

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.



May 2011

Volume 57, Issue 5

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.

MAY PROGRAM

"Architectural Gems"

Presented by Tom Solon, AIA Emeritus

Local architect Tom Solon will be the featured speaker for the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club's monthly meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 17th at 7:00 PM at the Sedona Public Library. Club members and the general public are all welcome to attend.



A native of Auburn, New York, and alumnus of the University of Michigan School of Architecture and Design, Tom Solon is a registered architect and an Emeritus member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Tom began his 31-year career in historic preservation with the National Park Service in 1977. In 1979 he received a National Museum Act Grant from the Smithsonian to attend the Architectural Conservation Course at the International Center for Conservation of Monuments in Rome, Italy (ICCROM).

In 1981 the National Park Service sent Tom on a "two year" detail to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in northeastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He remained there for 27 years. With over 91 historic sites and 500 structures to manage, many of them in a state of decay, Tom worked on everything from Colonial era to early Modern architecture. As head of the Preservation and Design Branch of the Maintenance Division at Delaware Water Gap, Tom played a major role in the development of treatments for both historic and contemporary buildings alike. In June 2008, Tom retired from the National Park Service and he and his rockhound wife Becky moved to Sedona. As "facility manager" for their home in west Sedona, Tom is gradually adapting their 20 year old home to suit their various interests. That includes providing Becky with work space for tumbling rocks and fabricating her **stone** jewelry.

And "Stone" will be the subject of Tom's talk, **Architectural Gems**. He will present a PowerPoint slide show on the *pragmatic use of stone* which covers his work with the National Park Service preserving and maintaining historic stone structures. The knowledge he obtained over the years included his friendship with Scottish stone mason Ian Cramb who not only stabilized and restored the monastic buildings of the historic Iona Abbey in Great Britain but also consulted with a famous rock star on the construction of his home in Antigua.

~ from Becky Solon



MAY FIELD TRIP

Mingus Mountain, AZ

- Our May field trip will be held on Saturday, May 21st led by Garry Kappel.
- Gary will be taking members to Mingus Mountain in search of red jasper with hematite, purple jasper with quartz veins, and a green shale that looks a lot like jasper.
- There will be a sign up sheet with all the specifics at the May 17th club meeting. Hope to see you all there.

Rita Topp, field trip coordinator

Annual Sedona Club Picnic

Our annual club picnic will be held Saturday, June 4th at the Posse Grounds in Sedona, between 10:00AM and 2:00PM. The club will provide drinks (although members can bring whatever they like to drink also - no spirits however). We will also provide hot hogs, hamburger, buns, and fixings (ketchup, mustard, mayo, lettuce, onions, etc.).

We ask that members RSVP to Garry Kappel via email at sedonagarry@yahoo.com or by phone at 634-4698 if possible so we can have an idea on how much to buy. We also ask that members bring side dishes such as cole slaw, chips, potato salad, beans, muchies & snacks, and desserts.

Our picnics are always a lot of fun and a great way to kick off the summer! Be sure to be there!

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.

MARCH FIELD TRIP REPORT *by Rita Topp*

On April 20th, the Sedona Gem and Mineral Club hosted a coalition trip to Rick's Ranch, just outside of Holbrook, AZ. Since we had notified quite a few rock clubs in the state, we weren't sure just how many "rock hounds" to expect - especially since the weather was predicted to be perfect. Some arrived the day before, to hike the Petrified Forest National Park, and some just to browse the rock shops or relax before the big day. Several gathered at the Mesa Italian Restaurant that evening for a great meal and good conversation. However, most got up early and drove in the morning of the 20th. We all gathered together, 36 in all, at the meeting place.

Six rock clubs were represented from across the state: Sedona, Verde River, Prescott, Mingus, Apache Junction and Sun City. Names were exchanged, admission collected, and the co-leader, Jim VanWert, of Verde Valley Rock Hounds, gave us the rules set by our host, Rick the ranch owner. Each rock hound paid close attention to the information Jim gave us, while silently chomping at the bit, excited to begin collecting.

The journey began over a very old, poorly maintained bridge with a number of holes you could drop a small car into. After a couple of miles, we arrived at the "ranch." No cows or horses here - just some of most beautiful, multi-colored petrified wood that I had only seen previously at the National Park.

Rick was extremely gracious, pointing us in the right direction to collect wood formed with dendrites, druzy, and crystals, on his 160 acre ranch. Rick roamed the ranch, redirecting us, and offering to transport our rocks back to the weigh-station.

There was literally no digging required; we just picked it up as we walked the land. Of course, as usual, most of us got much more than we had planned on. When it came time to pay for our treasures, it turned out that the ranch owner Rick had numerous piles of specimens for sale, that he had collected earlier. There were pieces of crystallized wood, and wonderful pieces of old Indian pottery - some with the original paint still visible. So, on top of what we had found for ourselves, many of us couldn't resist acquiring a few additional pieces from Rick's beautiful collection.

By 3:00 p.m. we had packed up our finds and began the trip back to our homes, where we spent time sorting, cleaning and admiring the recent additions to our collections.

This trip would not have taken place if not for Jim Van Wert; he was instrumental from start to finish. Thank you, Jim!



Sedona members with our host Rick the ranch owner wearing the blue plaid shirt second person from the left front row.

May Birthstone - Emerald*by Marge Schwartz***Traditional Birthstones**

The Emerald is a form of beryl and crystallizes in prismatic crystals sometimes vertically striated and terminated by small pyramid-like faces. Believers in the power of the emerald call it the stone of successful love and is said to open and activate the heart chakra.

Mystical Birthstone

Sapphire: Sapphire crystallizes into tubular prismatic crystals with hexagonal double pyramid structure. Star sapphires have inclusion of small cylindrical cavities within the stone which are parallel to the prism planes. The sapphire has often been named the stone of prosperity (if you are fortunate enough to be able to purchase one).

Zodiac Birthstones

Taurus: Rose quartz has a pink color but rarely forms into individual crystals. In healing, rose quartz has earned the distinction of gentle healing and signified romance and friendship.

Gemini: Natural citrine is a pale yellow to orange. Sources say that citrine is useful in balancing the yin-yang energy.

Planetary Stones

Venus: Aventurine is a quartz or feldspar spangled with bright particles of mica or hematite. For healing, it may help to reduce stress, develop confidence, imagination and improve prosperity.

Mercury: Tiger Eye is a quartz replacement of blue or gold asbestos and these twisted and crumpled fibers are responsible for the changeable luster.

Check out more information on the stones in your collection and have a great May!

Source: Love is in the Earth by Melody ISBN 0-9628190-3-4

Club Scholarship Info

\$1,000.00 Club Scholarship goes to Alex Hreha who plans to attend Northern Arizona University.

\$500.00 Scholarship in Brian Friedman's name from the Club's 2010 Show Raffle goes to Emily Collins who plans to attend Arizona State University.

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.

***Welcome new board members
Greg Capatch and Patti Polk!***

In Memorium, Marge Herkenham
by Nancy Bihler & Patti Polk

Marge Herkenham, a long-time, important and highly valued member of our club, passed away on April, 25, 2011 after a debilitating illness. Marge was a very active member of our club for many years - decades, in fact. With the help of Nancy Bihler, Marge was the person who originally created our club newsletter back in the early 1990's. Prior to that, there was no newsletter for the club. Nancy would write publicity articles for the newspapers as needed, but there was no other means of written communication for club members. As was her way, Marge saw a need and took it upon herself to develop a monthly newsletter for the club using Nancy's articles, and the newsletter that you still see today was born.

Marge was a hard worker and always willing to give of her time and effort to not only our club, but to many others too. Marge started a 4WD drive club that still operates today, was the first woman president of the Westerners club, and was very instrumental in the Verde Valley Archeology club for many years in the study and preservation of archeological sites.

Marge was a graduate geologist and loved collecting and displaying the rocks she found. With her background in geology, Marge was known for her great ability to read topographic maps and to organize field trips. When Marge and her husband Norm, another club member who has passed away, lived in Yosemite where Norm was a park ranger, Marge also wanted to be a geologist for the park service, but in those days they would not allow two people who were married to both work for the park service at the same time. So, Marge decided to become a teacher and taught numerous subjects on the Navajo Indian Reservation as her profession for many, many years.

For those of us who knew Marge, we will miss her pioneering spirit, generosity, and selflessness. For those of you who didn't get the chance to know her, unfortunately, you missed an opportunity to know a wonderful woman who was a tireless worker for our club that we all owe a great debt of gratitude to. Marge will be greatly missed and we all give thanks for her many years of selfless service to our club.



Above, Marge with her pal Zoey. At right, Marge at Thanksgiving at Nancy Bihler's house.

Marge Herkenham 12/16/1921- 4/25/2011

A memorial service will be held at Greer's Mortuary in Sedona on Friday, May 13th, at 1:00 PM. Contributions can be made to the Humane Society of Sedona.

From the Westerners:

A trail side service for Marge Herkenham will be held Wed., May 11, at the saddle of the David Miller Trail (old 'Phoebe Trail'). If you are interested in attending, you may contact the Westerners for more details at sedonawesterners@gmail.com George Witteman, Trail Boss



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 May Newsletter, 2011



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

JULY 2011

July 16-17: FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA
Flagstaff Gem and Mineral Show
Radisson Woodlands Hotel, 1175 W. Route 66
Flagstaff, AZ. 10am-5pm (Sat.), 10am-4pm (Sun.)

MAY 2011

May 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

May 24: MESA, ARIZONA: Show; Rings & Things; Holiday Inn & Suites, 1600 S. Country Club Dr.; Tue. 12-4; free admission;

Have a great summer! See you in September!



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