

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 day before the General Meeting, also at the library. Members and guests are always welcome to attend.



March 2011

Volume 57, Issue 3

MEMBER AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

MEMBER ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

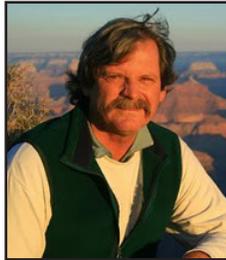
Newsletter Editor: Patti Polk
Email: rockhound_86326@yahoo.com

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.

MARCH PROGRAM

"Verde Valley Geology"

Presented by Wayne Ranney



Wayne Ranney is a well-known geologist, writer, and leader of adventure public education programs. He is adept at interpreting complex scientific concepts for non-scientists through lectures and slide programs, popular writings, and museum exhibits that are compelling, interesting, and fun. He holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Earth Science from Northern Arizona University, and is an adjunct professor of geology at Coconino Community College in Flagstaff. Wayne has led excursions to the Grand Canyon, the Amazon River, Antarctica, the Arctic, the Russian Far East, the North and South Poles, and South America. He works as a trail guide and geology interpreter for the Smithsonian and the Grand Canyon Field Institute. He leads Museum of Northern Arizona (MNA) Ventures Programs on wilderness river and backcountry hiking trips. He conducts vehicle excursions in the Four Corners states and teaches docent training to adults and outdoor adventure programs to children.

Wayne is the author of numerous books including, *Ancient Landscapes of the Colorado Plateau*, *Carving Grand Canyon*, *Easy Field Guide to Arizona Landforms*, *The Verde Valley- A Geological History*, and a local favorite, *Sedona Through Time*, now in its 3rd edition. He has won numerous awards for his books and publications. He appeared recently on the National Geographic Channel discussing ideas on the formation of the Grand Canyon and evolution of the Colorado River.

For the past six years, he has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Northern Arizona. Wayne is an engaging lecturer who will share the latest developments in the geology of northern Arizona.
~ from *Becky Solon*

SUNSHINE

Let's all wish Becky Solon a safe and successful surgery and a very speedy recovery from her upcoming back surgery on March 8th. Hang in there Becky!

MARCH FIELD TRIP

Mingus Mountain

Our March field trip is to a location on Mingus Mountain, it is scheduled for Saturday, March 19. We will meet across the street from the Maverick station in Cottonwood. The meeting time is 10:00 AM and a sign up sheet will be available at the March meeting. If you are unable to attend the monthly meeting and want to go on this trip, you will need to have your 2011 dues paid. You may bring your dues check to the meeting location or mail it to Sedona Gem and Mineral Club, PO Box 3284, Sedona AZ 86340. Be sure to call Rita prior to the 19th, home phone number is 284-1570.

The siderite we will be collecting is from an old mine site. Siderite is often associated with calcite, barite and pyrite, the colors are brown to very dark brown with white streaks or blotches. This mineral is quite heavy due to the iron content so don't overload your buckets, we will be parked only a quarter mile from the site so you may take a few trips back to your vehicle. In under 2 hours you will have as much of this material as you can haul back to your vehicle.

Pack drinking water and gloves are always a good idea when out collecting. A container to carry your finds and the only tool really would be a small hand spade or a rock hammer to move back a layer of Siderite to see if nicer specimens are just under the one you are looking at.

There will be samples to look at during our March meeting as well as some will be available at the meeting place the morning of the trip. If it is raining the morning of the 19th we will cancel and it will be rescheduled at a later date.

Our April field trip is the annual Coalition trip to Holbrook for petrified wood, weather permitting.

~ from *Rita Topp*

IN REMEMBRANCE

We are so very sorry to announce the passing of Mary Montgomery, a long-time valued member of our club, and wife of member Cliff Montgomery. Mary was a terrific and sweet lady and will be very much missed by all of us. Our hearts go out to Cliff during this difficult time and we wish him our deepest sympathy.

President's Message by Garry Kappel

On January 17th, 2011 the Sedona Gem & Mineral Club board of directors has elected to change the date of the monthly board meetings from the day before the general meeting to the Tuesday before the general meeting (e.g.; 1-week prior on the 2nd Tuesday of the month). This change will allow the officers and directors more time to get any necessary materials ready for the general meeting on the following Tuesday. Additionally, it solves the problem of locating another meeting place on those Mondays when the Sedona Public Library is closed.

The current board meeting date is specified in the Club's By-Law (Article 7, Paragraph 2), so a change to the Club's By-Laws will be required. In accordance with Article 9, Paragraph 1 Amendments to the By-Laws, the Club membership must be informed of the proposed change and information posted at the preceding general meeting. In accordance with the Amendments provision, the membership at the January and February general meetings were so informed and could read the posting on the President's Message Board. In addition, this article will so inform the general membership who did not attend the January general meeting.

Also, per Article 9, Paragraph 1, any change to the Club's By-Laws requires a two-thirds majority vote of the membership at the next general meeting (after the posting). Therefore, the general membership at the March 15th meeting will be asked to vote on the proposed By-Laws amendment. Specifically; the first sentence of Paragraph 2 of Article 7 which states "The Board of Directors shall meet the day before every regular meeting of members at a time and place determined by the President" shall be changed. The new wording shall be "The Board of Directors shall meet a week before every regular meeting of members at a time and place determined by the President," with the additional stipulation which specifies the 2nd Tuesday of the Month.

Usually, board meetings are held at the Sedona Public Library at 4:00 pm and members &/or guests are welcome to attend. However, based upon availability of meeting space at the Library, the board may meet at a different location from time-to-time.

March Birthstones By Marge Schwartz

Birthstones come in a colorful array of glowing gemstones, each one with its own place in history and myth. From folklore tales, Biblical texts, and the annals of history, these gems have had a special place in both the hearts and minds of humanity. I have collected a few facts and folklore for your enjoyment. See if these stones in your collection do indeed bring you some good luck this month.

Traditional Birthstone

Aquamarine – The name comes from the Roman word "Aqua," meaning water, and "mare," meaning sea. This pale blue gem does indeed resemble the color of seawater. The ancient Romans believed that the Aquamarine was sacred to Neptune, the god of the sea, having fallen from the jewel boxes of sirens and washed onto shore. Early sailors wore aquamarine talismans, engraved with the likeness of Neptune, as protection against dangers at sea.

The association with water led to the belief that the Aquamarine was particularly powerful when immersed. Water in which this gemstone had been submerged was used in ancient times to heal a variety of illnesses of the heart, liver, stomach, mouth and throat. Aquamarines were also used to reverse poisoning and to aid in fortune telling.

The Aquamarine is a member of the beryl family. Beryl is a mineral that crystallizes within large grained igneous rocks on the earth's crust. It varies in color from clear to vibrantly colored gemstones such as the Emerald. Beryl was used as far back as 2,000 years ago to

SPECIAL NOTICE - Museum March

Please forward to all clubs and interested parties.

Summary: Attached is a document detailing organized march to the state legislature in support of preserving the Mineral Museum and its earth science focus. Letters to your state representatives are also welcome. Thanks, Tom Parks

AZ MINING AND MINERAL MUSEUM TO CLOSE

AZ students are protesting the June 1st closing of their only earth-science museum, the AZ Mining and Mineral Museum. They are planning a march from the Mining and Mineral Museum to the capitol to make citizens aware of the relatively secret plans of the Governor, the AZ Historical Society and the Centennial Foundation to create another historical museum and close the Mining and Mineral Museum. The closure will be lengthy—the projected opening date of the 5C's Centennial Museum is November of 2012, and due to the lack of an organized plan, much later than that! We believe a prolonged closure is unnecessary and will harm the highly rated Mining and Mineral Museum and deny students and teachers access to its educational services. What, if anything, will be left of the current museum is not known to supporters at this time.

The march will be held on Tuesday, March 15th. Students, and any adults who wish to support the students or show their support for the museum, should gather at the Mining and Mineral Museum on 15th Avenue and Washington Street at 10:30 a.m. Parking is available in the lot on the northeast corner of 15th Avenue and Adams, diagonally across 15th Avenue from the parking lot behind the Mining and Mineral Museum. The march will be dignified and respectful. Marchers are encouraged to carry signs supporting the students concerns: Save the Mining and Mineral Museum; Save the existing displays and mining equipment; Keep educational programs for schools open; Smart businesses do not close for more than a year to remodel, if they want to keep their clients; We don't need another history museum; Students shouldn't have to beg for earth-science education; etc.

For questions or information contact Mardy at 480-839-6390

correct vision, and it continues to be used today in the manufacture of eyeglasses. It is a very hard mineral, making the Aquamarine a durable gemstone for use in jewelry.

Ayurvedic Birthstone

An alternate birthstone for March is Bloodstone, a dark green opaque quartz flecked with red spots. The name Bloodstone derives from the legendary belief that the red coloration resulted from the blood of Christ spilling onto green jasper during the crucifixion. For this reason, too, the stone has been called "martyr's stone." Bloodstone is mined in India, Brazil, Uruguay, Australia, and the United States. deal for carving into cameos and beads, this stone symbolizes courage.

Mystical Birthstone

Jade was used as a talisman in both China and Egypt to attract good fortune and friendship. When worn, it is believed to protect one from evil while traveling and to promote wisdom and ensure a long life. Jade has been thought to help protect the kidney, heart, larynx, liver, spleen, thymus, thyroid and strengthens the body. Jade is known as a symbol of love and virtue.

Zodiac Birthstones

Pisces stone is Amethyst and Aries is Bloodstone.

Enjoy the stones in your collection and jewelry this month and the good luck they bring you!

A Note From the Editor

Patti Polk

Greetings all, I apologize for the lateness of the newsletter - I have just been swamped with work to do and unable to get to it any sooner.

In respect to my lateness in getting the newsletter done, I once again find myself in the unhappy position of not having enough time to give the newsletter the attention it deserves. I had reluctantly agreed once again to take it over simply because no one else in the club would step up do it. Unlike many people in the club, I am not retired - I work full time and I also have handled (and continue to do so) all of the monthly website and email responsibilities for at least a dozen years for this club and I just don't have the spare time to take on any more projects these days.

Personally, I can't understand why a club with at least a hundred plus members can't find one single person who is willing to take on this position to help support their club. Plenty of people show up every month to enjoy the programs, raffles, cookies, parties, picnics, and field trips that the club provides, yet so few are willing to actually contribute any of their time to help with the important club functions. I have noticed that, over the years, there seems to always be a small group of people who continually do most of the work in the club and everyone else reaps the benefit of their efforts without appearing to consider that maybe they could join in too and lend a helping hand.

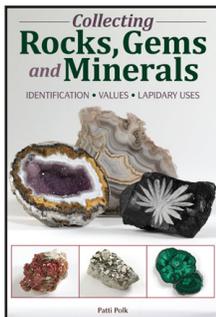
Unfortunately, in this day and age, many rock clubs all over the U.S. are dying from lack of participation by their members in the necessary functions that keep a club alive. A club is only as strong and as vital as it's members. If people are not willing within a club to take on the basic responsibilities of the clubs' essential functions, then the club will begin to die and eventually there won't be a club any more for anyone to belong to.

I will continue for a couple more months to do the newsletter so that the club may have time to find a replacement for me. I will create a basic newsletter Word template that anyone can use and easily input text or photos into, and I will even help explain it to you if you need help. I know that pretty much any person who has a computer today has the Word program so there is no excuse for anyone to say that they aren't capable of doing it.

I sincerely hope that someone in this club takes my message to heart and comes forward to volunteer to commit to this position. Otherwise, very shortly, I believe that this will be a club with no newsletter on the path to a very sad future.

Don't Forget!

You can still purchase a copy of member Patti Polk's book "Collecting Rocks, Gems, and Minerals" on her website agategrrrr.com, Amazon.com, or at Barnes & Noble bookstores everywhere.



ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE!

Due to continually rising costs, the Sedona Gem & Mineral Club yearly dues have been raised from \$10.00 for an individual to \$15.00; from \$20.00 to \$25.00 for a family; and juniors (9-18) remain at \$5.00.

To be included on the club's roster and remain a member, and to be able to attend club field trips, dues must be received no later than March 31st.

Clip out the application provided here and mail it with your check to the P.O. Box address listed below, or come and see our treasurer at one of our meetings.



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

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MARCH 2011

11-13—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 \$2, children 13 and under free with paying adult; more than 30 vendors, door prize raffles, educational displays, extensive children's area; contact Sarah Knowles.
e-mail: Mingusgemandmineralclub@gmail.com
*Rock club members - wear your club badges and get in for \$1.00.

APRIL 2011

9-10—KINGMAN, ARIZONA: Show and sale; Mohave County Gemstoners; Kingman Academy of Learning, 3420 N Burbank; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free admission; rough rock, slabs, cabs, jewelry, wire wrapping, silver and gold smithing, lapidary and jewelry fabrication equipment and supplies, demonstrations, raffles, prizes, children's activities, educational information, displays, crafts, fossils, minerals, silent auction, door prizes, cash raffle prizes; contact Mary Gann: e-mail: quadpol@aol.com; Web site: www.gemstoners.org

MAY 2011

14-15—FOUNTAIN HILLS, ARIZONA: Retail show; Rick Obermiller; Fountain Hills Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana Dr.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$2, children under 12 free; indoor show, mostly Arizona dealers, gems, minerals, jewelry, fossils, kids' activities, drawings, raffles; contact Rick Obermiller (602)826-2218; e-mail: obrocks@gmail.com

24—MESA, ARIZONA: Show; Rings & Things; Holiday Inn & Suites, 1600 S. Country Club Dr.; Tue. 12-4; free admission; gemstones not available in our catalog or online store, bead strands, 15% off many gemstone and bead strands, findings and stringing supplies; contact Dave Robertson (509) 252-2900. e-mail: drobertson@rings-things.com
Web site: www.rings-things.com/Show/index.html

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