

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.



May 2010

Volume 56, 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 16 and 17, 2010, at the Sedona Red Rock High School, Sedona. For more information call Pat McMahan at (928) 300-8333 or Ed Hodges at (928) 282-4980.

MAY PROGRAM

Marie Zimmermann,

"Last of the Great Metal Craftsmen"

Presented by Tom Solon

Historical Architect Tom Solon will present a slide show on the work of metalsmith Marie Zimmermann. Her body of work transcends style, containing outstanding examples of the *Belle Époque*, the *Aesthetic Movement*, the *Arts and Crafts Movement*, *Greek* and *Egyptian Revival*, *Art Deco*, and *Modernism*. Some of her pieces can be found in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Zimmermann emphasized her role as a "craftsman" saying "I have tried to bring back the old idea of the artist that flourished in the days of Michelangelo and Cellini. They were the masters of a dozen crafts and they used all of them in producing perhaps one object."

In 1901 Zimmermann established a studio at the National Arts Club in Gramercy Park, NY. From "tiaras to tombstones" her creations were "of every conceivable color and design" using patinized gold, silver, copper and bronze and an abundance of precious stones and jewels. In 1940 she retired to her family's summer home in Dingmans Ferry, PA which is owned today by the National Park Service. Like her metalwork, the c.1913 stone building is both eclectic and original in design; a unique blend of architectural styles including Dutch Colonial Revival with Arts and Crafts and Shingle Style accents.



Historical Architect Tom Solon is a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Architecture & Design. He began working for the National Park Service in 1977. In 1979 Solon received a National Museum Act Grant from the Smithsonian to attend the Architectural Conservation Course at the International Center for Conservation in Rome, Italy. In 1981 he was detailed to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in northeastern Pennsylvania and western New Jersey to look after a vast collection of decaying historic buildings. Some 500 structures, from Colonial era to early Modern, competed for his attention for the next 27 years. He counts amongst his favorite assignments the rehabilitation of the Marie Zimmermann House.

Refreshments... by Mary Jane Cooke

Cookie monsters for May are: Rita Topp, Linda & Karen Bradley, Toni Mahew.

MAY FIELD TRIP *from Rita Topp*

The Holbrook coalition field trip for petrified wood was cancelled due to the extreme amount of rain that fell in the area the day before our scheduled trip. Our thanks to Pat McMahan for the time and effort he put into planning this once a year event. Let's hope that we'll again have the opportunity to go in 2011.

Grey Mountain is scheduled for May 22nd. We will be surface collecting for agate, jasper, petrified wood, and of course Moki Balls. Our meeting place will be at the Conoco gas station on Highway 89 North, immediately outside the Flagstaff city limit. The Conoco station is on the right side of Highway 89 - street address 7180 Highway 89 North. It's located right next to Mary's cafe. If you pass the Elden Pueblo Ruins exit, you have gone too far. We'll meet in the parking lot between and behind the Conoco station and Mary's cafe. Our departure time will be at 8:30 a.m. sharp. Please arrive a few minutes early to sign the waiver sheet.

Since potty bushes are scarce at the collection site, please make use of the bathrooms at the Conoco station. We'll have a 35 minute drive from our meeting place to the Gray Mountain site. Bring sunscreen, lots of water, gloves, and collecting buckets or bags. Pack a lunch and snack if you plan to spend a full day there.

Rita and Ray Topp will lead this trip. Look for their dark green, two-tone Jeep at the meeting place. Rita's cell phone number is 928-300-7461.

We'll be taking time off from our field trips in June, July and August, due to the summer heat, and we'll resume our trips in September with a trip to Grapevine Canyon for banded Onyx.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

September 2010: Grapevine Canyon for onyx.

October 2010: Diamond Point (Payson) for crystals.

November 2010: Sheep's Bridge for agate.

December 2010: Fossil Dig.

January 2011: Chimney Beds for agate.

February 2011: Tucson shows for everything & anything!

Note from the Editor

Due to an overwhelming workload, I will not be available to continue as your newsletter editor after this issue, so it is time now for someone else in the club to step up and fill this position by next September.

I will be more than happy to help the next person with any files and information that they need. Working on the newsletter is not difficult, as the structure is already in place and all you need to do is input the new information that is sent to you monthly by the different committees. It is a fun and rewarding way to be involved in the club and a great opportunity to get to know many of the club members, especially if you are a new member yourself.

If you are interested in taking the position, please contact Ed Hodges as soon as possible at 282-4980.

I thank the club for having given me this opportunity to be of service, and I wish the next person as much fun in the future as I've had in the past serving as the newsletter editor.

Respectfully, *Patti Polk*



Birthstones for May and the Folklore Surrounding Them

By Marge Schwartz

Happy Spring! Rockhounds are looking forward to the spring weather to go out treasure hunting but you can have some fun with your indoor collection too. Please enjoy this small summary of birthstones for this time of year.

Modern Birthstones

The term Emerald is derived from the French "esmeraude" in addition to the Greek root "smaragdus" which means 'green gemstone'. Emeralds were used as amulets to ward off epilepsy in children. It was used to cure diseases of the eye and folklore says that these stones will improve memory. I could use that if only I could remember where I put the Emeralds I collected from NC.

Mystical Birthstone

Sapphire comes from the Persian word "safir", meaning "beloved of Saturn", (or Greek sapphiros). Sapphire is the non-red variety of corundum (the red variety of corundum is ruby).

Ayurvedic Birthstone - Agate

The word Agate comes from the Greek name for a stone originally found in the Achates River in Sicily (currently known as Drillo River). There are so many varieties of agate that one could write a book. Pat McMahan is our club agate expert and he did just that. Please see him for a copy. The club claim is a good source of agate too!

Zodiac Birthstones

Taurus - Sapphire, Amber, Coral, Emerald, Turquoise, Azurite and Rose Quartz. The rose quartz pink color signifies love, romance and friendship, compassion and relaxation.

ANNUAL POTLUCK PICNIC!

The Sedona Gem & Mineral Club will be having its annual potluck picnic on June 5, 11:00 am, at Montezuma's Well in Rimrock. As this is a potluck lunch, please be sure to bring a dish to share. The club will provide lemonade, ice tea, and ham - and maybe some chicken. Sign up at the May general meeting so we know how many will be attending.



This is our last general meeting and get-together for the season until next September, so be sure to come and enjoy all the good food, fun, and friends before the summer heat sets in! We hope to see everyone there!



An assortment of club members at one of our June picnics a few years ago. The food and fun are not to be missed! Be there or be square!!

Zodiac Birthstones continued

Gemini - Agate, Chrysophase, Moonstone, Pearl, White Sapphire and Citrine. Natural citrine is a pale yellow to orange, and is much lighter than the heat-treated material, which is dark orange-brown to reddish-brown. Most citrine on the market today is actually heat-treated amethyst!

Planetary Stones – The ruling planets for the month of May are Venus and Mercury.

Venus – Aventurine. Legends say that it is an all-purpose healer, used to reduce stress, develop confidence, imagination and improve prosperity.

Mercury – Tiger Eye. Tiger Eye appears as a changeable silky luster as light is reflected within the thin parallel fibrous bands. This effect is due to the fibrous structure of the material.

There are many more facts, myths and legends on these stones. Pull your treasures out of storage and enjoy!

Student Scholarship Awards News

from Mary Jane Cooke

Sedona's Gem and Mineral Club most proudly announces the Red Rock High School Seniors' 2010 recipients of its two \$1000 scholarship, fifth year, scholarship awards.

They are Red Rock High School Seniors of outstanding achievement, Samantha HYauserman, of 133 Navajo Trail and Annie K. Wilson, of 32 W. Dove Wing Drive, Sedona.

In a most difficult decision choosing among so many accomplished High School Seniors, the Red Rock High School Guidance Department along with teachers involved in these student's High School careers, chose them not only for their strong academic performance but also for demonstrating social and character traits that show an ability to focus on future goals and continued education.

Samantha is using her scholarship to persue a B.A, at Barrett, followed by post graduate studies, focusing on global studies and an environmental track."I have chosen subject areas in an attempt to balance my passion for international relations and talent and love for languages with my interest in science, especially biology and environment. I want to help the world with my strengths...."

Annie is persuing studies "at an accredited College in Earth Sciences, Physical Science or Consertvation fields...."has not only excelled academically and socially but is a Thesbian at heart, an Actress. Her future objectives include: "I envision myself fighting for environmental causes through journalism by documenting environmental threats with photography and writing, possibly going into biology or medical field to research the nervous system and brain functions."

It is so wonderful for the Gem Club to be able to encourage such futuristic scholars in their yet pure and unpolitical endeavors to contribute to the betterment of this battered world we live in. They are only neophytes in purity of intentions - and, not only our monetary support, but our prayers and best thoughts are ardently with them.



Where Can You Find Your Own Diamonds In America?

If you have a strong interest in gemstones you would probably love to have an opportunity to mine for diamonds yourself. Here's where you can go - it is the only producing diamond mine in the United States and the only diamond mine in the world that is open to the public.

Crater of Diamonds State Park

This diamond mine is located near Murfreesboro, Arkansas. For a fee of a few dollars you can enter the mine, search all day and keep any diamonds that you find. In addition to diamonds, you might find one of the colorful semi-precious stones that occur naturally there. These include: amethyst, agate, jasper, garnet, peridot and hematite.

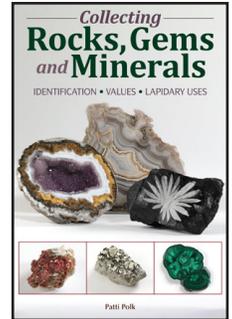
The diamonds at the Park occur in the soil and that makes them easy to look for. Some people find them after it rains by walking through the field looking for the bright reflection of a diamond that has been washed clean by the rain. Other people dig in the soil and carefully search through it one shovel-full at a time. You can bring your own tools or rent tools at the Park. Power tools are not allowed, however, the Park periodically plows the diamond field to turn up fresh soil.

Searching is easy but you will need a combination of luck, patience and a very sharp eye to find a diamond. Most people don't find a diamond but a few miners are very successful, and everyone has fun.

...from geology.com

Don't forget!

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



Also, don't miss Patti's personal book signing event at the James Ratliff Gallery in Hozho Plaza on August 6th at 6:00PM, as part of the Sedona First Friday Artwalk for the month of August.



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 Ed Hodges: (928) 282-4980

www.sedonagemandmineral.org

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MAY 2010

1 - 2, FOUNTAIN HILLS, ARIZONA: Show, "Fountain Hills Gem & Mineral Show"; O.B. Rocks & Minerals; Fountain Hills Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission.
Contact Rick Obermiller, 1332 N. Jesse St., Chandler, AZ 85225, (602) 826-2218; e-mail: obrocks@gmail.com

29 - 30, LAKESIDE, ARIZONA: Annual show; White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club; Blue Ridge Junior High School, 3050 N. Porter Mountain Rd.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; adults \$2, students (15 and under) free with paying adult; dealers, gems, minerals, beads, fossils, lapidary equipment, rough and finished rock

specimens, silent auction, spinning wheel, kids' activity area, door prizes, raffle prizes, display cases, fluorescent mineral display.
Contact Larry Legge/Nanz Marshall, (928) 537-2524.

e-mail: larrylegge@yahoo.com

Web site: www.whitemountain-azrockclub.org

JULY 2010

4-25, FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA: Show, "Flagstaff Jewelry, Gem, and Mineral Show"; Val Latham, Sharon Szymanski; Radisson Woodlands Hotel Flagstaff; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; contacts Sharon Szymanski, (480) 671-6191, or Val Latham, (602) 466-3060

JULY - AUGUST 2010

30-1, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA: Show and sale; Prescott Gem & Mineral Club; Prescott Gem & Mineral Club; Embry Riddle Aeronautical University Activity Center, 3700 Willow Creek Rd., Bldg 84; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; adults \$2, children under 12 free. Hand-crafted jewelry, rough rock, slabs, cabochons, beads, fossils, crystals, equipment, raffle.
Contact Maggi Lieber, (520) 831-0017;
Email: maggiscratch@msn.com;
Web site: www.prescottgemmineral.org

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