

SEDONA RED ROCKING NEWS

Sedona Gem and Mineral Club

P.O. Box 3284, Sedona, AZ 86340

www.sedonagemandmineral.org

General Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Sedona Library off of Dry Creek Road in West Sedona. The Board of Directors meets at 5:00 PM the week before the General Meeting, also at the library. Members and guests are always welcome to attend.



October, 2011

Volume 57, Issue 7

MEMBER AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

MEMBER ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

Newsletter Editor: Patti Polk
Email: rockhound_86326@yahoo.com

Be sure to attend the annual Sedona Gem and Mineral Show October 15 and 16, 2011, at the Sedona Red Rock High School, Sedona. For more information call Garry Kappel at (928) 634-4698.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

"The Art of Alabaster Carving"

*Presented by Paul Hawkins and Susan Zalkind,
Masters of the Art of Alabaster Carving*

Do you want to learn the secret of Alabaster carving? If you do, you won't want to miss the upcoming presentation of Susan Zalkind and Paul Hawkins, masters of the carving arts. The couple will be demonstrating their custom designed tools and carving kits for members of the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club at the October 11th meeting. Their passion for turning rock into decorative and functional objets d'art can be seen in the many beautiful sculptures, inlaid bowls and ornamental sconces and lampshades they have created. Their love for the art of Alabaster carving has gained them national acclaim. Better still, it has provided them a solid living focused on the challenge of developing their own tools and techniques which were needed when they realized that schools were on the wrong track. Nine years ago, Susan and Paul decided to share a special gift with kids of all ages. The couple distributed their Alabaster stone Carving Experience (A.C.E.) kits to schools to enable novice carvers to work with the stone and learn more about the art and craft of working with Alabaster. Hawkins believes everyone can carve stone. "If they can carve stone, they can do anything." Two years later, Hawkins and Zalkind disclosed their ultimate objective. "We have a goal of reaching 100,000 kids in 10 years."

Hawkins and Zalkind appeared on the cover of the magazine Lapidary Journal. Numerous photographs of their work appeared in that publication, along with an article describing their skills and their unique art form which is as versatile as the rocks from which they are carved. "Alabaster is the queen of stones; it is soft to touch, colorful and translucent. For 30 years, we have had a love affair with these rare-colored stones," said Zalkind. "We hand-gather and mine all of our own stones from various deposits all over the Southwest and California." Their yard is filled with a variety of colored alabaster stones that have been sorted and stacked. The stones consist of different sizes and textures and come from different locations. Their outdoor artist studio on Salt Mine Road houses numerous drills, tools and sanders that keep them busy at the task of selecting the best material for the job at hand.

Paul Hawkins was born in upstate New York. Paul Adams Hawkins (who was descended from John Quincy Adams) moved to New England at 18 months where he spent most of his youth. From age 5 to age 17, he moved 13 times, attended as many schools, and was always the new kid on the block. His

saving grace was his precious rock collection and his love of the Vermont woods which was the impetus for his chosen profession. His love of rocks and the solitude in nature have led him to the path he has pursued for over 35 years. At age 21, Paul attended the Art Center School in Los Angeles. By age 23 he had two children and enjoyed attending Southwestern College in San Diego on the GI Bill while managing a printing firm and working as a production engineer for a home manufacturing company. At age 33, he found himself divorced, responsible for two children, and dissatisfied with working for others. This 'rock bottom' experience in 1973 was the turning point in his life.

Unable to do anyone else's work, and searching for his own work and passion, Hawkins remembered the old rock collection he loved and the Alabaster that was given to him to carve at Southwestern College. He made a bold decision to hand-gather his first load of Alabaster at this point in his life. Then the question became, what to make? With fondness, he remembered the maple bowls his father used to make in Vermont at the maple bowl factory he had started. Paul carved his first Alabaster bowl on the wings of that memory. That marked the beginning of his Artform which has, since then, been featured in all of Tiffany's windows, amongst other accolades.

Paul Hawkins and his partner and wife Susan Zalkind have two children, Zaliah who is 23, and a graduate of the the University of Arizona in Tucson, and Amber who is 20 and living in Tucson, Arizona, working as a teacher.

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Paul Hawkins and Susan Zalkind

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Previous to being carried across the country on the wave of California dreaming in the very early 70s, Susan Zalkind was born and raised in Fall River, Massachusetts. She attended Boston and Northeastern Universities while earning two Masters Degrees in Education and Counseling along the way. "I longed to find my real work, the true expression of my deep self. It was in California while building a house and learning to carve wood that I discovered that I loved to work with my hands. When I began to carve, they literally filled with a warm, palpable energy, my heart quieted, my mind focused, and I knew I was home."



It was a few years later that Susan Zalkind met Paul Hawkins who was carving stone professionally. They began to make functional pieces like bowls and containers by combining the Alabaster and indigenous woods which they gathered themselves. As Susan states, "I have a passion for carving flowers from the translucent and rare colored Alabasters that we gather. We have developed and adapted tools to work this stone that had not previously been applied to this stone, resulting in forms, shapes and ideas that have never been seen before. Only Alabaster can describe roses that look like they're blowing in the wind. Being of pioneer spirit and birthing a new art form, we chose the more renegade route of selling our own work rather than becoming gallery artists. Although we have been represented by a number of galleries over the years, we make our living mostly by selling our own work."

~ from Becky Solon



IMPORTANT!!!

The October meeting will be held on *Wednesday*, October 12th at 7:00 PM - NOT on the regular day of Tuesday.

Sedona G & M October Show Information

from Greg and Ann Capatch, show Chairpersons

Hello fellow club members. We had a great turnout of volunteers for the show at the September Ice Cream Social. Many of the areas where there was a need for your help are full, but we still have a few areas where help is needed - especially in the Kid's Corner. Heather Redden has volunteered to chair that department, and this year's Kid's Corner will be a great place to pitch in. She is limiting the activities to two - the Plinko game and some basic beading activities. Seriously consider being part of these activities, as our hobby grows by getting kids interested in collecting rocks and minerals. As a reminder, a box will be placed in the back of the room for donations towards the Kid's Corner - this month's donations will be used for this year's show - and future donations will be put towards our next show. Last month, one of our members who used to teach lapidary, donated some amazing geode specimens that truly are spectacular, and we are hoping to keep the quality of what is donated towards our Kid's Corner at a higher caliber than "yard rocks". So please, bring in one or more small nice rock specimens for the kids and do your part in getting the next generation of rock hounds excited about our hobby. The other area where we have an immediate need is in helping to get the display cases ready for the show. We could use your help - and will be meeting at the storage unit in Garry Kappel's rock yard on Sunday, October 9th at 10 AM. If you can help, please call me at 554-4615. We will be bringing all the sheets where there is a need for another couple of volunteers to the meeting on Wednesday, October 12th. Please consider donating some time to make this year's show our best ever. Thanks.

Editor's Note

If you are doing a display for the show and need any display set-up information, please contact Roland Michaelis at : astrogem@cableone.net

Also, Heather Redden can still use donations of small rocks, plastic bags, and beading materials for the Kid's Table. You can call Heather at 649-9901 to arrange a pick up.

Sedona G & M Club Christmas Party

The annual club Christmas Party will be on Wednesday, December 7th (Pearl Harbor Day).

Again, as always - it will be at St. Andrews church at 100 Arroyo Pinon Dr.

Set-up and Food from 5PM to 6PM with Dinner between 6PM to 6:30PM.

As with the summer picnic, several club members are hoping to have something special for this Christmas party! Further details will be provided in the November Newsletter.

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP from Rita Topp

The September field trip to collect fossils and brain stone nodules was on Saturday September 17. Eleven members headed for Control Road (just outside of Pine), about 9:15 am.

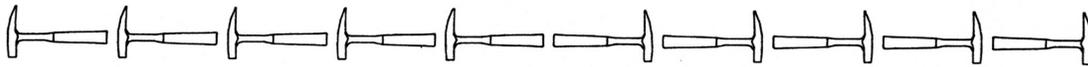
The trip to the high country is always enjoyable, the views breath taking. Everyone's vehicle made it over the boulders in the ditch up onto the forest road. The forest road had many sharp turns and that part of the trip was a bit difficult for Bill and Marge - they have quite a truck. Being long time rock hounds, they new just what to do, they parked and hitched a ride with Susan and Mike. Once at the site, we determined a set time to meet back at our vehicles. There is so much material at this location, coral fossils that are magnificent and more brain stone nodules than you can believe. A site that will undoubtedly remain on the list of our favorite collection sites.

OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS from Rita Topp

Payson, Arizona for quartz crystals at Diamond Point. Saturday October 22, sign up sheets and more information at the October club meeting. Our last trip to Diamond point was so much fun that members asked to have it on the trip list for this fall.

Trona, California for the Searles Lake and Mineral Society's 70th annual GEM-O-RAMA, this year the event is Saturday and Sunday, October 8 and 9.

This is a no sign up trip. If you are wanting to go visit the web page for the Trona club, www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub for information. We will meet in the parking lot of the Best Western Motel at 400 South China Lake Blvd., in Ridgecrest CA. The meeting time is 7:15 am on Saturday or you may head over on your own. A ticket must be purchased prior to each of the trips and they have no advance sales. The lines move smoothly but here is a wait, park first then proceed to purchase your tickets. Last year all but a couple of my minerals sold at the Sedona Gem and Mineral Show. Awesome Hanksite and Halite will be found or you don't want to or cannot get into the mud and lake you will be able To purchase specimens from their club sales room. See you there!

**Birthstone Facts for October by Marge Schwartz**

Birthstones worn by the people born in that particular month will bring luck, health and provide even stronger healing power during your birth month according to legends. October babies have a variety of birthstones to test out what has been thought to be true for many years. Give it a try and Happy Birthday to all!

Opal is the Birthstone for October.

In the 1960s a team of Australian scientists analyzed Opals with an electron microscope. It was discovered in the 1960's that small spheres from silica gel cause interference and refraction of light, which are responsible for the beautiful display of colors. The spheres, which are arranged in fairly compact structures, bend the light as it passes through the gemstone and turning it into all the colors of the rainbow. They also contain water and can pale and become brittle unless sealed with a colorless artificial resin. People have been believing in the healing power of Opal for ages. It is reported to be able to solve depression and to help its wearer find the true and real love. Opals are supposed to further enhance the positive characteristics for people born under the zodiac sign of Cancer. Black Opal is recommended to those born under Scorpio, and Boulder Opal is the lucky stone for Aries. Opal stands for qualities such as purity, hope, loyalty and innocence. It improves a person's imagination powers and enhances healing.

Alternates to the Opal are Tourmaline, Jasper and Aquamarine.

Tourmaline is often bi-color or tri-color and a favorite among jewelry designer. Jasper is known as the mystical birthstone for October. Picture jasper is a petrified or silicated mud that dripped into gas pockets in molten lava. It became superheated and then solidified forming the unusual banded patterns which send imagination to new heights. No two stones are alike and can look like a variety of scenery depending on the band pattern and color combinations. Aquamarine is a member of the beryl family and as its name indicates comes in beautiful ocean blue shades. Legends tell of aquamarine curing sea sickness so give it a try for your next cruise.

Happy thoughts for October and as always – enjoy!

NORMAN STEINHILBER 1922-2011

Norman Steinhilber 89, passed away September 10, 2011. He was preceded in death by his wife June and three sons Ron, Rick and an infant son. He is survived by his best friend Dee Orr, brother Bud in Hawaii, sister Julie Wolsson in Awatukee and 3 grandsons, Eric, Todd and Shane from New York plus a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Norm was an artist, inventor and interior designer. He worked in watercolors, created bronzes, carved stone, made jewelry, found and finished agates and other stones for his jewelry settings, and more. At 18 years old he invented a process for creating artificial snow that is still used to spray on Christmas trees. He made numerous parts using stainless steel that were utilized in the medical equipment and airline industries. Norm designed cabinets for televisions for the television industry and custom executive desks for the office furniture industry. He was an interior designer in New York city and designed and laid out large cafeterias, bank interiors and offices. One such cafeteria was in the Twin Towers in New York. Dee Orr remembers watching the destruction of the towers with Norm on 9/11 and how very hard it was for Norm to watch them fall. A piece of his life died that day.

Norm was a member of the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club for 20 years. He was very close friends with club members Nancy Bihler and Pat McMahan. He collected rocks from most of the 11 western states and Mexico. Norm led field trips for the club and taught jewelry making. He also presented programs at our meetings. Norm was a digger and found and built a wonderful rock collection.

Norm was a champion wrestler and competed until he was in his early 40's. He belonged to a sailing club in New York, was on their board and won numerous regattas. No services are scheduled at this time.

***Did You Know?***

That the club has a member's corner at every meeting? What is a member's corner, you ask? It is an area where members can bring different items to display, give away, or sell - rocks, jewelry, magazines, whatever. And, if you bring something to sell that doesn't sell, and you don't want to haul it home, you can always donate it to the club to be used as a raffle prize or as a prize for the kid's table at our annual rock show. We can also use small rocks, beads, jewelry making supplies, & plastic bags for the kid's table too.

**Feds Buy Up 26,000 Acres of Petrified Forest
Much of newly-acquired land has never been explored**

By Greg Wilson - KNBC-TV, Los Angeles, Thursday, Sep 8, 2011

The federal government just bought 26,000 acres of land in Arizona, expanding the Petrified Forest National park by more than 10 percent.

The National Park Service paid about \$8 million for the land, which was known as the Paulsell Ranch. Much of the newly-acquired land has remained untouched for centuries and likely contains Indian petroglyphs, dinosaur fossils and the famous, rainbow-colored petrified wood the area is known for.

"The opportunity to actually go out into an area that hasn't been worked before by other researchers, the opportunity to find things that are truly new to science - there's a very good chance of that, so it's pretty exciting," Bill Parker, a paleontologist at the park, told The Associated Press. "I think we're definitely going to be able to find some things that are new out there that are really going to enhance the story of the park."

Congress more than doubled the boundaries of the park in 2004, from 93,500 acres to about 218,500 acres. But much of the land within the new border remained in private hands. With the latest purchase, Congress has acquired about a third of the 120,000 acres owned privately within the boundaries.

Petrified wood is scattered throughout the undeveloped ranch land. Mike Ford, of the Conservation Fund, which has worked with the federal government to acquire lands for parks, said he's been working on the deal for more than a dozen years. "I tell people about this part of the world - it's so rough and crude, it has its own beauty," Ford said. "For people who love the Southwest and love those kinds of landscapes, it's isolated, it's remote, it's out there. That crudeness has a beauty that you have to be a desert rat to appreciate." About 630,000 people visit the park each year.

A Word from the Editor Patti Polk

In case any of you never got the chance to go on one of our fabulous field trips to the Paulsell ranch, I just wanted to let you know that we've lost a tremendous collecting location and I, for one, am very sorry to see it go. Some people may feel that it is better for the Park to have it, but as a rockhound, I am saddened by the ongoing loss of our accessible lands, both public and private, and I can only be grateful for the opportunities to collect there that I did have over the years. It is unknown if the park will ever open that area to the public, or simply retain it for other purposes. Either way, it is one less area where we can go collect and all I can do now is just enjoy my memories of the great fun I had out there with my friends finding my beautiful and colorful wooden treasures.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

This is a brand new section for club members to share information about items or services that they would like to buy, trade, or sell. If you would like to submit information to be included in the classified section, please email Patti P. with your complete announcement at: rockhound_86326@yahoo.com before the end of the month to be included in the next month's newsletter.

Wire Wrapping Classes

Learn to make wire wrapped jewelry. A 3 hour class is \$40.00 (non members) or \$25.00 for Sedona Gem and Mineral club members. Limit of 4 students per class.

You can see my work at www.akobaart.com. My work is also for sale. If you would like to purchase jewelry or sign up for a class, contact Amy at paintrocks@hotmail.com, or call 928-451-6339.

For Sale

Foredom variable speed dual spindle polisher with home made hood \$60. Call Garry or Linda at 634-4698.

PMC Classes

If you would like to learn the art of using Precious Metal Clay, Patti P. is offering individual classes at her home covering all the techniques necessary to complete a Fine Silver patinaed pendant with a bezel set cabochon ready for hanging on your favorite chain. Classes are two 1 1/2 hour sessions, and materials are included. Email Patti for details at rockhound_86326@yahoo.com.

Did you know that zeolite minerals are used to stabilize ammonium and potassium in soil for agriculture; to improve air quality they are used in air filtration, odor control, and purification of gases and air by selectively adsorbing gases such as ammonium, hydrogen sulfide, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, formaldehyde, and mercaptan; zeolites are used in hazardous waste cleanup to contain heavy metals and nuclear waste and to remove ammonium in water treatment?

from www.minerals.usgs.gov



NEW CLUB MERCHANDISE INFO

The Sedona Gem & Mineral Club now has hats and embroidered patches for sale. Hats are \$12.00 and Patches are \$4.00. Support your club and show your enthusiasm for our hobby!

Also, if you are a club member and would like to purchase a membership badge, the cost for a badge is \$5.00.



Membership Application (please print)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ___ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Renewal or New
Membership Desired (Check One)

Individual \$15.00 _____

Family \$25.00 _____

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 Garry Kappel: (928) 634-4698

www.sedonagemandmineral.org

Sedona Gem and Mineral Club October Newsletter, 2011



NOVEMBER 2011

4, 5, & 6 BLACK CANYON CITY, ARIZONA: ROCK-A-RAMA. High Desert Park, 19001 E. Jacie Lane, Black Canyon City, Arizona, Exit 242. Watch for signs. Tailgaters and dealers welcome. Free parking & admission. 9 A.M. – 4 P.M. Harvest Moon Dinner Dance Saturday Night, Breakfast / Lunch available for purchase. 15' Spaces - \$35 for 3 Days
Questions: Call Don at 623-374-0202.

12-13 LAKE HAVASU CITY, ARIZONA: 42nd Annual Show. Lake Havasu City Gem & Mineral Society. LHC Community Center, 100 Park Ave. Mineral and jewelry displays, dealers, demonstrations, and educational geological presentations. Contact C. Russell at (928) 846-0927.

26-27 WICKENBURG, ARIZONA: 11th Annual Gem and Art Fair. Wickenburg Community Center, 160 N. Valentine St. Wickenburg, AZ. Over 40 Vendors, Gems, Minerals, Jewelry, Local Artist, Photo Exhibit, Grab Bags, Spinning Wheel, Food and More! Free Admission, 9 AM to 5 PM Both Days.
For Additional Vendor or Show Information call Beth Myerson at 928-684-0380 or 480-540-2318, or email at myerbd@gmail.com

OCTOBER 2011

15-16 SEDONA, ARIZONA: Annual Gem & Mineral Show. Sponsored by the Sedona Gem & Mineral Club, Sedona Red Rock High School, 89A and Upper Red Rock Loop Rd. in West Sedona. Free Admission, Free Parking, Displays & Demonstrations, Raffles, Free Prizes, Games and Crafts in the Kids Corner, Guest Speakers and Slide Presentations both Sat. and Sun. Food & drink available for purchase. Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM. For additional information call Greg Capatch at 928-634-4698.
Website www.sedonagemandmineral.org

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