

# Sedona Red Rocking News

## Sedona Gem and Mineral Club

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

### Next Club Meeting – May 20, 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.



May, 2014

Volume 60, Issue 5

Member American Federation  
of Mineralogical Societies

Member Arizona Coalition of Rock  
Hound Clubs

Newsletter Editor: Ray Topp  
Email: [radio@rconnect.com](mailto:radio@rconnect.com)



## President's Message

*From Pat McMahan – SGMC President*

Our Club goals are evolving nicely. Susan Celestian, our program speaker last month did a stellar job. With her easy going manner, Susan talked about fossils from our area. Many of those she showed are in the Museum of Northern Arizona. Many are fossil corals she collected herself. She is an expert in her field and we are honored to have had her with us. We have a full slate of excellent, informative speakers lined up thanks to Evelina Dunton our Program Chair.

Becky Helgesen has lined up great, fun classes. George Neilson taught two classes in silversmithing, and many of us saw the treasures made by our members at our last meeting. Bob Meith, and Pat will be teaching beginning lapidary on Saturday, May 17. Students will bring in a rough rock, possibly found on one of our great field trips, and will leave hours later with a finished work of art.

Ted Schultz lined up another great field trip. This one was to the Dobell Ranch for beautiful petrified wood. Some of our state's best, most colorful wood comes from that area. And Amy Koba is providing, with her helpers, some of the best cookies in the land. The April cookies were the best yet! So if any of you are at home missing our meetings, we would love to have you share in our fun.

I want to thank the following volunteers for stepping up to the plate to do these important Show jobs: Susan Read, Registration; Bill Schwartz, Advertising; John Brown, Display Cases Chairman; Amy Koba, Refreshments for dealers; Tom Helgeson, Signs; Laura Castree, Raffle Chair; Rita Topp, Dealer Table arrangement. Becky Solon has filled our Club's Social Chair position. Thank you.

There has been a shift in the way our regular general meetings and our Board meetings are run this year. At our general meetings we are focusing on Programs, Field Trips, and Classes available to our members. Of course the main reason I come to our meetings – our awesome cookies.

Our important business is handled by our Board Members at our monthly Board meetings. Important things which are relevant to our general membership will be shared at our general meetings. We encourage participation at our Board meetings for those members that want to be involved.

It's said the more you put into something the more you get out of it. I wish I could share with each of you the fun I am having this year as President. To have the great team as we do, with our Board and other volunteers, makes the tasks at hand more fun for each of us. Thank you one and all!

## May Program

*From Evelina Dunton – Program Chairperson*

The Sedona Gem and Mineral Club will meet on May 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sedona Public Library for a presentation by Stan Celestian titled: "American Collecting Adventures." He will cover garnets from the Aquarius Mountains; quartz scepters from Date Creek; pseudomorphs from Camp Verde; cerussite and amethyst from Amethyst Hill; thunder eggs from Dragon Mine, and peridot from Peridot Mesa.

Celestian has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geology from State University of New York at Oswego, and a Masters of Science degree in Geology from Northern Arizona University. He was a former NASA Ambassador to the Solar System (Arizona Representative) and a former Science Olympiad Director and Arizona Geology Director. He previously taught geology, physical science and astronomy at Glendale Community College.

Celestian and his wife Sue live in Waddell, Arizona. He is currently teaching geology at Arizona State University, West Campus. His interests include photography, hiking, woodworking and lapidary.

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

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## SGMC Bylaw Changes

### *Dear Members:*

You were sent, either by email or USPS mail, a copy of the proposed Bylaw changes recommended by the Board of Directors.

These proposed changes should help future Board Members in their responsibilities representing our Club.

I want to thank Ted Schultz for his great job in spearheading this project. Ted did a great deal of preparation prior to the meeting with Susan Read and me. He was meticulous in his presentation and his insight was very much appreciated.

We hope our Members will review the proposed changes and we look forward to seeing you at the May Meeting.

If you did not receive a copy of the Bylaws, please contact me and I will make sure you receive a copy.

*Pat McMahan – 300-8333*

## Field Trips

From Ted Schultz – Field Trip Chairperson

### Dobell Ranch Field Trip

On Saturday, May 3rd, the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club hosted a coalition trip to the Dobell Ranch outside of Holbrook, to collect petrified wood. The trip was originally scheduled for Saturday, April 26th, but Mother Nature did not cooperate with good weather so we rescheduled. The weather was great and the picking's were even better. We had 21 members from the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club, the Prescott Gem and Mineral Club, the Apache Junction Rock Club, and also from the Rockhounds West, collecting some of the nicest colored petrified wood you can find.

Our host Tonya was extremely helpful and showed us around the historical property. The Dobell Ranch sits directly adjacent to the Petrified Wood National Park and is one of the few remaining area's you can still legally collect petrified wood. Everyone left smiling, with great specimens small and large.



## SGMC Annual Picnic

Becky Solon, at our April General Meeting, volunteered to be our Social Chairperson for our Annual Picnic and Christmas Party for this year. The Board of Directors thanks Becky for stepping up to fill this very important position for our Club.

A picnic will be held at Montezuma Well, at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, June 7th. Please bring a card table and chairs in case we are not able to get large tables. Details will be announced at the May General Meeting.

Our Club provides some of the food, and our Members sign up and bring their favorite dishes, such as salads or desserts. It's great fun, and an opportunity to meet other Club Members. In addition to the great food, we have games and rock specimen prizes.

Please contact Becky Solon at 928-282-8501 to sign up for this fun event.

## Coalition Field Trip for Zebra Agate, Christopher Creek, Arizona

**Hosted by:** Mineralogical Society of Arizona

**What for:** Zebra Agate

**When:** Saturday, May 17, 2014

MSA will lead a May Coalition Field Trip to Christopher Creek North of Payson, for Zebra agate.

**Field Trip Leader:** Lynne & Terry Dyer, phone: 480-396-2393 or email: unodyers@hotmail.com

**Meeting Date and Time:** Saturday, May 17th at 9:30 a.m.

**Directions to Meeting Place:** Physical Address: 1177 Christopher Drive, Payson, AZ 85541. From Payson, take highway 260 North to Christopher Creek Loop. Take left off Hwy 260 onto Christopher Creek Loop. Meet at south side of road between "Tall Pines Market" and "Landmark at the Creek Restaurant."

We will sign waivers at the meeting place.

We'll depart at 9:45 a.m. and follow the field trip lead vehicle to a collecting site just east of Christopher Creek, near Sharp Creek campground (approximately 23 miles Northeast of Payson).

**Road Rating:** Easy to intermediate, any SUV, truck or higher clearance car.

**Precautions:** Temperatures will be milder than the valley, but be sure to bring at least 1 gallon of water per person, a lunch and sunscreen.

Please ensure someone knows where you are at all times. Before you leave field trip, please notify the field trip leader or another member.

**Recommended Tools:** Gloves, bucket, and shovel.

## Club Classes

From Becky Helgesen

The two introductory silversmithing classes are now over. These classes were a lot of fun – and challenging! We plan to hold an "intermediate" level class soon (no date set yet). Our students made some great works of art.

The two lapidary classes are both set for Sat., May 17. The morning class is from 8 to noon and the afternoon class is from 1-5. Both will take place at Pat McMahan's place in Cottonwood. Cost is \$10. The only thing needed is a nice rock to cut, and a smile.

The wire-wrapping class will be held in the fall.

If you have interest in any of our classes, contact Education Chair Becky Helgesen at email: lillianaloo@gmail.com, or phone: 928-554-5077.

## KIDS CORNER

Please remember to save your paper egg cartons for our SGMC fall rock show Kids Corner. The children will be given an egg carton to place their specimens in when they take them home. Thank you for your support.





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

## Classifieds & Sales

### Estate/Rock Sale for Doris Banks

There is going to be a fantastic estate sale June 6, 7, and 8th, 2014, for our late, and \*highly-esteemed, long-time club member Doris Banks. The times will be 9:00 - 4:00, all three days.

Doris was an avid and knowledgeable rockhound, and she amassed a large, beautiful, and varied collection over her long lifetime. The estate sale will include her household items, and a special rock sale featuring much of her extensive rock collection.

Just a few of the items included in the rock sale will be petrified wood from Arizona and Wyoming, Wyoming jade, fire agate, Spencer opal, many types of agates and jaspers, crystals, various lapidary materials (both slabs and rough), and fine mineral specimens. There will also be a number of beautiful spheres lovingly created by her late husband John, also a well-respected former member of our club.

If you have any questions about the sale, contact Patti Polk at: rockhound\_86326@yahoo.com or 928-649-3744.

### You Might Be a Rockhound If...

- A truck throws a rock into your windshield and you examine the rock first.
- You shouted "Obsidian!" to a theater full of moviegoers, while watching "The Shawshank Redemption."
- You've fabricated a backpack for your dog.
- You still think pet rocks are a pretty neat idea.



## 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

## May Birthstone

*From Marge Schwartz – Membership Chairperson*

**Emeralds** are most frequently found inside a form of shale – a fine-grained sedimentary rock. Emerald-bearing shale has undergone recrystallization caused by changes in the physical environment such as pressure and temperature. Colombia produces the largest and highest quality emeralds. I was lucky enough to find some in North Carolina although not of gem quality. It was fun to sieve the soil and pick out my treasures.

There are many myths associated with the emerald. The stone was once believed to prevent epilepsy, stop bleeding, cure dysentery and fever, and protect the wearer from panic. Its magnificent green color was said to rest and relieve the eye. To the ancient Romans, emeralds were dedicated to the goddess Venus because the green emerald symbolized the reproductive forces of nature. Early Christians saw it as a symbol of the resurrection of Christ. In the Middle Ages, emeralds were believed to hold the power to foretell the future.

Some people believe that wearing an Emerald brings wisdom, growth, and patience. And as any couple in a long-term relationship



would agree, all of these qualities are essential for a successful and lasting love. This may explain why a gift of Emerald for an anniversary – or anytime – is considered symbolic of love and fidelity.

### Alternate Birthstones

Taurus – Agate, Coral, Amber, Garnet, Turquoise, and Rose Quartz. Gemini – Tiger's Eye, Chrysoprase and White Sapphire.

<http://about-birthstones.com/maybirthstone.html>

<http://earthsky.org/earth/may-birthstone-emerald>

## Regional Gem Shows

### June 6-8 – Flagstaff, Arizona

**Coconino Lapidary Club Annual Show.** Silver Saddle Outdoor Market, corner of Rt. 89N and Silver Saddle Rd. Daily 9-4, free admission. Show includes rough, finished, jewelry, fossils, and raffles. Contact Becky Cox, 6666 Snowflake Dr., Flagstaff, AZ 86004. Phone: 928-380-6657, Email: [bcox@fusd1.org](mailto:bcox@fusd1.org)

### August 1-3 – Prescott Valley, Arizona

**Prescott Gem & Mineral Club.** Tim's Toyota Center, Glassford Hill and Florentine Rd., Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4, adults \$4, seniors and students \$3, children (12 and under) free. 50 dealers, rough rock, slabs, cabochons, fossils, gems, minerals, jewelry, beads, equipment, findings, kids' activities, member displays, fluorescent mineral display, raffles, demonstrations. Contact Judy Sullins, Prescott Gem and Mineral Club, PO Box 3923, Chino Valley, Arizona 86323-2721, Phone: 928-445-1117; Email: [sullinsjs@cableone.net](mailto:sullinsjs@cableone.net) Website: [www.prescottgemmineral.org](http://www.prescottgemmineral.org)



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