

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 in West Sedona. The Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of the month at the home of Greg Capatch in Sedona. Members and guests are always welcome to attend.



APRIL, 2013

Volume 59, Issue 4

MEMBER AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

MEMBER ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

Newsletter Editor: Patti Polk
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APRIL PROGRAM

Calenders of Stone--Keeping Time on the Rocks

By Jeanne Sharp Howerton

Wasn't the world supposed to end back on 12/21/12, according to the Mayan calendar? So what happened and why are we still here? What is the Mayan calendar and how did ancient people keep track of time? How did they mark the changing of the seasons? What happened to their calendars? These questions and many more will be answered in a talk and slide presentation using archaeoastronomy to explore the ancient method of keeping track of time.

Jeanne Sharp Howerton is a fourth generation Nevadan who grew up on an isolated Cattle Ranch in Nye County. Her talk draws on her lifelong interests in photography, science, rock art, and astronomy to show how early humans kept track of time using sunlight and shadows. They made calendars on the rocks that have persisted for thousands of years and mark the change of seasons to this day. Jeanne is coauthor of several books on the history of Nye County, Nevada as part of the Nye County Town History Project.



APRIL FIELD TRIP

DOBELL RANCH FOR PETRIFIED WOOD

Saturday April 20, 2013 the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club will be sponsoring a coalition field trip (once again) to the DoBell Ranch outside of Holbrook for colorful petrified wood.

We will meet at Jim Gray's Rock Shop on Hwy. 180 in Holbrook at 9am. It's all paved road from there to the ranch.

From Flagstaff take exit 286 in Holbrook, make a right and proceed through town over the railroad tracks and then another 1/2 mile further to Hwy.180. Make a left and Jim Grays will be on the right hand corner.

Bring 5 gallon buckets, shovel or mattox and CASH. It will be \$28.00 for a full bucket and \$.35 per pound for any huge pieces. We will be greeted by Tonya and Gordon DoBell and given collecting instructions.

There is also a museum on the site of the original entrance to the PETRIFIED FOREST. Take some time to go over there. Should be another great Arizona day!!

Darryl Berghorn, Intrepid Field Trip Leader
(949) 939-3375 (verizon cell)



The Sunshine Lady

If you know of anyone who needs some sunshine in our club, please be sure to contact Marge Schwartz at bschwar13@msn.com

APRIL BIRTHSTONES

Birthstones for the calendar month of April are Diamond, Opal, and Sapphire.

Diamond

Formed deep within the earth where there is intense heat and pressure, Diamonds are simply crystallized carbon. Volcanic activity of centuries ago brought these gemstones to the earth's surface, where they are found either within volcanic rock formations or washed out into rivers. India is thought to be the first river-bed source of Diamond mining, but today these gemstones are found primarily in Australia, the Soviet Union, and Africa.

The true beauty of the Diamond was not revealed until the 16th century, when gemstone cutting and polishing techniques were perfected. Prior to this time, it was considered taboo to modify the original state of a Diamond. Today, the value and appeal of this stone depends largely upon how skillfully it is cut and faceted. A gift of a Diamond is symbolic of everlasting love. There is no more convincing a promise of an enduring relationship than the brilliant gemstone that has endured in people's hearts throughout the ages.

The Zodiac signs of Aries and Taurus include nine additional stones:

Aries: Bloodstone, Topaz, and Jasper.

Taurus: Coral, Amber, Turquoise, Emerald, Aventurine, and Garnet.

Tax time is also part of April but as soon as that is done, have some fun in the great outdoors.

Enjoy rock hunting!



from Marge Schwartz



Wanted: Boxes, Boxes - and More Boxes
Hello fellow club members. For the show next year, we are planning a bigger signage campaign. To do this, we need some boxes - but only one type of box so the signage is consistent. We are looking for the heavy duty office boxes that reams of paper come in. If you have office boxes of this size, please bring them to the meeting. Please do not bring in anything other than this size or type - as we cannot use them. Thanks.

BENCH TIPS BY BRAD SMITH

Cheaper & Better Pickle

Most jewelers use a granular pickle mixed with water. The active ingredient is sodium bisulfate. This can be purchased from local stores as a common pool chemical used for adjusting the acidity of the water. It's sold under various names, so be sure to check the list of active ingredients for a brand that is 95% or more sodium bisulfate. An added benefit is that the pool chemical is more pure in form than what is sold for jewelry use and does not cause the often-found brown grime floating on the top of a pickle pot.

Drilling a Stone

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force. The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup. Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$6.

Chuck up the core drill in a drill press or a Foredom and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BENCHTIPS](https://www.facebook.com/benchtips)
(USED WITH PERMISSION)



Attention Club Members!
Your yearly club dues need to be paid by, or at the April general meeting on April 16th, or you will be removed from the membership roster. Unfortunately, if that happens, you will miss out on all the great club field trips and informative newsletters that having a club membership provides you! So, if you don't want to miss out on all the fun, please be sure to bring your checkbooks to the April meeting. Thanks!

CLASSIFIED SECTION

This is a section dedicated to club members for sharing information about *personal items* 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.

Unfortunately, we can no longer run ads at this time for paid services that members are operating outside of the club sanctions. In the future, we will be considering paid advertisements that members and non-members can use to promote their businesses.

FOR SALE

Dredging equipment: Keene 2.5" suction nozzle, sluice box with pontoons, plus wet and dry sluice boxes. Small dry shaker box and a 12' Sears inflatable boat with gear: \$2,250. Will sell separately.
Contact Susan at (928) 284-9547.



2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Greg Capatch; 928-554-4615
 Vice President (Field Trips): Darryl Berghorn; 949-939-3375
 2nd Vice President (Programs): Evelina Dunton; 928-284-9590
 3rd Vice President (Newsletter): Patti Polk; 928-649-3744
 Treasurer: Gayle Macklin; 928-649-2163
 Secretary: Ann Capatch; 928-554-4615

Directors: Barbara Cadwell, Pat McMahan, Amy Koba, John Brown.

Past President: Garry Kappel

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 \$6.00.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Membership Desired (Please Check One):

Individual membership \$ 15.00

Family membership \$ 25.00

Junior (9-18) membership \$ 5.00

→ If a family membership, please list the names of family members below:

If you would like a club badge, please include \$ 6.00 (per badge) with you application.

→ Would you like Yes No

Club Badge(s)? Quantity _____

Would you like to receive your Newsletter by:

Post Office (printed B/W)

Email (color)

You may mail this application with your dues and badge fees (if applicable) to:
 Sedona Gem & Mineral Club
 P.O. Box 3284 Sedona, AZ., 86340

QUESTIONS?

Call Garry Kappel @ (928) 634-4698
 or Greg Capatch @ (928) 554-4615

<http://www.sedonagemandmineral.org>

Sedona Gem and Mineral Club April Newsletter, 2013



MAY 2013

25-26 PINETOP, ARIZONA: Show and sale; White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club; Hon-Dah Resort/Conference Center; junction of Hwy. 260 and Hwy. 73, enter off Hwy. 73; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$2, children (16 and under) free; demonstrations, speakers, kids' activities, silent auction, raffles, fluorescents, jewelry, minerals, fossils. Contact Rick Olson, (928) 251-0949 Email: walkaround@earthlink.net, or whitentngmc@gmail.com

JUNE 2013

5-9 FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA: Annual show; Coconino Lapidary Club, Silver Saddle Outdoor Market; Silver Saddle Outdoor Market; corner of Rte. 89 N and Silver Saddle Rd. Daily 9-4; free admission. contact Becky Cox, (928) 380-6657 Email: bcox@fused1.org

MAY 2013

4-5 KINGMAN, ARIZONA: 43rd Annual Rock & Gem Show; Mohave County Gemstoners; Kingman Academy of Learning; 3420 N. Burbank; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Free admission; displays, dealers, fire agate, gems, fossils, minerals, rough, slabs, cabs, jewelry, raffle, door prizes, silent auction, children's activities. Contact Mary Gann, (928) 757-8121 Email: quadpol@aol.com Website: www.gemstoners.org

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