



Looking down on Chloride from near Windy Point

Little Gems

Volume 2 Issue 6

JUNE 2009

Message from the President

HI "GEMSTONERS"

Summer is here and so are all the creepy crawlers. Some of our members have headed for cooler places to see family and friends.

I was sorry more members were not able to join us on our field trip to Flagstaff to visit the members of Coconino Gem & Mineral Club. It is not a large club but they are a lot of fun. Saturday morning "Brad" Bradley and Linda his wife along with five other cars met up just outside the Sunset Crater Park where we camped and took us to great collection areas. We had a wonderful time and not only collected some really nice material but made some good friends. I hope we can have many more camp outs in the future. With so many collection areas several hours drive from Kingman, to stay over allows us to visit multiple sites while in the area.

We are still looking into other places to have our show next April. So far, we haven't found anything yet, but will keep on looking.

Our meeting on the 9th is our Pot Luck and we will have a speaker on meteorites. Don't forget to bring something to share and remember to bring a plate and silverware.

Hope to see you all there,
"C"

"C" Russell
President
Mohave County Gemstoners

Bring your Favorite
Don't forget Plates & Utensils



Potluck June 9th 6:30

Regular Meeting

June 9, 2009

Katherine Heidenreich

Senior Center

1776 Airway Ave., Kingman, AZ

Regular Meeting 7 PM



Special Guest Speakers

Keith & Dana Jenkerson

Meteorite Hunters

Got a space Rock

Bring it for Identification

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♣ Club Information ♣

The Mohave County Gemstoners' Club is a member of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) and associated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

The purpose of the Mohave County Gemstoners is to:

1. Stimulate interest in Mineralogy and Lapidary Arts
2. Stimulate individual's interest in cutting and displaying of minerals, fossils and gemstones.
3. Stimulate interest in Stonecutting, carving and setting of fine gems and jewelry.
4. Stimulate interest in other areas, such as faceting, jewelry design, jewelry fabrication and metalsmithing of jewelry.

The Gemstoners meet the second Tuesday of each month at Kathryn Heidenreich Senior Center, 1776 Airway Ave., Kingman, AZ at 7:00 PM. In March, June, September and December there is a potluck dinner that starts at 6:30 PM.

Fiscal year for memberships runs from January 1st thru December 31st. Dues are \$15.00 per person, \$20.00 per couple and \$25.00 for family (residing in the same home). Family sponsored Junior Membership cost is \$8.00. Annual dues are payable on January 1 and are delinquent after the February meeting. Remit payment to Membership Chairman.

Name badges will be required for all members at a cost of \$8.00 for pin type and \$9.00 for the magnetic type each.

Little Gems is published monthly. It is available online at www.gemstoners.org Submissions are requested to be to the editors by the 15th of each month, preferably by email :

gemstoners@live.com or @928-263-1480. *Little Gems* is also published via email - if you have internet, please share your address with the editors. This saves the club money (just under \$1.00 per issue per membership) and you will have the newsletter immediately and be able to view it in color. The Newsletter is in PDF format so it will be necessary to download AdobeReader (free program) to view the newsletter.

♣ 2009 Club Leadership ♣

Elected Officers:

President - "C" Russell (928) 846-0927
 Vice President - Pete Hansen (928) 565-4321
 Secretary - Fred Bunge
 Treasurer - Dave Sims (928) 692-3797
 Sergeant At Arms - John Smith
 Board of Directors:
 One-Year Position: George Tirpak
 Two-Year Position: Leonard Deutsch
 Three-Year Position: Laraine Smith
 Club Committee Chairpersons

Academic Advisor - Rick Vromen
 By-Laws - Nan Russell
 Newsletter Editor - Donna Robinson
 Education - Open
 Field Trips - Gary Gann
 Greeters/Hostess - Cheri Hommel
 Historian - Leonard Deutsch
 Jr. Leader - Laurel Nelson
 Membership - Nan Russell
 Program Director - Open
 Publicity - Open
 Photographer - Melanie Hecht
 Refreshments - Mary Gann
 Show Chairman 2009 - Nan Russell
 Scholarship / Donations - Open
 Social Director/Special Events - Susi Green
 Sunshine - Open
 50/50 - Open
 Ways and Means - Open
 Telephone - John and Laraine Smith
 Webmaster - Leonard Deutsch



Stay up to date, check often
www.gemstoners.org

Mailing Address:

Mohave County Gemstoners
 P.O. Box 3992
 Kingman, AZ 86402

Minutes of the May 2009 General Meeting



Due to unforeseen circumstances, our Guest Speaker was unable to attend our meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by our President, "C" Russell. The flag salute was led by the Sergeant At Arms.

At the side table was samples of the honey onyx for the taking; a tumbler which sold for \$5.00 and a large piece of honey onyx to be auctioned.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved as printed in newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer was absent. no report given.

Birthdays: Laurel Nelson, Charlie Robinson

Anniversaries: Wayne & Glenda Erwin

Sunshine Corner: Bob Nelson at KRMS ICU, Rm. 360.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Refreshments/Newsletter – all is well.

Field Trip – Jasper trip was successful. The Flagstaff Club joined us at the Honey Onyx claim and had a very good time. We will be joining them Friday, 15 May, and will be attending their meeting and going on a field trip for petrified wood and other minerals. The Burro Creek campout was a terrific success.

Web Master/Historian – still working on history project.

Membership – New members were introduced.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Paid dues to the Chamber of Commerce.

2. Boy Scouts who helped at the Gem Show are being contacted to attend the June Potluck.

3. Life Members have been invited to our June Potluck and arrangements for transportation to and from are being made.

4. Potluck or Dinner? A split vote, with no majority, resulted in it going to committee. More information will be presented at the next meeting for another vote for which we will have.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Purchase of a gas powered, water-cooled masonry saw – A vote to buy the saw was given by the membership. A committee to select a saw for the best price and best specifications was stipulated. The saw will be kept by the Field Trip Chairman and operators will be trained prior to being allowed to operate it.

2. Progressive Dinner – This item is tabled and we are seeking volunteers to allow us to visit their homes and look at their equipment/displays.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

1. New Mexico Outing – Aug. 29 – Sep. 7 with the New Mexico Rock Club. Contact Gary, "C" or Nan if you are interested. Bring rocks/slabs to share with other state members attending.

2. Drought Watch – Jack made a short presentation on this important item.

3. Melanie Hecht has volunteered to be our club photographer.

4. Auction - \$37.50 for a block of honey onyx and \$25 for 3 days/2 nights at the Riverside.

5. A trip to Tom French's house will be on May 19th, meet at the Powerhouse at 10:30 AM.

50/50: Tom Hauser - \$20 and Loraine Smith \$14.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Bunge, Secretary

The Art of Tumbling

by

Mary Gann



Now that you have rocks, whether by recent acquire, or from years of accumulating, the urge to bring out the hidden beauty by polishing can be fierce. Being a novice, I figured if a spray of water can make those hard to see colors pop out immediately, how long could polishing take? A few hours?

We researched tumblers for what seemed like months, and finally settled on a dual 6 lb. tumbler. (Since, we have also acquired a 12 lb and dual 3 lb tumblers) So, we had our tumbler, we had our grit, and Lord knows we had our rocks. We read the directions and I was very dismayed to find that much of what we had read on the internet was apparently true: it would take a month for the finished product. One week for each of the four steps. Ahhhhhhhhhhh!! We had to get started immediately.

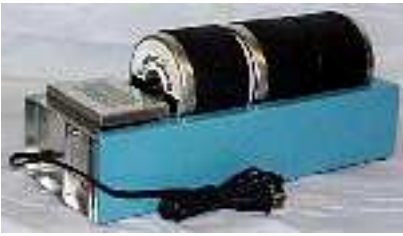
We selected our rocks, filled the tumblers 2/3rds full, added the grit, and just enough water to cover the rocks. After one week, as per the instructions, we carefully washed the rocks and tumblers free of all residue and moved to step two. Finally, after one month and four steps later, I washed our rocks and lo and behold about 30% of the rocks did not even polish. The rest were not as shiny as I had envisioned. What had started as two tumblers full now fit nicely into one tumbler. After another week of tumbling we were satisfied with the results of the remaining rocks. They were shiny and colorful. Oh Boy!! On to the next batch.

Several things we have learned over the past year:

1. No one knows absolutely positively which rocks will polish and which won't. Rule of Thumb is the harder the rock, i.e. agate, the better the polish. The more porous rocks will not take a shine from tumbling. However, that does not mean they cannot be polished on a lap wheel. All told it is trial and error. You become more experienced with each batch.
2. More rounded rocks take less time for the courser grits to get ready for the polish step. Jagged rocks take longer to wear down. I have smoothed or rounded corners so the rock will take a better shine. I have also shaped some rocks before going through the tumbling process with good results.
3. Most of what we have read says you will lose about 20% of the rock as it goes through the process. We have found that you usually lose more than that on most rocks. So, if you want to tumble a particularly small pretty rock, realize that it will be 20-40% smaller by the time you are done.
4. Apache Tears and Obsidian still baffle us. We have polished both for about 3 months with unsatisfactory results. We have used plastic pellets, bits of leather, sugar, laundry soap, Karo syrup, rice hulls, etc., garnered from the internet, books, what people have told us. We have obtained excellent shines on said rocks on the lap wheels, but I have to admit, I am done with tumbling them until I hear and actually see results from someone.
5. The time tables can be fudged according to the rocks you are tumbling. If they are hard and the surface is smooth, you can shorten the first two steps a few days. If they are jagged and rough you may want to lengthen the same steps by a few days. At the polish stage: if you are not satisfied with the shine, return to tumbler and let another week go by. Some rocks we have tumbled for 3 weeks in the final polish and were glad we did, the results were worth it.

Rock Versus Vibratory Tumbler

Advantages of Rock tumblers:



- 1) Are less expensive. The barrels "wear like iron."
- 2) Can tumble larger rocks in barrel shaped containers.
- 3) Are quieter than vibratory tumblers.
- 4) Do not demand as much attention while operating because the barrel is double-sealed - no leakage, no evaporation. In the COARSE grit stage it is recommended to open the barrel once every 24 hours to vent gas which builds up.

Disadvantages of Rock tumblers:

- 1) Processing beach agates or river rocks (already smoothed stones) takes approx. 3-4 weeks, because you can choose to skip the 1st stage or do it for only a couple days. Rough jagged rocks usually require processing twice in the COARSE grit stage, taking from 5-7 weeks to process from beginning to end.
- 2) Uses more compound in each grit stage. There are normally 4 steps in tumbling to achieve a polished stone.
- 3) The "tumbling" action is more aggressive than "vibrating" rock, and wears down the surface of rock - all the better to remove unwanted edges and surface pits - and will reduce the size of the original rock. It also is pretty successful in breaking softer "junkite", off your more desirable material.



Advantages of vibratory tumblers:

- 1) Smoothed rocks like beach agates or river rocks will take approx. 7 days to process. Rough jagged rocks - approx. 15.
- 2) Uses much less grit in each stage of tumbling. If you are tumbling a lot of rocks, you will save money since the quantity of grit used is less.
- 3) The stone shape remains nearly the way you found it; the tumbler does not round it.

Disadvantages of vibratory tumblers:

- 1) The machine is noisier than a roller tumbler.
- 2) The machine is more expensive. If you have a lot of rock to tumble you will be saving on the grit, so it evens out.
- 3) Because of the shaft in the middle of the vibratory tumbler bowl, only rocks up to 2 inches in the TV-5 tumbler and up to 3 inches in size in the TV-10.
- 4) The tumbler needs new compound put in it every 12 hours, and the sludge has to be cleaned out every 24 hours, therefore requiring much more attention than the barrel tumbler.

Both tumblers achieve the same high quality of polish and are of equal quality in workmanship. They will last for many years. Both tumblers have a one-year warranty against defects in material and workmanship, and come with complete instructions for usage.

Visit <http://www.pearsons-uslj.com/> for product information

Source: *Pearson's U.S. Lapidary & Jewelers Supply*

Many different tumbling rough minerals is available online from numerous sources. For \$10.00 or less you can have something from far off places.



Field Trip Reports for May 09

May 2nd Field Trip Honey Onyx Claim



Everyone jumped in to help with the recovery.

This Saturday we were joined at the Honey Onyx claim by our co-claimholders from Lake Havasu, and also three of the Flagstaff Rock Club members: Brad, Teel, and Brent. It was a cool windy day, which was good for the ones digging, drilling and sawing.

Once the boulders were uncovered, the circular saw was the "must have" tool. Roger, Dave's son, did most of the cutting. Once the cuts were made, hammers and chisels freed the slices. Beautiful workable pieces were scooped up and tucked into vehicles.



Lake Havasu members joined us for the morning. They share the claim with the Gemstoners

It amazes me that this soft easily shaped and polished stone is so hard to break loose from the boulders. Efforts to break free large chunks without the saw resulted in heavy sledgehammers bouncing high and harmlessly off its surface.



Jack doing it the old fashioned way. Sometimes tried and true is what it takes.

Ranchers have fenced off some of what we were using for parking, and due to the number of vehicles, most parked on the flat below the claim and walked up. Only four vehicles were able to park right by the mine, with C on the other side of the gate (with his State Permit hanging from his rearview mirror!). A must have as the State seeks more sources of \$\$\$\$.



May 15th Flagstaff Campout

Flagstaff was awesome! Our group consisted of Nan & C, Gary & I, Pete, and Melanie. This was Melanie's first campout with the Gemstoners. She borrowed a tent and was ready to go! We also enjoyed the company of Pete's friend, Juan. He had come from New Mexico to visit Pete, and was game for our outing. We caravanned out of Kingman around 10:00 and arrived at the campground about 1:30PM. After everyone had setup camp, some of us went into town and enjoyed a tasty dinner at Brandy's Bakery and Restaurant. At 7PM we were in attendance at Flagstaff's Meeting. An energetic little club that really made us feel welcome. There was an abundance of the three C's : Cookies, Cake, and Coffee. We solidified plans for the following day, everyone won something from their raffle, and we headed back to the campground.

After hooking up with Brad's group Saturday, we



followed them up to Gray Mountain and spent the morning picking up jasper, agate, petrified wood, chalcedony and other interesting rocks. Although the rocks were small, they

were very colorful and fun to find. We ate lunch and enjoyed each other's "show-n-tells"

We spent the afternoon in a field of petrified wood. You couldn't walk without stepping on pieces. It reminded me of places in Oregon where a logging crew has just left. There is everything from sawdust, to pieces, to chunks, to trunks. Except out where we were, there were no trees! It was eerie. There was an elaborate fire ring with petrified wood stacked as if ready to light.





Saturday night we Gemstoners had dinner together, and kicked back and relaxed. Good food, good company, warm weather, and high altitude. Saturday night we were ready for bed.

Sunday we woke to chilly weather and Juan's car alarm. Laughing, he waved and left for his long drive home. The rest of us explored an area near Parks, known for Obsidian. We were told it would be nothing like Glass Butte in Oregon, and color was obviously lacking. We all surprised that the quality was less than great, but, I think the only way to truly disappoint a rockhound is if there are NO rocks. We had lunch and then, bid Pete and Melanie a safe drive home.

Nan, C, Gary and I spent a quiet evening 'round the campfire. Monday morning we packed it up, and finally shut the door on a fun campout. Can't wait for the next one to roll around!

Tom French Outing Submitted by Leonard Deutsch



An abundance of choices.



FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES - MCG



Sign in is 15 minutes before departure.

- Leader will state approximately how far, road conditions, and if 4WD is required when each member signs in.
 - Each vehicle is to keep the one behind in sight and STOP if the car or truck is not visible (unless otherwise stated by the leader).
 - Always notify the leader if you are hiking or driving to another site and your approximate return time.
- Participants must notify the leader if they are leaving the group and not planning to return and sign out (with time) and return the radio.
- Members are requested to wear name badges.



- Handheld radios: stay on Channel 3

Field Trip Schedule
None are scheduled
for July at this time.



This was sent to me and I don't know if this works or why it would, but I'm going to try it next time I'm caught in a rainstorm.

Submitted by Cheri Hommel

GOOD VISION IN A DOWNPOUR

How to achieve good vision while driving during a heavy downpour.

I can vouch for this!! We are not sure why it is so effective; just try this method when it rains heavily. This method was told by a Police friend who had experienced and confirmed it.

It is useful...even driving at night. Most of the motorists would turn on HIGH or FASTEST SPEED of the wipers during heavy downpour, yet the visibility in front of the windshield is still bad.....

In the event you face such a situation, just try your SUN GLASSES (any model will do), and miracle! All of a sudden, your visibility in front of your windshield is perfectly clear, as if there is no rain.

Make sure you always have a pair of SUN GLASSES in your car, as you are not only helping yourself to drive safely with good vision, but also might save your friend's life by giving him this idea..

Happy Birthday "Little Gems"



Nan Russell was instrumental in encouraging the start of "Little Gems". She helped in the early pre-publishing with suggesting content and format but with an exhausting schedule of her own she had to leave it to others. At that time Nan was president of Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society and Membership Chairman to the Gemstoners.

It was one year ago that Glenda Erwin volunteered to become editor and put together the first expanded newsletter for Mohave County Gemstoners. The Gemstoners have been an organization for about 50 years. There may have been a newsletter here and there but there is no record of this.

Glenda had many events in her life last year that called her to be by her family's side, this is when I came into the picture. With the help of many professional and experienced people who gave me permission to use their websites as a source of information, this past year could not have been as informative as it was. The quantity and quality of fellow club members that have helped with articles have been impressive. Thank you to Leonard Deutsch for his historical data, Jack Hommel who has written articles based on his extensive experience, Mary and Gary Gann have stepped forward to submit the field trip reports and many photographs, Kathy Reimers who has given some healthy critique and wonderful compliments, Shirley Darga suggested the Pietersite for an article, BJ Johnson gave me an article on a different view of a variety of minerals, to the fellow members who let me interview them for the Spotlight section, new members Fred Bunge and Melanie Hecht have written articles and to the Gemstoners each and everyone who just in talking to them would give me an idea for an article.

I realize there have been typos, darn that human factor, but overall I truly have enjoyed putting it together each month.

Suggestions are always welcome, so keep them coming. Get ready for year 2. Here we come!

Donna Robinson
Editor



Life Members as of May 2009

Eiko Bosserman
Betty Busch
Mildred Page
Lucille Thompson
Ruth Tacquard

Gemstoner



Wishes

To Bob Nelson. He has had a rough month, but is getting better each day

&

Doris Marz is recovering from a fall.

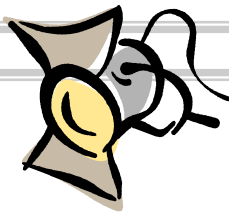


A Very Warm Welcome to the new members who have chosen to join Mohave County Gemstoners

Melanie Hecht
and she has become the
Official Club Photographer



William & Peggy Sue Moore
Have joined us from the Las Vegas Club.
They met us at the Burro Creek outing.

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

Melanie Hecht
Our New Club
Photographer

**Thoughts from
a New Rockhound**

Having just moved to Arizona from California, I thought I would long to be back there every moment of every day. After all, how could the barren desert compare to the lush trees and grass and wonderful weather of northern California? How could I tolerate the 120 degree summer temperatures and the dryness? And all I could see around me were rocks!

Hm, rocks...I've been collecting rocks all my life. I started walking in the desert behind where I live and by the time I got home I'd have 5 or 6 rocks in my pockets--very interesting rocks, unlike any I'd seen before. They were so many different colors and some of them looked like they might be really interesting inside.

After a couple of weeks, I started walking with some neighbors. They mentioned that there were a lot of people in the area who collected rocks and had lapidary equipment. That led me to the Internet where I found several local rock clubs. The Kingman Gemstoners had several events coming up so I decided to contact them to see if I could attend the next one. They said "Sure!"

I met the group at the junction of Silver Creek and Oatman roads and we caravanned to the dig site which was on the other side of Oatman. We were looking for jasper, chalcedony, and petrified wood. Someone looked at the tools I brought and told me which ones to leave behind (all but one) and then loaned me his pick.

At first, I had no idea what the three types of rock looked like. The easiest to identify was the chalcedony. It was everywhere and easy to spot. The second one I learned to identify was jasper thanks to the extreme patience of my mentor. I kept picking up rocks and saying, "How about this one? How about this one? How about this one?" until finally I could identify it myself. I don't think anyone found any petrified wood on that trip, but someone did find a bunch of geodes.

That first trip was all it took for me to realize that digging rocks was what I want to do forever. The idea of finding the earth's treasures and turning them into beautiful cabs or slabs feels so right for me that I wonder how I went this far in life without knowing it. I've made jewelry in the past, but doing that, even though I loved doing it, doesn't compare to the excitement of finding these wonderful treasures.

In addition to this profound revelation, I have met some of the most generous, helpful, kind, warm, caring people who are members of the Gemstoners and some of the other local clubs. They welcomed me immediately and made sure that I learned everything they could teach me at the time.

The second and third trips were as exciting as the first and I know I am on the road to becoming a true rock hound. I encourage anyone with even a slight interest in rocks, gemstones, geology, or jewelry to join a local rock club. You never know what you might unleash from inside you.

Just remember...that rock you keep looking at but not picking up might be spectacular inside, just like some of the rocks I found in the desert behind my house, or it might be "just a rock." Whichever it is, if you like it, that's all that matters. There are some spectacular rocks that appear to be "just rocks" and you'll never know what's inside them unless you open them up and the Gemstoners, or other rock clubs, can show you how.

"AGATE RENDEZVOUS 2009"



The "Chaparral Rockhounds" of Roswell, NM, invite Rockhounds of all ages to "AGATE RENDEZVOUS 2009", their annual ten-day, nine night fieldtrip campout at Apache Creek, New Mexico, from August 29th to September 7th,

2009. This is an "Inter-Federation Campout & Fieldtrip Event". Fieldtrips run every day from 50 to 200 miles roundtrip from base camp to collect rocks, mineral and crystals that include: Agate, Banded Agate, Blood Stone, Chalcedony, Crystal-line, Flat Band Agate, Geodes, Golden Luna Agate, Hematite, Jasper, Lava's, Luna Blue Agate, Obsidian, Plume Agate, Quartz Crystals, Red Luna Agate, Snowflake Agate and Thunder Eggs just to name only a few. A couple of our fieldtrips might be into the eastern portion Arizona along the state line. Several of the areas will need a high-clearance or 4WD vehicle. If you do not have this type of vehicle, don't worry, someone would be happy to carpool with a little "\$\$\$\$" help for gas. The small town of Apache Creek is located in central-western New Mexico about 117 miles west of Socorro, NM, on NM-12. Apache Creek campground, used as our base camp, was once a CCC Camp back in the 1930's. It is a beautiful and tranquil camping area with tall majestic pine trees towering over the entire camp area for plenty of cool shade during the warm days of August. The area is large and spacious enough for the largest of RV's to the smallest of pup tents. Being a rustic camp area, there are no facilities, water or electricity, just one coed chemical toilet, so you must come prepared. There are no camping fees at Apache Creek campground. The town of Apache Creek has a small country store where one can buy basics, get spring water and take showers. The small town of Reserve is eleven miles to the southwest and has a grocery store, bank/ATM, garage/gas station and a small motel for anyone who does not want to campout. The majority of the time, Mother Nature cooperates. The weather in August has warm days in the upper 70's to 80's and cool nights in the 50's with some possible 40's and even 30's. Occasionally, late summer thundershowers may wander through the area, so come prepared. The elevation of our base camp is

about 6400 feet with day outings that can be up to 9000 feet. Every afternoon about 4:30 or 5:00 PM, most of the rockhounds get together for happy hour to socialize and talk about the day's findings. Then everyone has supper on their own around 6:00 PM. Afterwards, we sit around the campfire and tell TALL stories of old mining, prospecting and Rockhounding glory days. The night-time skies at Apache Creek are breathtaking. With no light pollution, one can see millions of stars. So, if you have a good pair of binoculars or a telescope, bring them for some spectacular stargazing. On both Saturday afternoons after returning from our outing, we all get together for our traditional "Apache Creek Group Photo" at 5:30 PM. Afterwards, we get ready for our traditional potluck supper at 6:00 PM. Everyone makes their favorite camp dish and we share them while telling more stories around the campfire. Rockhounds that show up can campout anywhere from a couple of nights to the entire campout. Some just come for the last weekend to visit and see old friends. Some Rockhounds campout for over two weeks. Everyone has a great time with all the camaraderie and collecting, and everyone ALWAYS goes home several pounds heavier. Each year, it only gets better. We really hope that your club members can join us this year to make some new friends and really have some good old "Rockhounding Fun and Adventure." For the last 10 years, we have averaged about 40 Rockhounds that have attended the campout from at least half a dozen states. Just the right size for a Rockhound get together. And folks, if you have any good unique swapping/trading material from your area, be sure to bring it. If you have a CB Radio, be sure to bring it along. We use CB Channel 7 on all our fieldtrips. When you arrive at the campground, just look for the "White Framed Canopy", that's our HQ. Saturday and Sunday on the last weekend are open days.

Kingman to Apache Creek, NM 407 miles

The Chaparral Rockhounds host AGATE RENDEZVOUS and the Rocky Mountain co-sponsor. If you plan to attend AGATE RENDEZVOUS, please RSVP by August 24th. For additional info, please contact Yonis Lone Eagle, RMFMS Vice President at 505-860-2455 or e-mail at: www.rockymountainrockhounds@yahoo.com



Upon reflection....

by
Jack Hommel

It recently occurred to me that our very classy and professionally done club newsletter and I have been with the club just about the same length of time. Much to my chagrin, I find that the newsletter has been a whole lot more beneficial to the club than have I.

I find that while I have had one whale of a good time being a club member, I really haven't contributed nearly as much as I've benefited. When you come right down to it, what is the purpose of a club of any sort? The idea is supposed to be the sharing of interests, knowledge, enthusiasm ...and **ENERGY**.

As I write this, I find that I'm very much like the freeloader at a potluck dinner. I've come with my plate in hand and a big smile on my face and I'm the guy who brought the stale bag of chips as my entrée to the banquet. You see, I have taken advantage of the offerings of knowledge and goodwill, and I've enjoyed finding where the really great rock hounding spots are and I've met some really great people, but I have brought really very little to the banquet. I really and truly hope that I'm the only one in the club who has to admit this failing.

Now, having come to the realization that I've been freeloading and presuming on the goodwill

of the really active club members, how the heck do I get the egg of my face and become a *true, functioning* member? Yes, I know it seems as simple as signing up for a committee. But what thing of worth can I bring to the party. There is always the excuse that my talents are miniscule compared to that of other more knowledgeable individuals, and that my offerings may not be as pretty and that I'm busy, but when push comes to shove.... I can sweep floors after meetings, I can bring a can of coffee to the next meeting, I can fold and stack the chairs and I can ask the nearest officer "what can I do to help?" I can ask to help on a committee or even two! And I can make it a point to show up when I've promised, and I can stop complaining that I'm too busy.

So from now on, I'll try to make it "What can I do?" or "What can I bring?" instead of "What can I get out of this?"

If only I could be as great as the newsletter!



Who is Your Best Friend

I would never trade my amazing friends, my wonderful life, my loving family for less gray hair or a flatter belly. As I've aged, I've become kinder to myself, and less critical of myself. I've become my own friend. I don't chide myself for eating that extra cookie, or for not making my bed, or for buying that silly cement gecko that I didn't need, but looks so avante garde on my patio. I am entitled to a treat, to be messy, to be extravagant. I have seen too many dear friends leave this world too soon; before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging. Whose business is it if I choose to read or play on the computer until 4 AM and sleep until noon? I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the 60 & 70's, and if I, at the same time, wish to weep over a lost love ... I will.



Author unknown

KINGMAN LIBRARY
DVD SERIES 6:15
3RD WEDNESDAY

Wednesday , July 15th@ 6:30 pm

Damage from Earthquakes

Seismology

Formation of Mountains

Wednesday, August 20 at 6:30pm

Origin of the Universe

Origin of the Solar System

Continental Drift

Wednesday, September 17 at 6:30pm

Plate Tectonics

The Formation of Minerals

Classification of Minerals

Happy Birthday

Ralph McNish 17th

Connie Ainley 29th

Happy Anniversary

Gary & Mary Gann
10th



**FOR SALE
OR TRADE**

For Sale: Lots and Lots of
Jasper ..Slabs and Rough
Deshutes Jasper
Mushroom Jasper
Monarch Jasper
Call Roger at:
503-351-0084
Or
928-757-1052



News

Congratulations to Bill Pelter. He has received his AAS Degree. He specialized in Jewelry & Silversmithing. He extends his gratitude to those who pushed him forward.

June Birthstone



Pearl

Color: Pink, silver, cream,
golden, green, blue and black.

Color of Streak: White

Mohs Hardness: 3-4

Specific gravity: 2.60 - 2.78



Moonstone

Color: white, colorless, gray, green,
bluish, reddish, sometimes play of
colors, blue, green, yellow red; vitreous:
frequently pearly on cleavage.

Color of Streak: White

Mohs Hardness: 6 - 7

Specific gravity: 2.62 - 2.76

June Birthstones



posed of calcium carbonate like the inside of the mollusk's shell.

Unlike gemstones, pearls are attacked by acids, cosmetics, hair spray and other pollutants in the atmosphere. There is no assurance how long a pearl will last. The average life estimate 100 to 150 years with proper care. The pearl is a precious gem.

Pearls are produced by shelled sea mollusks. They form inside clams, mussels, and particularly oysters around a small foreign object that gets into the lining of the mollusk. Pearls are com-



Moonstone with its mysterious white or blue sheen is one of the most popular and familiar gem varieties of minerals called feldspars, it is a semi-precious stone. Its blue or white sheen is called adularescent and is caused by the presence of tiny crystals of albite arranged in layers within the host microcline. It maybe completely transparent and the sheen can either be silvery white or a soft blue. The adularescent sheen resembles a cloud of light that appears within the gem when it is turned at the right angle to the eye. In India it is still considered sacred.

June 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Board Meeting Library 5 PM	3	4	5	6
7 Black Mts Field Trip	8	9 Pot Luck 6:30 PM	10	11	12	13
14 Flag Day 	15	16	17 Library DVD Series 6:15 PM	18	19	20
21 Father's Day 	22	23	24	25	26	27 Chloride Days
28	29	30				

July 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 
5	6	7 Board Meeting Library 5 PM	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Regular Meeting	15 Library DVD Series 6:15 PM	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Little Gems

Mohave County Gemstoners

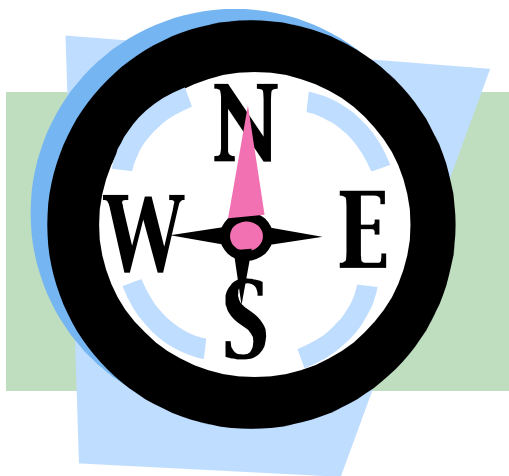
Editor

P O Box 3992

Kingman, AZ 86402



An organization dedicated to the social activities, education, sharing of information about
and just plain fun of looking for special “gifts” of beauty abounding on our planet.



Have a safe and fun summer