and colors in the slag available. For safety concerns, we are asked to stay out of the construction and processing area.

What to Bring: Slag is a glass and can be very sharp. Proper footwear is required – no flip-flops or sandals. Feet must be fully covered and shoes should have a good protective sole. Gloves should be used while collecting and handling the slag as it's very sharp and can cut your fingers and hands. Tools: Nothing heavy duty required. A rock hammer would be handy and a short pry bar might be useful. Most important tool is a five gallon bucket – it gets full fast and the slag is heavy. Minerals Research and Recovery will have a front end loader on top of the slag pile and members can place their samples and bucket on the loader to be hauled down. Also, there is a restroom available on site.

Field Trip Coordinator: Ted Schultz 651 214-7532 (cell) or 928 284-0415 (home), or tedschultzjr@aol.com

NOTE: Please read the “Informed Consent/Assumption of Risk/Waiver of liability.” You will be required to sign this prior to collecting.

Tentative Field Trips Planned for 2015

- Grapevine Canyon near Flagstaff, AZ
- Chimney Beds near Buckeye, AZ
- Burro Creek between Wickenburg and Wikieup, AZ
- Rodeo Flats near Camp Verde, AZ
- Tucson Gem and Mineral Show
- Deming, NM Gem and Mineral Show
- Apache Creek near Reserve, NM
- Petrified Wood near Holbrook, AZ
- Diamond Point near Payson, AZ



Sedona Gem & Mineral Club
Membership Application
(please print)

Name ↑

Address ↑

City ↑

State ↑

Zip ↑

Phone Number ↑

Email Address ↑

Membership Desired (please check one):

Individual Membership – \$15.00

Family Membership – \$25.00

Junior (9-18) Membership – \$5.00

For a family membership, list all names below: ↓

How should the names read on the badge(s): ↓

How would you like to receive the club newsletter?

Email (color) -or- Postal Service (printed in B&W)

Do we have your permission to share your personal information (address, phone number, email) with other club members only?

Yes No

Please mail this application (or bring it to a club meeting), with your dues to:

Sedona Gem and Mineral Club
PO Box 3284, Sedona, AZ 86340

For questions please call: Marge Schwartz (membership) at: 928-203-0356 or Email: bschwar13@msn.com

The SGMC Club Christmas Party

Our Annual Christmas Party will take place at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in West Sedona on December 10, 2014.

Set up will begin at 4:00 p.m. and arrival time for the party will be at 5:00 p.m – dinner will be served shortly after 5:00 p.m. We need to be out of the Church facilities by 8:00 p.m.

If you are planning on attending, we ask that you sign-up for one of the meal selections listed below. Also, it's always helpful when Member's assist in set-up and clean-up for this fun event.

The Club reimburses Club Members who volunteer to bring the cooked the Turkeys and Ham. As in the past, the Club provides the beverages (non-alcoholic).

Please call Amy Koba at: 928-451-6339 or email her at: paintrocks@hotmail.com to sign up for one of the following categories, or sign-up at the November General Meeting:

Set-up, Turkey (1), Turkey (1), Ham (1), Vegetables, Salad, Dessert, Clean-up.

Each year, each participant is asked to bring an exchange gift valued at \$10.00; ladies for ladies, men for men – please mark each wrapped exchange gift with “Lady” or “Man.”

The Club provides entertainment, and each person will receive a ticket for specimens provided by the Club, to be given away at the party

The Board of Directors hopes to see you there for this enjoyable event. For our new Members, this is a great way to meet other Club Members and build new friendships. Ho, Ho, Ho.



Board of Directors & Committee Members

Board of Directors

President - Pat McMahan: 928-300-8333

1st V.P. (Programs) - Evelina Dunton

2nd V.P. (Field Trips) - Ted Schultz: 928-284-0415

Treasurer - Ralph Graves

Secretary - Susan Read

Director - John Brown

Director - Amy Koba

Director - Tom Helgeson

Past President – Ed Hodges

Committees

Newsletter Editor - Ray Topp: 928-284-1570

Membership/Sunshine - Marge Schwartz: 928-203-0356

Education - Becky Helgeson

Webmaster - Patti Polk



The Sunshine Lady

Marge Schwartz is our Sunshine Lady, and if you know of anyone who needs some sunshine in our club, please contact her at: bschwar13@msn.com

Regional Gem Shows

November 2014

8-9 – Lake Havasu City, Arizona

Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society. Lake Havasu Community Center, 100 Park Ave., Saturday 9-5, Sunday 9-4, adults \$2, children (under 12) free. Contact Sue Kirk, 1100 Pueblo Dr., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406, 928-302-1531, macsuzy@mac.com

15-16 – Payson, Arizona

Payson Rimstones Rock Club. Mazatzal Hotel & Casino Event Center; Hwy. 87 at Mile Marker 251; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$2, children (under 12) free; gems, minerals, specimen rocks, fossils, lapidary equipment, jewelry and findings, slabs or rough material, gold prospecting equipment, dealer displays, club displays, Educational Corner, fluorescent display, sand painting, beading, Spinning Wheel, silent auction. Margaret Jones, Box 884, Pine, AZ. Phone: 928-970-0857, Email: margieaberry@gmail.com

22-23—Apache Junction, Arizona

Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club Show and Sale. Apache Junction High School, 2525 S. Ironwood Dr. Saturday 9-5, Sunday 10-4. Adults \$3, students \$1, children (12 and under) free. Dealers, jewelry, gems, opals, beads, rocks, specimens, slabs, fossils, lapidary equipment and supplies, silent auction, hourly door prizes, grand raffle, gem-tree making for all ages, wheel-of-rocks, egg-carton rock collections. Contact Kelly Iverson: 480-325-2705, Website: www.ajrockclub.com

29-30 – Wickenburg, Arizona *New Listing*

Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Society Show and Sale. Wrangler Event Center, 251 S. Tegner St., Saturday 9-5, Sunday 10-4. Free admission, more than 40 dealers, rocks, gems, beads, minerals, jewelry, fossils, lapidary tools, kids' room, door prizes. Contact Beth Myerson: 480-540-2318, e-mail: myerbd@gmail.com

January 2015

16-18 – Globe, Arizona *New Listing*

Gila County Gem & Mineral Society 58th Annual Show. Gila County Fairgrounds, 3 miles northeast of junction U.S. 60. Friday 9-5, adults \$3, students and children free. More than 40 specimen display cases, children's fossil and mineral specimen dig, fossil program. Contact Jodi Brewster, phone: 623-810-9780, website: gilagem.com

Jan 30 thru Feb 15, 2015 – *The Tucson Gem Show*

Every year the rock, gem, mineral and jewelry worlds cosmically align in Tucson, Arizona. 4,000 trade companies gather here for what is collectively called "The Gem Show." Gem and minerals are on display at nearly forty separate venues – at booths, huge tents, expo halls, warehouses, and in the Convention Center. Over a dozen local hotels rent their rooms to rock, gem, or bead dealers, who sell directly to the public. Some shows span the entire two-and-a-half weeks, and others for just a few days. Several shows are exclusively for wholesale buyers, others are open to the public. Don't miss this great show.

List of Shows at: www.tucsongemshows.net/coming.html



PO Box 3284
Sedona, AZ 86340

