

# The Rockhound Record

**75th Anniversary Year - 1935 - 2010**

**Mineralogical Society of Arizona - November 2010 - Volume 76, Issue 9**

**UPCOMING  
PROGRAM**



**Friday, November 12, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.**

Jeff Cornoyer, Exploration Geologist for Rosemont Copper, will present an overview of the Rosemont project on Friday, November 12th. During the presentation, he will share information regarding the role of copper in our society, the economic impacts to our region, as well as the mine plan of operations and geological advancements in water and land reclamation. Jeff has a degree in Geological Sciences from Arizona State University. He has been instrumental in drilling management and planning, drill core logging, geologic mapping, database management and resource modeling.

## **President's Message**

**GEODES: The term Geode comes from the Greek word, which means "Earthlike."**

A geode is a sphere shaped rock which contains a hollow cavity lined with crystals. A geode which is completely filled with small compact crystal formations such as agate, jasper or chalcedony is called a nodule. The only difference between a geode and a nodule is that a geode has a hollow cavity, and a nodule is solid.

**HOW GEODES ARE CREATED:** Geodes begin as bubbles in volcanic rock or as animal burrows, tree roots or mud balls in sedimentary rock. Over time, the outer shell of the spherical shape hardens, and water containing silica precipitation forms on the inside walls of the hollow cavity within the geode. The silica precipitation can contain any variety of dissolved minerals, the most common being quartz, but amethyst and calcite are also found.

Over a period of thousands of years, layers of silica cool, forming crystals of different minerals within the cavity. Different types of silica cool at varying

temperatures, thus creating layers of different types of mineral crystals.

Each geode is unique in composition and can only be discovered when cracked open or cut with a rock saw. The anticipation never fades for those who collect geodes. The secrets of each individual sphere-shaped rock is different. The most prized contain rare amethyst crystals or black calcites. (**Internet Article**)

**Election of New Officers:** New officers will be elected at the November meeting. Most of the standing officers are willing to remain in their office for next year. The only opening will be for club secretary. A new newsletter editor is also needed for the 2011 year. This is an appointed, rather than an elected position. Lois has done a fine job in both, but would like some time off. Anyone interested, please contact me or Lois Splendoria.

**Flagg Show:** Start thinking about signing up to serve at the booth during the Flagg Show. Also, start sorting out some material for the spinning wheel game. Thank You, All.

Roger Deming

## **Dues Are Due**

Dues are due for the 2011 year. Please see me at the meeting or send to my address. Dues are as follows:

Families & Couples: \$20.00  
Single Adults: \$12.00  
Juniors (under 18 yrs): \$2.50  
Life members: (Club Member 25 yrs.):  
No Charge

Betty L. Deming  
2922 W. Claremont St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85017

**PRESIDENT**

Roger Deming  
(480) 633-0731

[Rogersweeps@yahoo.com](mailto:Rogersweeps@yahoo.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT /  
CLUB FIELD TRIPS**

Ed Nichols  
(480) 636-1251

[epidote555@yahoo.com](mailto:epidote555@yahoo.com)

**TREASURER /  
COALITION FIELD TRIPS**

Betty Deming  
(602) 242-1553

[bd\\_mac2003@yahoo.com](mailto:bd_mac2003@yahoo.com)

**SECRETARY /  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Lois Splendoria  
(480) 813-3923

[chimes30@q.com](mailto:chimes30@q.com)

**MINERAL CURATOR /  
LIBRARIAN / DOOR PRIZES /  
HOSPITALITY**

Bob Holm  
(623) 247-1325

**REFRESHMENTS**

Lynne Dyer  
(480) 396-2393

[unodyers@q.com](mailto:unodyers@q.com)

**STATUTORY AGENT**

Terry Dyer  
(480) 396-2393

[unodyers@q.com](mailto:unodyers@q.com)

**WEBMASTER**

Patti Polk

[rockhound\\_86326@yahoo.com](mailto:rockhound_86326@yahoo.com)

**BOARD OF  
GOVERNORS**

Lynne Dyer  
Terry Dyer  
Bob Holm  
David Lay

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

**Vivian Seward & Roger Schoenfelder  
Phoenix, AZ**

**Alice Held  
Scottsdale, AZ**

**Mark Plunkett & Nadine Low  
Phoenix, AZ**

**Joined October 2010**



We are going to sell business card ads for our newsletter. If you are interested in advertising your business in this newsletter, please contact Lois Splendoria at [chimes30@q.com](mailto:chimes30@q.com). The rates are \$25 per year for MSA members and \$35 per year for non-members. Our first sponsor is Frank Burns, and a big thank you to Frank! Please remember him for your Home Inspection needs and tell your friends and colleagues about his business.

**FRANK HOME INSPECTIONS**



**(602) 570-8147**

**COMPREHENSIVE INSPECTIONS**

*BY CHIEF INSPECTOR*

**FRANK BURNS, R.R.E.I.**

AZ Certification #38642

[frankhomeinspections@cox.net](mailto:frankhomeinspections@cox.net)

# ARIZONA MINERAL COLLECTOR NUMBER 133



By Dr. Raymond Grant

Continuing last month's thoughts about metamorphic minerals, I have searched several times for staurolite twins (sometimes called fairy crosses). Some good ones are reported from Arizona although I have not seen a great one but have found a few incomplete crosses. The area to look for them, is around Cleator on the road to Crown King, where there are three different areas to search.

The first is from a guidebook for a fieldtrip by the Central Arizona Geological Society in 1984. Go two miles past Cleator on the Crown King Road. Turn right at the Desoto mine turnoff and go approximately three miles. "Good staurolite crosses are available at this locality." I followed the directions but did not find any staurolite crosses. But spending more time and looking over a larger area might yield some crystals.

The second locality is further along the Crown King Road to a place where a tramway brought ore down the hill from the Desoto mine. You used to be able to see the towers, but I suspect they are gone now. I have picked up staurolite there even some broken cross twins, and some one gave me a small almost complete cross from there. I have seen some large (several inches long) pink andalusite crystals that I was told came from further up the hill at that location.

The third place is a few miles south of Cleator. Roland St. Louis had a cabin there and he claimed to have found some nice crosses. He pointed out across the country to an area where he said he found them. I did find lots of staurolite, but no crosses.

So here's the plan, this winter I will take Ed Nichols up there and show him the three areas, then he can organize a club trip and get 20 or 30 people walking around until some staurolite twins are found.

There are some other stories about that area. I was told there was good amethyst in one of the railroad cuts past Cleator on the old railroad to Crown King. Looked, but found no amethyst. The best one was written about in Desert Magazine. Before you get to Crown King there is a very steep trail (Hell's Gate or something like that) and the article said that down that trail are garnet crystals as big as basketballs and also emeralds, but that's another story and I have not gone down to look because it is too steep to carry out basketball size garnets which must weigh 30 or 40 pounds each.

## STATE FAIR AWARDS

There were four awards at the State Fair this year. The Marc Watson Award was given to Edith Langland, Jeff Langland's wife and Leo Langland's daughter-in-law, for the best quartz display. There was a poor turnout of entries this year, and the Phyllis Sonnenberg Award, Barbara Langland Award, and Bill & Doris Kent Award for best copper display were not given because of no entries in their categories.

Roger Deming helped me put in a nice case of minerals for special display.

Betty Deming



## 2011 SLATE OF OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT - ROGER DEMING**  
**VICE PRESIDENT - ED NICHOLS**  
**TREASURER - BETTY DEMING**  
**SECRETARY - OPEN**  
(PICTURE YOUR NAME HERE!)

## CORRECTION TO ITEM IN OCTOBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

Last month I listed some of the other local Earth Science clubs and their meeting times in the newsletter. The Apache Junction Rock and Gem Club has a new meeting place, which is listed below in bold.

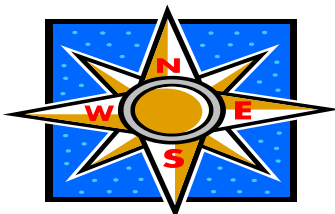
Apache Junction Rock and Gem Club, Inc.

**Meeting Place: Carefree Manor Mobile Home Park, 1615 N. Delaware Dr., Apache Junction, AZ, 85220**

**Day of Month: 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m., except May through September**

**Club Website: [www.ajrockclub.com](http://www.ajrockclub.com)**

# COALITION FIELD TRIP



By Lynne Wheeler-Benker  
928-442-9529

The Payson Rimstones Rock Club is taking November 20 for their coalition, as Bill B. could not do November due to health issues. December seems hectic, so I decided to do November.

## **COALITION TRIP - NOVEMBER 20, 2010 DIAMOND POINT CRYSTAL COLLECTING ABOUT 18 MILES EAST OF PAYSON, AZ**

Meeting at 11 a.m. Saturday---It is a good 30 minutes from Star Valley's Circle K-JFYI. Meeting place: turn off Hwy 260 East at the Control Road (FR 64); drive on to the Diamond Point Firetower and turn off on your left. I will wait there at the corner (you can check out the wash area as we wait for others).

At 11:10 AM we will drive about 1/2 mile past the summer homes to an area with a Forest Service Sign---this area is fenced with barbed wire to indicate the "Digging area"---beautiful crystals have been found here. From October 1 - February 28, you are allowed to dig cubic yard areas as long as you fill them in! Only hand tools are allowed; you must protect tree roots from damage and you can not dig closer than 6 feet from the base of a Ponderosa or Oak trees.

**\*\*\*RECREATIONAL DIGGING ONLY - NO COMMERCIAL DIGGING ALLOWED!!!\*\*\***

This is Tonto National Forest, and we are allowed this digging as a exception to the usual rules from our local ranger station--SURFACE COLLECTING IS ALLOWED ALL YEAR, BUT "DIGGING" IS LIMITED FROM October 1 - February 28 ONLY in this specific area. There is a \$5,000 fine and time in jail, if you ignore the closed dates and sign info.

Layer your clothes; weather changes quickly. Bring chairs and pack a lunch; we will break about 12:15 p.m. to visit and eat at front of digging area.

SEE YOU THERE!

For more info, see: Gem Trails OF ARIZONA Site 32 or Rockhounding ARIZONA SITE 32

If you have questions, please call me:

Lynne Wheeler-Benker

Coalition Rep - Payson Rimstones Rock Club

Home - 928-442-9529

Verizon cell - 928-978-4062

## UPCOMING SHOWS

### **November 5-7, 2010 Black Canyon City**

**Rock-A-Rama**, Albin Civic Center, K-Mine Rd., Black Canyon City, AZ

Sponsored by: Braggin Rock Club

Hours: 9 to 4

Admission and parking: Free

Show Contact: Don Ingels, 623-374-0202

### **November 6, 2010 Tucson**

**Old Pueblo Lapidary Club Silent Auction**

3118 N. Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712

Sponsored by: Old Pueblo Lapidary Club

Website: [www.lapidaryclub.org](http://www.lapidaryclub.org)

Hours: Sat. 9-2

Admission and parking: Free

Show Chairperson: Danny Harmsen, Tucson, AZ, 520-721-8452

Nine tables will be randomly called & replenished every 15 minutes and equipment will go in the last hour.

### **November, 13-14, 2010 Lake Havasu City**

**41st Annual Gem & Mineral Roundup**

Community (Aquatic) Center, 100 Park Ave., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404

Sponsored by: Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society

Website: [www.lakehavasugms.org](http://www.lakehavasugms.org)

Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4

Admission and parking: Free

Demonstrations, raffle, hourly door prizes, games & prizes for children.

Show Chairpersons: Carol Stone, Kathy Ernst

[showchair@lakehavasugms.org](mailto:showchair@lakehavasugms.org)

### **November 19-21, 2010 Green Valley**

**Green Valley Artisan's Festival**

West Social Center, Green Valley, AZ

Sponsored by: Green Valley Lapidary and Silversmith Club

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

Admission: Free

Festival Chairman: Margi Smith, 520-393-1228

### **November 27-28, 2010 Bisbee**

**Bisbee Mineral Show**

Sponsored by: City of Bisbee, Bisbee Mining

Historical Museum, and Bisbee Chamber of Commerce, [www.bisbearizona.com](http://www.bisbearizona.com)

Hours: Sat. Sun. 9-5

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

Phone: 520-432-2071

### **November 27-28, 2010 Wickenburg**

**10th Annual Gem & Art Fair,**

Wickenburg Community Center, 160 N. Valentine St., Wickenburg, AZ 85390

Sponsored by: Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Society

Over 40 vendors, with gems, minerals, jewelry, artists, photo exhibit, door prizes, grab bags, spinning wheel, food and more . . . . .

Raffle drawing Sunday: Tickets \$2 ea. or 3/\$5

Admission and parking: Free

Hours: 9-5

Show Chairperson & Dealers Contact: Beth Myerson, 21825 W. Date Creek Rd., Wickenburg, AZ 85390, 928-684-0380, [myerbd@gmail.com](mailto:myerbd@gmail.com)

**LOIS SPLENDORIA**

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ARIZONA  
1502 West Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Address Correction Requested**

**EXCHANGE EDITORS:**  
Please send all newsletters to the return address listed above.

First Class Mail

**Mineralogical Society of Arizona**  
**Founded 1935**  
**A Non Profit Organization**  
[www.azminerals.com](http://www.azminerals.com)

**Purpose:** To promote popular interest in the various Earth Sciences, and particularly the fields of Geology, Lapidary, Mineralogy, and related subjects. ID badges are available from the Treasurer.

**Meetings:** 7:00 p.m. at the Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum, 1502 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ, *on the second Friday of the month, September through June (except February, which is the third Friday).*

**Dues:** Families & Couples - \$20.00, Single Adults - \$12.00, Juniors (18 yrs. and under) - \$2.50. Please mail your dues to:

**Betty Deming**  
**2922 West Claremont**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85017-1629**

**Newsletter:** Reprinting permission granted with proper credit given. Unless otherwise noted, articles are written by the Editor.

| <b>UPCOMING MEETINGS</b> |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>FRIDAY</b>            | NOVEMBER 12, 2010 |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>            | DECEMBER 10, 2010 |



**AFFILIATIONS**



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

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