

LITTLE GEMS

Volume 3 Issue 9

September 2010



Message from the President

Hi Gemstoners,
Another quiet month has gone by. Too hot to do much, but we did take a trip to the Portland Mine area and it was nice to see some new faces on the trip. I hope as the weather cools we will see more brave souls venturing out to join the regulars on the field trips. Even though it was hot, a good time was had by all and we did find some nice specimens.

Our next field trip this month will take us to the local museums. We meet at the Power House parking lot at 9:00 AM on Saturday, 8-28. The special entrance fee is \$2.00 per person and we will tour both museums. This is an easy trip for young and old alike and inside out of the heat. I hope to see a good turn out from the Gemstoners.

Our meeting the second Tuesday in September is a potluck. Bring your favorite dish or goodie and your appetite. Share the food, fun and camaraderie with the other rock hounds. Remember we eat at 6:30 so come early and be prepared for a fun evening.

See you the second Tuesday in September.

John Smith, President

Mohave County Gemstoners

General Meeting:
Second Tuesday of the month
Katherine Heidenreich Senior Center
1776 Airway Ave.,
Kingman, AZ 86401
7:00 PM

Mohave County Gemstoners' Annual Rock & Mineral Show

WHEN: April 9th and 10th, 2011

WHERE: Kingman Academy of Learning High School
Gym 3420 N Burbank

**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.**

**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.

Little Gems is published monthly. It is available online at www.gemstoners.org The Newsletter is in PDF format so it will be necessary to download AdobeReader (free program) to view. Submissions should be to the editor by the 20th of the month. Editor email address:

M.C.GEMSTONERS@AOL.COM



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

2010 Club Leadership

Elected Officers:

President – John Smith
Vice President – Al Zoellner
Secretary - Fred Bunge
Treasurer - Pete Hansen
Sergeant At Arms – Gary Gann

Board of Directors:

One-Year Position: Kenny Segreaves
Two-Year Position: Laraine Smith
Three-Year Position: Jack Hommel

Club Committees 2010

By-Laws – Fred Bunge
Newsletter Editor – Gary Gann
Field Trips - Jack Hommel
Greeters – Cheri Hommel
Membership – Dorothy Bunge
Photographer - Melanie Hecht
Refreshments – Trent Szabo & Clarkie Segreaves
Show Chairman 2011 – Mary Gann
Sunshine – Lynn Roe
Telephone - John and Laraine Smith
Webmaster – Mary Gann

Mohave County Gemstoners
P.O. Box 3992
Kingman, AZ 86401

MINUTES OF THE July 2010 GENERAL MEETING

The evening started with a presentation by Tim Watkins, BLM Archeologist, on petroglyphs in the immediate area and around AZ. This presentation was followed by Fran and Roger with a short report on their trip to Oregon and Idaho.

The meeting was called to order at 8:13 PM by our President, John Smith. The flag salute was led by the Sergeant At Arms.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved as published in the Little Gems Newsletter, with clarification. "C" said he got some bad information – the AZ Mineral & Mining Museum was not closing and the specimens would not be sold.

Treasurer's Report: The Club is in good financial shape. An accounting of receipt and expenditures was given.

Correspondence: (NONE)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Field Trip – A trip to the Portland Mine will be on 15 AUG – meet at Marty's at 7:00 AM. Jack would like some ideas to think about for 2011 trips – all suggestions are welcome.

Web Master/Editor – Need suggestions and articles for our newsletter.

Refreshments – September will be our potluck. Please remember to bring dishes and silverware.

Membership – We had one guest this evening. A total membership of 113 as of this meeting. Those with anniversaries and birthdays this month were introduced.

Show – A Show meeting was held at the Library on 02 AUG. The KAOL gymnasium has been secured for 9-10 APR 2011. Some new ideas came out of the meeting and we hope to have a very successful show.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. December 14th Meeting – A sit-down dinner will be at Lombardo's on Eastern AV. The price of the meal is about \$15 per person, which will be turkey, ham, all trimmings, non-alcoholic beverage, desert and gratuity.

Sign-up with Pete. Make checks payable to the Gemstoners and get them to Pete no later than the NOV meeting.

2. Business Cards – We now have business cards to hand to perspective members. They will have our web site, meeting information, mailing address, etc

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Revised Constitution, By-Laws, Standing Rules and Appendix "A". The revision is currently on our web site and will be voted on at the September meeting.

2. Election Committee: We need two members to join Jack on the committee. Four offices and one Board Member will require filling for 2011.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

1. Wire Wrapping Class – Last class will be 16 AUG at the KOA Recreation Room, at 2:30 – 5 PM.

50/50: Roger Price - \$20 and Clarkie Segreaves - \$11.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Following the Business Meeting, Leonard offered a metal detector with a reserve bid of \$40.00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Bunge, Secretary



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.

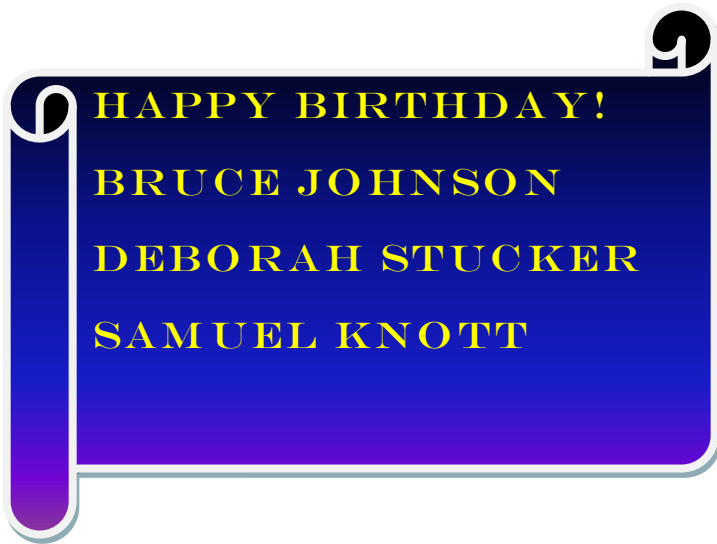
Field Trip Schedule:

Sept 10-12: Burro Creek Campout. This is taking the place of the Snow Flake expedition. Meet at the Burro Creek Campground, S of Wickiup. 2WD to the campground, 4WD trips. We will be leaving the campground at 8 AM Sat and Sun for the field trips.

Sept 26: Chemical Lime Co. @ Peach Springs. Low impact, 120 mi RT, 2WD. Meet at Basha's 7 AM. Steel Toed Shoes are required.

*Questions? Call Jack @
928-565-5156 or 928-897-3488*





are cut to reflect light from inclusions within the stone, revealing a bright six legged star pattern.

Grapevine Canyon Field Trip

The first day of August found us rockhounds headed for the Petroglyphs in Grapevine Canyon. It was a beautiful day and an interesting drive. At the site there is a small parking area, and, wonder of wonders, an outhouse! Which came in handy, after downing morning rations of coffee.

The Petroglyphs are a short hike from the parking area. Although there is nothing worth putting in your pocket off the ground, the Petroglyphs will hold your attention. These were the best Petroglyphs I have yet seen. They started high up on the rocks, although nature has scattered many right in front of us at the base of the short cliffs. They are well defined and were the first Petroglyphs I felt a connection to. Mainly because of many of the drawings could be interpreted into our current lives.

One drawing looked like the old Commodore PC with the monitor sitting on it. One good sized drawing appeared to be a girl dancing while pointing to the men's and lady's restrooms, which were separated by a thick line. What I thought were herds of rattlesnakes are apparently the common squiggle lines used to depict water. So, the single rattlesnake could be a snake-or maybe just a trickle of water?

We spent a good deal of time spinning stories from what we were seeing. We took a lot of pictures and walked all around the base of the cliffs, which were divided by a wide wash. Everyone felt that this trip had definitely been worth the drive.

Portland Mine

The Portland Mine is an open pit mine, surrounded by huge mounds of tailings. Some small crystals and thick Druzy covered much of what we looked at and chipped at. Well, we chipped, Jack shattered. Those of us who were close enough were able to take advantage of the bigger pieces he broke free.

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SEPTEMBER BIRTHSTONE

The striking deep blue of a quality sapphire is reminiscent of a cloudless night sky. Ancient civilizations believed that the world was set upon an enormous sapphire. This legend, as well as the belief that the Ten Commandments were inscribed upon tablets made of sapphire gives the September Birthstone a royal place among gemstones.

Named after the Greek word 'sapphirus', meaning blue, Sapphires have long been a favorite among priests and kings, who considered them symbolic of wisdom and purity. These gemstones are prominent among the British Crown Jewels, and Prince Charles chose the sapphire as the engagement stone for his fiancée, Princess Diana.

Sapphire is a variety of the mineral corundum. Corundum is found in every color of the rainbow, with the red being designated as Ruby, all other hues are considered Sapphire. Of course, the most prized is the midnight blue. The Sapphire is second only to the Diamond in hardness, making it a durable gemstone for jewelry.

Large specimens of Corundum crystals are rare, although the 563-carot Star of India can be seen in the American Museum of Natural History. This is the largest and most famous of the star Sapphires, which

Although it was fairly warm, Tom's vehicle seemed to suffer more than us humans. It was as quarrelsome as a pesky burro, stopping and starting in fits. Jack pulled for a while, with Pete and his BIG FORD taking over at the Highway. Tom put the vehicle to bed, and then joined the rest of us for lunch at a café in Dolan Springs.

Although we have been going out on trips through the summer months-how could we not?-the heat has been cutting the trip time shorter. Instead of staying out until 3 or 4, we are finishing up by noon. The cooler days of autumn will be stretching out the days again.

August 28th Museum Trip

This was a good 2WD, low impact, educational, easy walking field trip. For a mere \$2 we were treated to local, state, and national history. I was surprised at the amount of information within the walls of the Power House. From the ancient Native Americans to the present day Americans, we saw the early foot roads that gave way to the paved roads that led to the present day Kingman. We saw lots of pictures of a younger Kingman, Route 66, and the surrounding towns.

Then, as the Mohave County Museum did not open till 1:00 PM, we went over to the Calico and had something to eat. From there we followed Pete to his place in Old Town. He gave us a tour of the grounds and we ended up on his spacious porch with an incredible view of Kingman and the valley. It was here he witnessed the lightning show on Friday night. He said it was spectacular, and I can only imagine that it was indeed! Thanks for sharing, Pete. It was awesome.

By 1:30 we were wandering the rooms of the Mohave Co. Museum. The most fascinating thing for me was the gallery where they have all the Presidents-and their wives! I have seen many groupings of the Presidents, but this was the first time I have seen all the wives. The Mohave Museum is obviously newer than the Power House, and the displays reflected that, but still, both were chock full of fun facts to know and tell! This was a great trip. Thanks Jack. Wish you could have been there.

Rumors! Rumors! Rumors!

Seems the rumor mill has been getting quite a work out of late. So, let's quash a few right now.

'Lombardo's is bankrupt and closing down!' Not true, and this is according to Vito himself. He has not been around Lombardo's recently because he has been busy in Henderson, NV opening a new restaurant! So, it would seem we are safe with our choice of places for our Christmas Dinner. Vito would like to speak to whoever is spreading this one though.

'Those at the first show meeting deemed Leonard untrustworthy.' This one is particularly mean and spiteful, as it was said with no regard for Leonard's feelings, and was totally untrue. An early, cowardly stab at the show was definitely a low blow. All those at the show meeting were excited that Leonard would volunteer to do the Silent Auction for the 2011 Show. He did an outstanding job last year, along with Carolyn Andrews, bringing in over \$500 for the club. For those of you who don't know, Leonard was the one who created the web site we enjoy today.

'Mary is Bi-Polar and out of control!' Unfortunately, part of this is true. I am Bi-Polar, however, I am on meds and most do not consider me 'out of control!' Hyper, passionate, but not uncontrollably so. This one is particularly disheartening as it was entrusted to someone as a confidence.

'Mohave County Gemstoners does not want anything to do with the Honey Onyx Claim.' This was told to the Lake Havasu Rock Club. It also is very untrue. We love our little claim, and enjoy sharing the spoils with the Havasu Club. Both clubs have worked together on the claim on past field trips, and we look forward to the same in the future.

Webster says: Rumor "...to roar, grumble, to complain.."

It seems logical that, if you find yourself in a place that causes unhappiness to you, and causes you to reach out and hurt others, thereby hurting yourselves, you would seek a place where you can be happy. To stay in such a place and cause as much turbulence as possible is counter-productive, and hurts everyone. The only thing that grows in such an environment is turmoil. No one gains.

September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	Board Meeting at Library 6:30 PM 7	8	9	Burro Crk campout 10	Burro Crk campout 11
Burro Crk 12	13	Gen. Meet Pot Luck 6:30 PM 14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Chemical Lime Co. meet Basha's 7:00 AM 26	27	28	29	30		

October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	Board Meeting at Library 6:30 PM 5	6	7	Flagstaff Campout 8	Flagstaff Campout 9
Flagstaff Campout 10	Flagstaff Campout 11	General Meeting 7:00 Pm 12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Castle Mtn. meet at Hwy 68 & Aztec Rd 7 AM 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						