

SEDONA RED ROCKING NEWS

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



March 2009
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MEMBER AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
MEMBER ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION
OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

March General Meeting is Tuesday, 7:00 pm, March 17, 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.

MARCH PROGRAM

Presented by Travis Bone

Did you know that for the entire month of March we will be celebrating the 26th anniversary of Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month? Proclaimed by the governor each year, the celebration features prehistoric and historic site tours, exhibits, hikes, open houses, lectures, demonstrations and other activities throughout Arizona. In support of this anniversary, the club will be hosting Federal Forest Service archaeologist Travis Bone at our meeting March 17th

Bone's presentation will lay the groundwork by covering the prehistory of the Verde Valley starting with the Paleolithic period (approximately 13,000 BC) to about 400 years ago. He will talk specifically about some of the artifacts and cultural resources we might find in the field and how to identify those that are cultural and those that are not. He'll cover Federal Service collection laws and policies and the importance of preserving archaeological sites and historic places.

Travis Bone holds an MA in archaeology from Northern Arizona University and focused his thesis on the Cohonina, a prehistoric puebloan group who once populated the Kaibab National Forest. He's held the position as staff archaeologist on the Tonto National Forest and is now District Archaeologist for the Red Rock Ranger District on the Coconino National Forest.

Bone was born in Prescott and has spent a great deal of time in the Verde Valley. He and his girlfriend live in Sedona and enjoy the variety of people that make up the community.

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@sedona.net. Any of the officers who want an up-to-date copy as of December can also just ask.

MARCH FIELD TRIP

The trip March 21 to Burro Creek has been cancelled as Burro Creek swelled after a storm and washed out the low water road crossing preventing us from access to the agate areas. I went there last week to check out things for our trip and I am glad I did.

Ralph Graves has offered to lead a trip to Grey Mountain about 40 miles north of Flagstaff on Hwy 89A (the road to Lake Powell). Field trippers will meet Ralph in Grey Mountain at 10:00 am after the about 2 hour drive from Sedona at the gas station on the right as you pull into town. I think there is only 1 gas station. There are restrooms and food available (practically nothing healthy on the res.) so packing a healthy lunch at home may be a good idea.

What we will find: Ralph will expertly guide us to ancient gravel bars that have petrified wood and other agate and jasper. Illusive, mysterious Moki balls, (not to be confused with monkey) can be found in the area. Leading you to finding these treasures will be the challenge for our guide.

Bring a collecting sack, small backpack, rock hammer, limited or no digging is necessary so no digging tools, water, lunch and snack and sun screen. It will be cool up there in the morning so bring a jacket. Call Ralph at 284-4740 Friday night March 20 between 7:00 and 8:00 pm ONLY if it looks like it will rain or you need further information.

If Ralph is not reachable, call me at 928-300-8333.
Pat McMahan



Newsletter Notes

For those of you receiving this Newsletter by U.S. Mail, if there is an M08 or F08 on the address label this is the last issue you will receive unless your dues for 2009 are paid by April 1st. Also, from your newsletter editor, a reminder for committee members - if you would like any information published in the newsletter, I need to receive it before the first of the month to include it in the newsletter. You can email your files to Patti at: rockhound_86326@yahoo.com Thank you!

**Sedona Gem & Mineral Club
Executive Board Meeting Minutes for
February 16, 2009**

Meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m. by President Ed Hodges.

Present: Ed Hodges, Ray Cooke, Pat McMahan, Danny Fitzpatrick, Rose Marie Licher, Garry Kappel and Gayle Macklin.

Guest: Mary Jane Cooke.

Absent: Linda Kappel, Brian Orsborn Bob Mieth and Patti Polk. The meeting began at 5:14 p.m. at the home of Elaine Marstad. Ed Hodges asked if there were any changes, corrections or additions to the January 2009 Minutes. A motion to approve was made by Ed Hodges and seconded by Pat McMahan. Minutes were approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

The report showed a balance of \$17,215.16. Ed Hodges asked if there were any changes, corrections, or additions to the Treasurer’s Report; a motion by Ed Hodges to approve; and was seconded by Pat McMahan, the Treasurer’s Report as approved.

MEMBERSHIP:

Patti Polk is looking for someone to replace her as editor of the newsletter.

November program speaker, Anna Dometrivic, would like her honorarium to reflect that of a local speaker, i.e. \$50. She will donate her \$100 travel allowance back to the club. We will discuss her becoming an “Honorary Member” at the March Board Meeting.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Danny Fitzpatrick talked about the Calendar for 2009 and the Guest Speakers. A “Rock Hunting Safety/Survivalist Lecture” was discussed as a possible upcoming program. Garry offered to contact someone in regards to this.

Ted Bunch is coming in April to talk about his Black Mat Theory. Approval for his \$150 fee was approved.

A seminar and field trip with Walt Wright was discussed. He needs a place to stay while he is here. It was agreed to pay him the \$500 fee. Danny will contact him regarding his schedule.

Having a “Metaphysical” Members Night was discussed.

It was unanimously agreed, that Danny has done a wonderful job as Program Chairman.

FIELD TRIPS:

A 2 day seminar and 1 day field trip to Holbrook with Walt Wright was discussed. Having him here at the same time as the October show was suggested. Some thought that an October date would be too cold for a field trip to Holbrook. September would be better. He needs a place to stay while he is here. It was agreed to pay him the \$500 fee. Danny will contact him regarding his schedule to see if he can present at the October 14, 2009 meeting and if he can stay to do a seminar and possible field trip.

Pat McMahan mentioned that he reserved the coalition field trip in April to Holbrook.

TUCSON SHOW:

Pat McMahan was at the Tucson Show and purchase approximately \$1,500 worth of items for the Club to be raffled. He took the Board out to his vehicle and showed us the items. One impressive item was an alligator skull he purchased for \$150. There were many other minerals and gems. He will talk about Tucson at the meeting tomorrow night.

NEWSLETTER:

We are still looking for someone to be our Newsletter Chairperson. There was some discussion on whether or not the Board Minutes should be included in the newsletter.

ROCK SHOW:

Date for the Club’s Rock Show is still not set. Garry said he will talk with John Parks at the Sedona Red Rock High School to work something out. Danny will contact Walt Wright to see if he can come to hold a seminar during the show. Holding other seminars during the show was also discussed. Promoting the seminars and the show at the September Member’s Night meeting and possibly charging a fee for the seminars was suggested. October 17 & 18 were chosen as dates for the show, promoting it at the WEDNESDAY, Oct. 14th Members Meeting.

Advertising for the show and possible seminars with AARP was discussed.

MISC:

Mary Jane Cooke spoke about the Scholarship Program and passed out a written proposal for the redistribution of the monies. Mary Jane proposed that we give out 2 scholarships for \$1,000 each instead of the one \$1,000 and the ineffective \$400 combination of monies. After much discussion a motion to approve was made by Rose and was seconded by Garry. The two Scholarships for \$1,000 each was approved by the Board

Mary Jane read a letter of accommodation from the Red Rock High School to the Club for offering the Scholarship Program. Sending the money directly to the college was discussed. Mary Jane will look into this procedure by contacting the Superintendent of Schools.

Garry, speaking for Brian, asked if the Board would consider changing the day and time of the monthly Board Meeting to the same day as the Members Meeting due to traveling both days from Camp Verde to Sedona. It was decided that it would be too long of a day and maybe we could start carpooling.

Garry asked that his email be added to the list.
sedonagarry@yahoo.com

The dates for the October meetings were changed due to the dates of the show. The Board Meeting will be held TUESDAY, October 13th at 5:00pm at the Sedona Public Library. Please note that the Library closes at 6:00 that day. The Members Meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY, October 14th at 7:00pm.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 16 and to be held at Sedona Public Library. Ed Hodges adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes submitted by Gayle Macklin, Secretary.



Quartzsite Report 2009

by Pat McMahan (Official Foreign Correspondent)

*Article originally published in Mineralein Welt Magazine
(international European Gem & Mineral magazine)*

Attendance at the Quartzsite shows including Desert Gardens, Tyson Wells and the POW WOW was down. This was expected due to the current economic situation. The good news for buyers was that dealers were willing to negotiate lower prices. Much of the material was priced high. This is the result of increased demand over recent years brought on largely by Ebay and other internet sale sites.

Today agate, mineral and fossil collectors can amass wonderful collections from the comfort of their homes all year around. Individual pieces or complete collections are bought and sold over the internet.

The impact to agate collections is new collectors who are drawn to say, pink Laguna Agate, for instance, may find and buy a piece or two on an ebay auction. They then see a yellow banded Laguna Agate and buy it. Then a purple one is offered and they buy it and before long they have 10 or 20 or more pieces in their new collection. They then see a piece with sagenetic agate or plume agate or moss inclusions and before long they are addicted like many of us collectors.

Prior to this wonderful source, we collected what was near our homes or what we found on vacation or at shows like Munich or the Arizona shows, or if we were lucky we bought a whole collection. Today, creating a collection with representative samples from given locations is much easier than ever before. Collecting sites are better documented now. In these tough economic times, many buying opportunities will occur for those who are in a position to take advantage of them.

Many Quartzsite dealers reported sales were off from past years. Those dealers with good quality rock had brisk sales and reported increased sales from prior years.

A Mexican agate dealer had a limited quantity of top grade rough Laguna agate available. He was offering it for \$200.00 per pound. This is a record high price for Laguna rough. This agate was exceptional with bright colors and nice banding. More affordable agate is available for those who seek it out. One agate collector at the Tucson Show bought about 35 pounds of #1 Laguna Agate rough for \$5.00 per pound. That price has not been seen in 50 years or more. This is an interesting thing we do.

The POW WOW opened a week earlier this year. It was pretty well attended and some dealers had very nice material. The organizers of the POW WOW are to be commended for holding the show a week earlier. This allowed those with limited time to attend the Quartzsite shows and the Tucson shows as well.

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- **Annual Sedona Gem & Mineral Show**
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- The dates for the Rock Show and Sale will be available
- in March. Check the Website for updates and to sign
- up for email notification.
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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:

Sedona Gem & Mineral Club
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 Sedona, AZ 86340

2009 Dues are Due!

Annual dues are \$10.00 per individual member and \$20.00 per family. Dues are due now and must be paid by the end of March in order to be listed on the Club Roster coming out in April. Pay Ray Cooke at the member meetings, or mail to him at: 97 Pinon Woods Drive, Sedona 86351 or to the Club mailbox at P.O. Box 3284, Sedona, AZ 86340.

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13-15 COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA: Show, "Verde Valley Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show"; Mingus Gem & Mineral Club; Verde Valley Fairgrounds, 800 E. Cherry St.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$3 (\$1 Fri.), students free with ID, children free with adult; free gem and mineral ID Sat.
Contact Mike Ramsey, (928) 634-0666
e-mail: ramsey6264@yahoo.com

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APRIL 2009

4-5 KINGMAN, ARIZONA: Show; Mohave County Gemstoners; Kingman Academy of Learning, 3419 Harrison; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free admission; dealers, crafts, jewelry, fossils, rough material, minerals, gems, club displays, silent auction, raffle.
Contact Pete (928) 565-4321, or Dave, (928) 692-3797

MAY 2009

23-24 PINETOP-LAKESIDE, AZ: White Mountain Gem & Mineral Show; Show Low Intermediate School, 500 W. Old Linden Rd., Show Low, AZ 85901 Sponsored by: White Mt. Gem & Mineral Club P.O. Box 3504, Show Low, AZ 85902
Admission: \$2.00, students under 16 free. Parking: Free.
Hours: Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4 Show and Dealer Chairperson: Pete & Laura Scholton, 928-537-1874

22-24 BISBEE, AZ: Bisbee Mineral Show
Sponsored by: City of Bisbee, Bisbee Mining Historical Museum, and Bisbee Chamber of Commerce
Hours: Fri., Sat., Sun., 9-5
Website: www.queenminetour.com
Phone: 520-432-2071

