

# LITTLE GEMS

Volume 3 Issue 4

April 2010



## Message from the President

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By the April meeting the show will be behind us, and we can get on with

the rest of the year. It does look as though this will be the largest show this club has ever produced. As such it will be the most expensive. However, the large expenditures are a onetime expense. Last year's show was the largest show the club had put on, and the profits were such we are able to fund the increased size of this show. I hope we have a large club turn out to make this a happy and successful weekend.

Last month we tried a silent auction to raise money for a Christmas party. There wasn't a large selection offered for sale, but we did very well for the very first time. Now that we see how well it works, maybe it will be bigger and better in June.

Please remember, if you have a particular place that you would like to go to on a field trip, let Jack know. He will research it and get it onto the field trip calendar. You can reach Jack at 928-565-5156.

This is your club, please let the Board know what you think. You are welcome to attend the Board Meetings. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month, at the Kingman Library at 5:00 PM. Lets pull together and make this a fun year.

Rock on, C



Mohave County Gemstoners  
Second Tuesday of the month  
Katherine Heidenreich  
Senior Center  
1776 Airway Ave.,  
Kingman, AZ 86401  
General Meeting  
April 13, 2010  
7:00 PM

## Hey: Gemstoners!!

### CHECK THIS OUT!!

We, the Mohave County Gemstoners, are about to pull off the biggest indoor Rock and Mineral Show in Mohave County. Come on and be part of it. We have over 30 vendors taking part in this memorable event. A couple of hours from you will help make this the best we have ever done, and ensure an even greater event next year.

## We Rock!!

Our last show meeting is April 7<sup>th</sup>, at the Kingman Library at High Noon. Come on in and find out what you can do to help your club be the greatest! We still need willing hands to help with the setups April 9<sup>th</sup>, Friday at 7:30 AM, at the Academy High school Gym. There are also sit down and smile positions available. The show hours are Sat: 9 to 5, and Sun: 9 to 4. So, let's go: Share the load and share the fun. Any questions? Ask Nan Russell @ 928-846-0927

# Welcome to our new Members!!

Veda Cole  
Anita Meneses

**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. Junior Membership cost is \$8.00.

Name badges are required. \$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](http://www.gemstoners.org) The Newsletter is in PDF format so it will be necessary to download AdobeReader (free program) to view. Submissions are requested to be to the editor by the 15th of each month. Editor email address:

[M.C.GEMSTONERS@AOL.COM](mailto:M.C.GEMSTONERS@AOL.COM)

Stay up to date, check often

[www.gemstoners.org](http://www.gemstoners.org)

## 2010 Club Leadership

### **Elected Officers:**

President - "C" Russell (928) 846-0927  
Vice President - John Smith  
Secretary - Fred Bunge  
Treasurer - Pete Hansen  
Sergeant At Arms—Gary Gann

### **Board of Directors:**

One-Year Position: *Open*  
Two-Year Position: Laraine Smith  
Three-Year Position: Jack Hommel

### **Club Committees 2010**

Academic Advisor - Rick Vromen  
By-Laws – Nan Russell  
Newsletter Editor – Gary Gann  
Education - Open  
Field Trips - Jack Hommel  
Greeters—Trent Szabo & Cheri Hommel  
Historian - Open  
Jr. Leader - Laurel Nelson  
Membership – Dorothy Bunge  
Program Director - Open  
Publicity – Open  
Photographer - Melanie Hecht  
Refreshments – Mary Gann  
Show Chairman 2010 – Nan Russell  
Scholarship / Donations - Open  
Social Director/Special Events - Open  
Sunshine – Open  
50/50 – Cheri Hommel  
Ways and Means- Open  
Telephone - John and Laraine Smith  
Webmaster – Mary Gann

Mohave County Gemstoners

P.O. Box 3992

Kingman, AZ 86401



## **MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2010 GENERAL MEETING**

The evening started with our quarterly potluck dinner. With St. Patrick's Day around the corner, corned beef and cabbage as well as many other entrees and desserts were on our tables for our members.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by our President, "C" Russell. The flag salute was led by the Sergeant At Arms.

A tribute to David Simms, who recently passed away, was given by President "C" Russell

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** Approved as published in the Little Gems Newsletter.

**Treasurer's Report:** An accounting of receipt and expenditures was presented. Based on the Audit report, a budget committee was formed and is actively preparing the 2010 budget.

**Correspondence:** We have received a letter from the AZ Mining and Mineral Museum that due to the state budget, it may be closing. A sample letter and information on how to contact Governor Brewer and other government officials to not put the museum on the budget chopping block was also presented.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Field Trip** – To be more responsive to our members, Jack is trying get more 2-wheel/low impact trips and tours put together. Next trips are:

21 Mar – Burro Creek, meet @ Bashas 8 AM.

04 Apr – Hart Mine, meet @ Java Plum Café 7 AM.

17 Apr – Music Mountains, meet @ Bashas 8:30 AM.

18 Apr – McCracken Mine, meet @ Powerhouse 7AM

02 May – Cook Mine, meet @ Powerhouse 7 AM.

16 May – Black Mountains, meet @ Marty's 7 AM.

30 May – Big Wash RD, meet @ Marty's 8 AM.

**Editor** – Contributions from membership for the Little Gems Newsletter are still needed.

**Web Master** – Mary Gann has replaced Leonard as the web master.

**Refreshments** – Volunteers will bring cookies to the next meeting.

**Sunshine** – George Tirpak is having good and bad days. George Matcham is doing much better - visitors welcome.

**Show** – Our Show will be held 10/11 APR. Painting of signs is done, sewing still needed. The Show has 28 vendors, 51 tables sold and we may need more tables to accommodate more vendors and members.

Show cases are available for members, see Bob or Laurel Nelson.

Show Meetings will be at the Library (12-4PM) on 24 MAR and 07 APR.

Volunteers are needed in several areas – see sign-up sheets.

**Membership** – Dorothy Bunge volunteered to be the new chairperson. Two new members and seven guests introduced themselves at the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** (NONE)

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Budget Committee.

### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

1. Wire Wrapping Class – Classes are on the first Monday of the month at the Library and third Monday at the KOA Recreation Room, both at 2:30 – 5 PM.

2. A silent auction was held and many nice minerals were purchased.

**50/50:** Ken Seagraves - \$33; Clarkie Seagraves - \$28.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Bunge, Secretary

## IT'S A DIRTY JOB—J. Hommel

We all revel in the frequent opportunity to get out in the open air and to partake of nature's bounty. We love the unobstructed views, the smell of the plants, the lack of crowds and the pristine cleanliness of our outdoors. OOPS!! ..... Did I say cleanliness? Sadly enough, we know that not everyone is as fastidious as we are. On our outings, we find all sorts of detritus left by some of the inconsiderate people who preceded us.



I propose that we become pioneers of a sort. Let's plan to spend the first fifteen minutes of each major stop in simply cleaning up around the site. We all work very hard at picking up rocks and carrying our, sometimes, very heavy burden considerable distances back to our vehicles. Let's put some of that energy and dedication into making our visits count for something really worthwhile. We can take along the plastic grocery bags that we all have around and gather the waste left behind by others. We can carry the trash home and see that it is properly handled. We are all accustomed bending, stooping, and picking up rocks, so why not pick up a bit of trash?



We are all good, concerned citizens who treasure our beautiful desert and mountains, so why not put in just a little bit more effort and make each of our visits count for something good? We can become known as leaders in the stewardship of our

outdoor riches. This can be an effort which will cost absolutely no money, take very little physical effort, and take very little time. Our rewards will be our own satisfaction and the knowledge that the Mohave County Gemstoners will have left each site a better place for our having been there.

We have the opportunity to be an example for other clubs to emulate. Please speak to your officers and your trip coordinator and share your thoughts on this idea.



### FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES:

- Sign in 15 minutes before departure time.
- Leader will state relevant information after everyone has signed in.
- Leader will announce and set speed on highway.
- Each vehicle is to keep the one behind it in sight. Stop if vehicle is not visible and report situation on radio.
- Always notify leader if you are hiking or driving to another site and your approximate return time.
- If leaving and not returning, notify leader and turn in radio.
- Always take food, water, and First Aid kit.
- Always have a full fuel tank.
- RADIOS: Channel 3
- Name badges required at all Club functions.

## Field Trip Schedule:

- **21<sup>st</sup> March**, Burro Creek Crossing; meet 7:00 A.M. @ Basha's parking lot. 2WD or 4WD O.K. Distance 150 mi. R.T., Regular tools, no facilities  
*Pastelite, Agate, Chalcedony, Jasper.*
- **4th APRIL**, Hart Mine, (Calif.); Meet 7:00 A.M. @ Java Plum Café, northeast corner Aztec & Hwy. 68, Golden Valley. Distance 180 mi. R.T., Trail conditions unknown, recommend 4WD. Regular tools, no facilities. Abandoned double open pit Gold mine, *unknown minerals available.*
- **17th APRIL**; Music Mountains, Mohave County. Meet 8:10 @ Basha's parking lot. *This trip in conjunction with Lake Havasu City club.* Distance 150 mi. R.T. 4WD only, deep sand. Regular tools, no facilities. Abandoned Gold mine, *Galena, Chalcedony, Gold?*
- **18th APRIL**, McCracken Mine; Meet 7:00 A.M. @ Powerhouse. 4WD & 2WD high clearance O.K. Distance 160 mi. R.T., Regular tools, no facilities. Abandoned open pit Gold/ Silver mine. *Amethyst, quartz, Tourmaline, beautiful yard rocks.*  
**Questions? Call Jack @  
928-565-5156 or 928-897-3488**

Have you seen which businesses have donated prizes to our show? Check out the web site! It would be great if you let them know we appreciate their generosity.

*Happy Anniversary*

*Herman and Roentha Hanekamp*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

**TOM LAGIER**

**BILL DAUGHTRY**

**JOHN SMITH**

**DON NELSON**

**KENNY SEAGRAVES**

### Wire Wrapping and Beading

Every 1st and 3rd Monday 2:30 to 5 PM  
1st Monday will be at the Kingman Library  
3rd Monday at the KOA in the Recreation Room on  
Roosevelt

*Come see what we are doing!*

Wire wrapping-Mary

Beading-Trent

Wire Sculpture-Eddy

Public invited, no fee

Call Mary Gann @928-757-8121

**NEW**

## April Birthstone: Diamond—m.g.

The noble diamond is one of the most coveted and also feared stone known to man. Legend has it that a stolen diamond will bring upon the culprit evil and bad luck. The bigger the diamond = the bigger the evil.

Before man could even cut and polish the diamond, he prized this mysterious stone. He would crush it into dust and use the abrasive properties for various applications. A diamond

in the rough, found in the ground, is usually a cloudy stone covered with a dull crust which prevented its true beauty from being seen. Sometimes a smooth side would show the transparency of the stone. Yet, man, for some reason, was compelled to dig and gather this dirty rock.

After a century or so of crushing the stone the Hindu lapidaries found that the powder of such crushed stones would polish the sides of the diamond. For a long time, however, only the regular sides were polished. The dull exterior covering was removed, but the original shape of the stone was preserved. The art of cutting the diamond into regular facets to increase the play of light against many surfaces was discovered in 1456 by DP Bergheim, a lapidary of Bruges, which at that time, was the diamond capitol of Europe, located in Belgium.

From there the already charismatic rock's popularity predictably skyrocketed.

Diamonds are a form of carbon with a tightly bound crystalline structure. They originate deep within the earth under intense pressure and extremely hot temperatures. While diamonds are transparent to look at, they are also the hardest of all minerals on earth. Perhaps this is why people who go through extremely tough times and emerge looking unscathed are referred to as 'diamonds'.

Diamond in Greek is 'adamas', which means 'unconquerable'. Knights of old would adorn their armor and shields with diamonds to make themselves invincible. And of course, Kings and Queens have worn them through the centuries.

I, myself do not wear them, but as a lapidary, I know I couldn't be without them.



Undoubtedly, the Hope Diamond is the most famous of diamonds. It weighs in at 45.52 carats, and is described as being a "fancy deep grayish-blue" in color. Historians believe it came out of India in the mid-1600's. It now resides in the Smithsonian Institution, in the National Museum of Natural History.

#### Letter from the Editor:



First week on the job has left me wondering:

*What was I thinking?*

Anyone and everyone is welcome to

submit comments, articles, suggestions, news. I would like to thank the people I bugged to proof this thing. I know I can be annoying.

# April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
Hart Mine Java Plum Café 7:AM 4	wire wrapping & Beading at the Library 2:30PM 5	Board of Directors Meeting, Library at 5:PM 6	Last Show Meeting at the Library-Noon 7	8	Show Setup 7:30 AM 9	Show Hours 9:AM-5:PM 10
Show Hours 9:AM to 4:PM 11	12	General Meeting 7:PM 13	14	15	16	Music Mtn Bashas 8:10AM 17
McCracken Mine Power House 7: AM 18	wire wrapping & Beading at the Library 2:30PM 19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

# May 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
Cook Mine Powerhouse 7:00 AM 2	Wire wrapping & Beading at Library 2:30 PM 3	Board Meeting Library 5:PM 4	5	6	7	8
9	10	General Meeting 7:00 PM 11	12	13	14	15
Black Mtns Marty's 7:AM 16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Packsaddle Pass/Windy Pt. Marty's 8:AM 30	31					