

# Little Gems

RIPE PRICKLY PEAR...UPPER TROUT CREEK AREA

Volume 2 Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2009

## Message from the President



Hi "Gemstoners"

Here it is September already, and that means it's time to start thinking about elections of officers for next year. At the general meeting I will be asking for at least three people to volunteer to be the nominating committee. Please don't be shy.

The Field Trip Committee has put together a list of field trips that will take us to the end of this year.

We will be returning to Flagstaff and Burro Creek before the rain sets in. We will also be making some trips south and also into California. So watch the "Little Gems" newsletter and check the website, [www.gemstoners.org](http://www.gemstoners.org), for time and place. At times there may be trips that are not listed. For these trips we will call or email everyone with the information

At our last meeting you saw the new multimedia projector that the club bought. I think this aid is going to be a big asset to the club. Gary Gann, our Field Trip Chairman, will be putting together photo albums of the trips that can be shown at the meetings, as well as DVD programs on geology and related subjects.

Don't forget September is a Potluck Meeting and starts at 6:30 PM instead 7:00 PM.

See you there

"C"

"C" Russell

President

Mohave County Gemstoners

Katherine Heidenreich Senior Center  
1776 Airway Ave., Kingman, AZ



Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Catch up and Chat 6:00 PM

Fall Potluck 6:30 PM

Bring your Favorite Dish and Share

Don't forget Plates and utensils!

Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Guest Speaker: Jack Hommel

"Preparedness and Safety for Desert Travel"

A Warm Welcome to new members

Ralph and Gabrielle Reynolds

And Steven, Todd and Johnny

Billy and Sandra Hasting



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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 1<sup>st</sup> thru December 31<sup>st</sup>. 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](http://www.gemstoners.org) Submissions are requested to be to the editors by the 15th of each month, preferably by email :

[gemstoners@live.com](mailto: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](http://www.gemstoners.org)

Mailing Address:

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

## Minutes of the August 2009 General Meeting



The evening started off with our Guest Speaker, Louis Vega, with the Mohave County Search and Rescue Team. With our hot summers, this presentation was of extreme value to our membership.

Subjects he covered included: Using your GPS, matching the datum to the map you use, desert survival and that plants point North. For those who were unable to attend, you missed a terrific presentation.

\*\*\*\*\*

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by our President, "C" Russell. The flag salute was led by the Sergeant At Arms.

### Previous Meeting Minutes:

Approved as printed in newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: - An accounting of receipts and expenditures was presented.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Field Trip** - On July 26<sup>th</sup> there was a tour of some of our members' studios, equipment and projects for sale and followed by a potluck at "C" and Nan's house.

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.

A trip back to Flagstaff is planned for September for more Petrified Wood.

We will be back to Burro Creek in October for fun and exploration.

**Membership** - Two new members from Chloride have joined the Club.

**Editor** - New membership roster out in September.

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. PowerPoint projector has been purchased at a price we couldn't afford to pass up. (Item Closed)

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Web Master is working on a new directory for 2010.
2. Motion - Letter to MCC Board of Trustees concerning classes in Lapidary, Silversmithing and Metal Casting classes being continued.
3. Getting young people interested in Geology - to committee (Board of Directors.)
4. Next month's on September 8th meeting is a potluck. Bring your dinnerware.

### FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

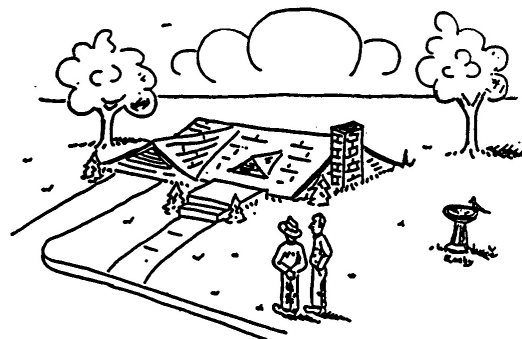
50/50 - Ralph Reynolds - \$40 and Sandra Hastings - \$31.

Auction - Several items brought the club additional income.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Bunge, Secretary



***I Knew Ole Rocky Was Getting  
Too Many Rocks In His Basement!***

by Rocky West in the T-Town Rockhound 7/61  
via Beehive Buzzer 10/98 & others

# This list is the suggested polishing compounds for these minerals.

CMO = Cerium Oxide, TO = Tin Oxide, LA = Linde-A, DIA = Diamond, CHO = Chrome Oxide

ACTINOLITE	TO	LABRADORITE	TO, CHO
AGATE	CMO, TO	LAPIS-LAZULI	TO, LA, CHO
ALABASTER	TO	LIMESTONE	CMO, TO, LA, CHO
AMAZONITE	TO	LAPIDOLITE	CHO
AMBER	TO	MALACHITE	TO, LA, CHO
AMBLYGONITE	TO	MOONSTONE	TO
ANDALUCITE	TO	NEPHRITE	TO, LA, CHO
APATITE	LA, CHO	OBSIDIAN	TO, CHO
AVENTURINE	TO	ONYX	CMO, TO, CHO
AZURITE	TO, CHO	OPAL	CMO, TO
APOPHYLLITE	CHO	PERIDOT	TO, LA, DIA
ARAGONITE	CHO	PETRIFIED WOOD	CMO, TO, LA, CHO
AXINITE	CMO	PHENACITE	TO
BARITE	CHO	POLLUCITE	CMO
BENITOITE	CMO	QUARTZ	CMO, TO
BERYL	CMO, TO, DIA	RHODOCHROSITE	TO, LA, CHO
BLOODSTONE	LA	RHODONITE	CMO, LA, CHO
BRAZILIANITE	TO	RUBY	DIA
CALCITE	TO, CHO	RUTILE	LA
CASSITERITE	TO	SAPPHIRE	DIA
CELESTITE	CHO	SCAPOLITE	CMO
CEROSITE	CHO	SCHEELITE	CHO
CHRYSOBERYL	DIA	SERPENTINE	TO, LA, CHO
CORAL	TO	SMITHSONITE	TO
CORUNDUM	DIA	SODALITE	CMO
DANBURITE	TO	SOSOLITE	CMO
DATOLITE	TO	SPINEL	TO, LA, DIA
DIOPSIDE	CHO	SPHALERITE	CHO
DIOPTASE	CMO	SPODUMENE	TO
DIORITE	CMO, TO, LA, CHO	SUNSTONE	TO
ENSTATITE	TO	THOMPSONITE	CMO
EPIDOTE	TO	TIGER EYE	CMO, TO, LA
EUCLASE	TO	TITANITE	TO
FELDSPAR	CMO, TO	TOPAZ	TO, LA, DIA
FLUORITE	TO, CHO	TOURMALINE	TO, LA, DIA
GARNET	CMO, TO, LA, DIA	TURQUOISE	CMO, TO, LA
GOLDSTONE	CMO, TO	UNIKITE	CMO
HEMATITE	CMO	VARICITE	CMO, TO, LA
HICKORYITE	LA	VESUVIANITE	CMO
HOWLITE	CMO, TO, LA, CHO	WILLIAMSITE	LA
HYPERSTHENE	TO	WONDERSTONE	TO, LA
JADITE	CMO, TO, LA, CHO	WULFENITE	CHO
JASPER	CMO, TO, LA, CHO	ZIRCON	TO
KYANITE	TO	ZIOSITE	CMO

The list is from The Puget Souder, 9/88. Via Hidden Treasures & Rock Rustler's News & Canton Co. News.

RECOMMENDED POLISHES via Pebble pusher May 1989



## Harris Ground Squirrel

While out in the remote areas of the Sonoran Desert or just around the bird feeder you will most likely see one on these little guys. They are often mistaken for a chipmunk. The Harris ground squirrel, named after Edward Harris, is about the same size and similar color. There are 2 ground squirrels that sport the lateral stripes that cause the confusion, The other is the White-tailed Antelope Squirrel found in Northern Arizona recognized by the large bushy tail that is black on the underside.

Usually found on rocky slopes, these squirrels are active all year during daylight hours, but less so during the coldest winter months.

They will climb Ocotillo to eat the seeds and Saguaro for the fruit. The Colorado River keeps them from entering California. Another favorite food are the big seeds found in wild cucumber.

They are playful, noisy, curious, energetic and happiest when playing in the fierce summer sun. It often sits up straight on its hind legs, like a prairie dog.

Their burrow generally goes straight or almost straight down half a foot or more, and then winds between the roots for safety from its digging enemies. Its enemies include rattlesnakes, coyotes, roadrunners who may gobble up the young, ravens and birds of prey such as hawks. At night, they are usually safe in their burrows when owls are out looking for their next meal.

They store mesquite beans in their underground burrow and is seen infrequently during colder weather. It husks the seeds from their long pods before carrying them underground. It also eats beetles and grasshoppers as a source of protein. The young, usually numbering seven or eight or as many as 14, are born in late February or more. Molts twice a year but the hairs of the tail are only shed once a year, in the autumn.

Reference: <http://www.scenicdrive.org/cgsquirr.htm>

[http://www.arizonensis.org/sonoran/fieldguide/vertebrata/ammos\\_harrisi.html](http://www.arizonensis.org/sonoran/fieldguide/vertebrata/ammos_harrisi.html)

<http://www.scenicdrive.org/cgsquirr.htm>

Photo: Courtesy EJ Peiker, [www.ejphoto.com](http://www.ejphoto.com)

Visit his site to see some truly beautiful photographs

## Ant Hill Garnets

I found this intriguing. Those annoying pesky, biting ants may actually be being giving us gems. In a few places in the west where the ground is rich in Chromium there may be found Ant Hill Garnets. This is a very special sub-variety of chrome-bearing pyrope garnet. Its intense ruby red color is caused by trace amounts of Chromium and the purest of red Garnet color with no brown tones.



Arizona pyrope garnet is called Ant Hill garnet because ants bring up the smaller crystals from below ground and deposit them in the ant hill when building or remodeling. The garnets are recognized as possessing the finest bright ruby-red color of the garnet family. Most are the size of a pea or less, rounded and smooth.

Here in Arizona, Ant Hill Garnets occur in a remote section of the Navajo Nation around the Four Corners area. This location is on the reservation and is strictly off limits to non-tribal collectors. Just south of Monument Valley is the town of Kayenta and Garnet Ridge. The gems have never been mined commercially because there aren't enough of them. That means these gems are rare.

In the 1800's, the Navajos believed the blood-red color helped produce fatal wounds and were used as bullets. They also believed the ants would purposely ring their hills in garnets but in reality the stones are heavier than other gravels from the tunnels and would weather to the bottom edge of the ant hill.

Gem quality garnets have weathered from the underlying intrusive rock and can be found scattered. The garnets are collected by the Navajo and sold in bulk for the gem trade. Gems over a carat are rare! The larger carats appear almost black when cut. Ninety percent of the material is the deep ruby red color of pyrope garnet, also small quantities of rhodolite and spessartine garnets are found.

The world supply of these gems depends on The Navajo who collect a few stones after the occasional rainstorm and will use as trade.

Source: [azgem.com](http://azgem.com)

Source: [gemologyonline.com](http://gemologyonline.com)





## Rockhounding Guidelines from the Needles, California Office of BLM

Source: reprint BLM California Office

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** Rockhounding is one of many recreational pursuits on 141/2 million acres of lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in California. Collecting small, non-commercial quantities of rock by rockhounds is allowed free of charge on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Commercial collecting for the purpose of sale or barter is not allowed without special authorization. Rockhounds may use hand tools such as shovels and picks, but must not use explosives or power equipment for excavation.

Rockhounds are welcome to collect limited amounts of rocks, minerals, and gemstones from most federal lands, but there are some exceptions. Some lands are withdrawn or reserved for certain purposes such as outstanding natural areas, research natural areas, recreation sites, national historic sites, etc. Other lands are not open to collecting due to the presence of mining claims. The local BLM offices can provide you with information about available collecting areas and those areas that are closed to rockhounding including any fire or vehicle use restrictions.

**PETRIFIED WOOD:** Petrified wood is available for collection on a free use basis in limited quantities as long as the collection is for personal, non-commercial purposes. According to Federal regulations (43 CFR 3622), free use collection weights are limited to 25 pounds plus one piece per day, not to exceed 250 pounds in one calendar year, and no specimen greater than 250 pounds may be collected without a special permit. The petrified wood must be for personal use only, and shall not be sold or bartered to commercial dealers. A material sale contract must be obtained from a BLM Field Office for collection of more than 250 pounds a year, or for commercial use. Mining claims may not be staked for petrified wood.

**HISTORIC ARTIFACTS AND FOSSILS:** The Antiquities Act of 1906, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 prohibit the excavation, collection or destruction of any archaeological materials (including fossils) located on lands under federal jurisdiction. The indiscriminate removal of artifacts and certain fossils could affect scientific and educational uses of public

lands creating unfortunate gaps in scientific understanding. Petroglyphs, human remains, dwellings, and artifacts of Native American cultures are protected by law because they are integral to the preservation of the cultural heritage of these ongoing traditions and also may provide important information concerning populations who lived here long ago.

**MINING CLAIMS:** Rockhounding on mining claims is not advised without the mining claimant's consent because the claimant has a legal right to the minerals on the claim, including gemstones. Most mining claims can usually be identified in the field by claim posts or markers, but you should contact a local BLM office to find out which areas have mining claims. Also, it is illegal for a mining claimant to charge fees to the public for recreational use of a mining claim, such as rock collecting.

Material such as agate, chert, jasper, petrified wood, obsidian, cinders and other volcanic products are not considered locatable under the 1872 Mining Law. Most commonly collected rocks and minerals are not subject to mining claim location even though people occasionally stake claims for these minerals anyway. The mere fact that some stones may be cut and polished does not give them a distinct or special value to make them locatable.

### COLLECTING GUIDELINES

1. Know whose property you are on.
2. Get permission when collecting on private property and mining claims.
3. Don't use blasting materials or mechanized earth moving equipment.
4. Limit excavation depth to four feet and fill in holes before you leave.
5. Collect only what you can reasonably use until your next trip.
6. Leave all gates as you found them.
7. Find out if any fire restrictions are in effect.
8. Make sure your campfire is completely out before leaving the area.
9. No vehicles or mechanized or equipment are allowed in wilderness areas



www.mindat.org

This is a must go to site for mineral collectors. It has worldwide membership (free) and the majority of the members are very knowledgeable on the subject. Most of the members are purist. Speaking in the language of a purist. Even though I am extremely interested and have been for many years I have to go to the dictionary and break down into layman's terms what they are trying to tell me.

I was looking for information regarding garnets and topaz found in the Burro Creek area. They are there and have been found and some are considered to be gem quality.

When the folks are describing rhyolite flows that has lots of lithophysae, some of which contain euhedral garnets. The garnets are trapezohedron with minor dodecahedron faces. They are said to be spessartine, dark red to black in color I get lost. The dictionary of Earth Sciences is a helpful tool.

My interpretation, this is what I think it boiled down to. In an old volcanic flow there are gas bubbles that have allowed crystals to form uninhibited. Now I am ready to search!

Source: www.mindat.org and the dictionary by Ailsa Allaby and Michael Allaby.  
"A Dictionary of Earth Sciences" 1999  
20 Aug. 2009 <http://www.encyclopedia.com>.


















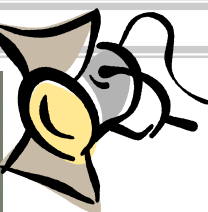
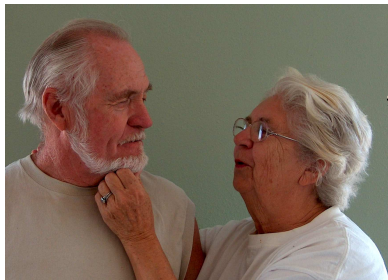
Written by Mike Howard and

Illustrated by Darcy Howard

Permission granted by Bob Keller [www.rockhounds.com](http://www.rockhounds.com)

## Isometric Crystal Forms

Name	Number of Faces	Name	Number of Faces
 (1) Cube	6	 9)Tristetrahedron	12
 (2) Octahedron	8	 (10) Hextetrahedron	24
 (3) Dodecahedron	12	 (11) Deltoid dodecahedron	24
 (4) Tetrahexahedron	24	 (12) Gyroid	24
 (5) Trapezohedron	24	 (13) Pyritohedron	12
 (6) Trisoctahedron	24	 (14) Diploid	24
 (7) Hexoctahedron	48	 (15) Tetartoid	12
 (8) Tetrahedron	4		



## In the Spotlight

"C" & Nan Russell

"C" and Nan are gems. "C", President 2009, and Nan, Membership Chairman, Show Chairman have helped give the Gemstoners a fresh breath of enthusiasm. After a couple years of losing some very key people. "C", Nan, along with 2007- 2008 President Pete Hansen managed to keep the organization alive and start the process of re-growth.

The couple came to Arizona in the mid nineties settling in Lake Havasu. Their first love at the time was traveling the back roads in 4-wheel drive. Soon they were collecting rocks. They would spot an interesting piece and before you know it was in the truck and on the way to its new home. Nan and "C" became very active members of the Lake Havasu Gem and Mineral Society. They have each held the office of President and Show Chairman.

They are now residents of Kingman and focusing their energy on the Gemstoners while finishing up their obligation to Lake Havasu. They will also continue to maintain their involvement with Lake Havasu.

Though they do not create lapidary pieces, Nan and "C" do polish and cut slabs.

Nan is attracted to just about any interesting mixture of minerals and boulders may end up as part of the landscape design. "C" especially enjoys the surprise when a saw exposes the inner beauty.

The couple enjoy hosting get-togethers at their home with fellow club members.



Left:  
Botryoidal specimen  
( it has teenie thunder eggs)  
and is one of Nan's favorites.



Above left:  
Yard Rock sample

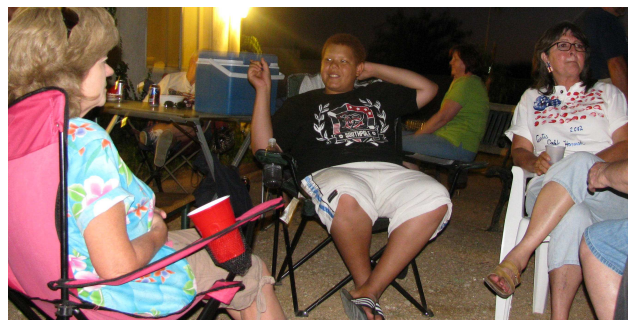


Below:  
Utah  
Wonderstone



Above:Potted plants with a collector specimen

Below:4th of July celebration





## Speakers

We have been fortunate to have had excellent guest speakers the last two months.



Hand-crafter letter openers with meteorite blades.

Price at starting \$500.00

Photo:Melanie Hecht

Keith and Dana Jenkerson are a terrific pair. Though both are very knowledgeable on the subject of meteorites, it was Dana's outgoing enthusiasm and Keith's more in depth explanation that made the team.

They brought wonderful samples that were passed around for each member to

hold and examine closely. At times the room was noisy, but it wasn't disrespect, it was enjoyment and discussion amongst the members. Everyone "ooed and ahhed" at the letter openers made from the meteorites and their custom handles. We hope they will come back again.



Luis Vega speaking to Gemstoners

Photo :Leonard Deutsch

Author, Mohave County Search and Rescue Team Member, Luis Vega, presented to the Gemstoners another great talk . This time on the functions of Search & Rescue and the fundamentals of GPS. I know everyone learned something new. A greater respect was generated for these volunteers.

If you know someone who is willing to share their expertise let the club know.

## Mohave County Community College

They are offering Classes for Jewelry & Lapidary starting in September.

The classes that are available are:

Jewelry and Silversmithing

Advanced Jewelry

Jewelry Casting

For more information call

(928) 692-3027

Or visit the website

[www.mohave.edu/communityoutreach](http://www.mohave.edu/communityoutreach)

## September Shows

September 11-13, 2009 Tucson

### Fall Tucson Best Bead Show

Kino Veterans Memorial Community Ctr,  
2805 E. Ajo Way, Tucson, AZ 85713-6217

Sponsored by: Crystal Myths, Inc.

Hours: Fri., Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5

Show Chairperson: Lewis Wilson,

P.O. Box 3243, Albuquerque, NM 87190,

505-883-9295, [crystalmyths@msn.com](mailto:crystalmyths@msn.com)

Website: [www.crystalmyths.com](http://www.crystalmyths.com)

September 12-13, 2009 Green Valley

### Green Valley Lapidary Arts & Crafts Fair

West Social Center, Green Valley, AZ

Sponsored by: Green Valley Lapidary and Silversmith Club

Hours: Sat. 9-4, Sun. 11-4

Admission: Free

Website:

[www.gvrlapidaryclub.com/craftschedule.htm](http://www.gvrlapidaryclub.com/craftschedule.htm)

**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 Reports for August 09**

None

Some members have gone to the 2009 Agate Rendezvous in New Mexico. Next month we will have a follow-up report.

**FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR THE BALANCE OF 2009**

WHEN /MEET	WHERE	VEHICLE	MINERAL	Miles
September 13th Powerhouse 8 AM	Badger trail Off Hwy 68	any	Black Mica Bull quartz	30 Round trip
September 20-22 Meet Basha's 7 AM	Flagstaff /Camp-over	Any Some 4-wheel	Petrified wood	300 Round trip
September 27th 8 AM Mile marker 11	Honey Onyx Claim	any	Honey onyx	Round trip 20
October 4th Powerhouse 8 AM	Cook Mine Area, hills and washes	4-wheel	Jasper & misc	Round trip 120
October 17th-20th Basha's 7:30 AM	Burro Creek/Camp-over	Any to camp 2 & 4-wheel for back-road	Pastelite and much more	Round trip 150
October 31st Powerhouse 7 AM	Bar in the Desert	Any to bar 4-wheel for back-road	Unique place to visit May take side trips	Round trip 200
November 8th Powerhouse 7 AM	Dollar Bill Mine	4-wheel	Hard rock collecting	Round trip 260
November 14th Travel on your own	Lake Havasu Gem Show	any	everything	Round trip 125
November 22nd Powerhouse 8 AM	Acoma Wash	Any Short walk to wash	Various ..Jasper, agate, chalcedony	Round trip 160
November 25th Powerhouse 8 AM	Alamo Road Holiday Camp-over	Any 4-wheel for exploring	Many different available	Round trip 160
December 6th Marty's on Hwy 68	Black Mts Between the hills	Any possible 4-wheel recommended	Chalcedony geodes	Round trip 75

## It is Field Trip Season Be Prepared Get Ready

Finally the summer is ending and we can all look forward to getting back out in the field.

Though the Monsoon has been disappointing this year, the few scattered heavy down-pours have surely uncovered or washed down some exciting new treasures just waiting to be found.



Before you even think about leaving town, get your vehicle checked and double checked.

1. Tires... proper inflation and tread that can withstand rough sharp rocks.
2. Fluids... battery, radiator, windshield wiper fluid, transmission, oil, are they all at the proper level, always bring extra of all fluids.
3. Hoses ... connections , belts check for wear.
4. Is the car loaded with everything for the just in case scenario. You have to be responsible for your own welfare.
5. Proper clothing and shoes... Here in Arizona the temperature is up and down in wild swings through the course of 24 hours. From t-shirts to sweaters in a day is not unusual. Secure tie shoes or boots will be a smarter choice for rocky slopes.
6. Keep some food and bottled water in the vehicle at all times, but be sure to rotate every couple of months.

Be smart and pack all you think you might need if you were to ever be stranded. Even a group could end up stuck if they were on the wrong side of a flash flood.

## Items Needed to be a Happy and Safe Rockhounder



1. Compass, GPS unit and maps and always tell someone where you are going and extra batteries for everything.
2. Basic First Aid kit. Those rocks and cactus can be mean.
3. Change of clothing...stuff happens
4. Work Gloves, safety glasses
5. Cell phone . 2-way radio, CB radio
6. Loupe or at least a magnifying glass
7. A small brush that can be used to gently brush away debris on a specimen.
8. Heavy duty canvas bag or backpack to carry your finds. A plastic bucket will also work but the handles can not handle much weight. Small specimen containers for those small delicate treasures and paper for the more fragile items.
9. Shovel, prybar, rock pick, chisels both large and small, sledge hammer, small trowel
10. Pencils, notebooks, identification books

**BRING THESE ITEMS ON EVERY TRIP!**



**KINGMAN LIBRARY****DVD SERIES 6:15**

Final in Series

**Wednesday, Sept 16th at 6:30pm**

Organic Styles

Economic Geology of Coal

Economic Geology of Petroleum

**Wednesday October 15th****TBA****News**

Our own Kathy Reimers, who is from Washington and comes for the winter, has won honorable mention in the AFMS 2009 Annual Newsletter Contest for the mineral club newsletter she does there. Visit the Kitsap Mineral & Gem Society web page @ [www.kmgs.org/](http://www.kmgs.org/)

**September Birthdays**

Janie Daughtrey 9th

Gordon Johnson 17th

**September Anniversaries**

Jack &amp; Cheri Hommel

7th

Billy &amp; Sandra Hasting

9th

Ed &amp; Aleta Huskinson

20th

**FOR SALE  
OR TRADE**

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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 which painted the sky blue with its reflection. This legend as well as the belief that the ten commandments were inscribed upon tablets made of sapphire gives September's 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 this as the engagement stone for his fiancée Princess Diana.

In ancient times Sapphires were thought to be protective against envy and even against poisoning. A common belief was that a venomous snake placed in a Sapphire vessel would rapidly die! Ground to a powder the blue stone was believed to cure colic rheumatism and mental illness

and to strengthen eyesight.

Sapphire is a variety of the mineral corundum. Corundum is found in every color of the rainbow with red being designated as ruby and all other hues Sapphire. But the most prized color of Sapphire is a rich deep blue. These gemstones were mined as early as the 7th Century BC from India and what is now Sri Lanka. They are found today in Sri Lanka, Kashmir, Myanmar, Thailand, Australia, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, China, Madagascar, and the United States. Large specimens of Corundum crystals are rare although the 563-carat Star of India can be seen in the American Museum of Natural History. This is the largest and most famous of star Sapphires which are cut to reflect light from inclusions within the stone revealing a bright six-legged star pattern.

The Sapphire is second only to the Diamond in hardness making it a durable gemstone for setting into jewelry. A gift of Sapphire represents sincerity and faithfulness. As nourishing to the soul as gazing up at the sky on a summer day this brilliant blue gemstone is truly a heavenly choice!

Source: [www.aboutbirthstones.com](http://www.aboutbirthstones.com)








# September 2009

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
		1 BOARD MTG 5 PM LIBRARY	2	3	4	5
6	7 LABOR DAY	8 POT LUCK 6:30	9	10	11	12
13 BADGER TRAIL 	14	15	16 LIBRARY DVD SERIES	17	18	19 ROSH HASHANAH (NEW YEAR) 
20 FLAGSTAFF OUTING 	21 FLAGSTAFF OUTING 	22 FLAGSTAFF OUTING AUTUMN 	23	24	25	26
27 HONEY ONYX CLAIM 	28 YOM KIPPUR 	29	30			



# October 2009

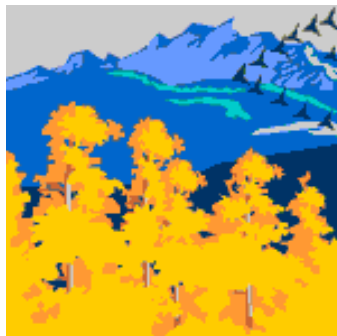
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
				1	2	3
4 COOK MINE AREA 	5	6 BOARD MTG 5 PM	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 REGULAR MEETING 7: PM	14	15	16	17 BURRO CREEK 
18 BURRO CREEK 	19 BURRO CREEK 	20	21 LIBRARY	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 BAR IN THE DESERT  



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