

The Rockhound Record

Mineralogical Society of Arizona

www.mineralogicalsocietyarizona.org



*Happy
Halloween!*

NEXT MEETING -THURS. OCT. 13, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.

Church of the Beatitudes, 555 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix, AZ, 85021

**Raffle Mineral Featured at
October 13, 2011, Meeting**



**IRON COATED QUARTZ CRYSTALS
WITH FLUORITE**
San Antonio Mine, Chihuahua, Mexico

The pictured mineral was donated by Dr. Raymond Grant for the purpose of being used for the monthly club mineral raffle. Many thanks to Ray, one of the MSA's Life Members, and Chairman of the Flagg Foundation, for this and many other contributions.

Lois Splendoria

**Upcoming Program
October 13, 2011**

**Brian Beck - TOTMM Consulting
"THE PECK MINING DISTRICT"**

Brian Beck, a geologist registered in five states and a listed mining geologist with more than 30 years of experience, will present a program on the mines and minerals of the Peck Mining District, the first one established in the Bradshaw Mountains. It was reported to be a major silver mining district and produced over 3 million ounces of silver in an eight-year period. The majority of the silver was in the form of AgCl, AgBr, and AgSbS. From exploration underground the last year, minerals not reported in Arizona for 100 years have been found. The talk will provide details of the work, occurrence, and photos of the minerals, including some examples for viewing.

Betty Deming

FROM THE EDITOR

TRANSITION - It's A Tough Thing To Do

By Lois Splendoria

The MSA is going through a transition period right now, having lost our regular meeting place, where everything was provided for our meetings and where we had “a place for our stuff” at the Museum. We now have to provide our own LCD projector and carry in our raffle minerals every month. It reminds me of another transition that I experienced about 12 years ago, along with about 60 people in an adult community college band to which I belonged. It was one of the best community bands in the State of Arizona. We sounded like the Eastman (School of Music) Wind Ensemble or the Dallas Wind Symphony. After what was essentially a long-standing disagreement between two community college professors, this wonderful band, which had been in existence for 25 years and a band family for many of its members for much of that time, was suddenly faced with not having the Director of Bands that made it great. We were devastated. A group of the long-time members quickly decided to “take the band out on its own”. And so began a re-organization, and many subsequent meetings.

While we desperately wanted everything to remain the “same”, we had no idea how much things would change and how much we had to adjust to those changes. There were many things to consider: where would we rehearse, how would we procure our own equipment, how would we acquire our own music library? It was a stressful time, and, as time went on, there was a lot of in-fighting and disagreement among the group concerning its mission and how it should proceed. A new board was established and then subsequently, the board resigned because the communication lines had suffered so much that the board felt that it was not wanted or appreciated. By the time the band had its first concert in the Fall, some of the long-time members were exhausted and ready to quit. In the end, some of the key people, who helped accomplish the change, ended up leaving the performing group. Several of us shut the door and opened a new one. Eventually this group rose out of the ashes, as did the Phoenix bird [[**\(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phoenix_\(mythology\)\)**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phoenix_(mythology))] and is still performing and is one of the best community bands in the metropolitan area. The bottom line is that it is a different group than it was.

While we would so much like for things at the MSA to remain the “same”, the fact of the matter is that they will never be the same, as they probably will never be again for any club that was fortunate enough to be able to meet at the Mineral Museum for the last 20 years. The test will be if we can ride that wave of change and keep the fellowship of our club intact and flourishing. It will undoubtedly be an individual decision for all of us, whether we stay and continue, or shut the door and open a new one. Think about it.

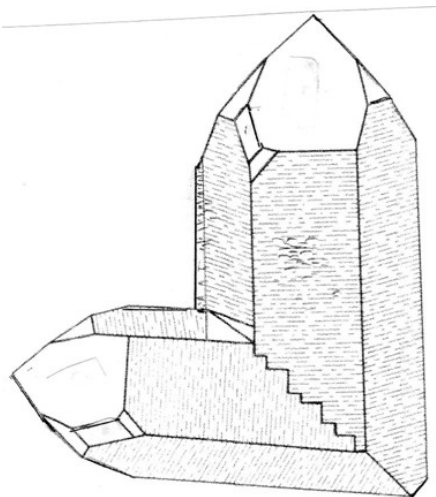
NOTICE!
All future MSA meetings
will be on the second
Thursday of the month,
September through June



ARIZONA MINERAL COLLECTOR NUMBER 141



By Dr. Raymond Grant



Japan Law Quartz Crystal

Quartz is the second most common mineral in the earth's crust. The feldspar group of minerals makes up the largest percentage of the crust. Arizona has many great quartz localities, probably the best being at Duquesne just north of the Mexican border. The Holland mine and a number of smaller prospects and mines in the area have produced the best Japan twin law quartz crystals probably in the world. Japan law twins are two individuals in contact with an angle of $84^{\circ}33'$ between them. At the Holland mine the individual crystals are up to seven inches long.

When I first came to Arizona, I knew about the Holland mine and wanted to make a trip there. There was a watchman who lived in Duquesne and guarded the mines. So a friend and I planned a nighttime excursion. We parked about a mile away and walked to the mine just at sundown. In the mine we found the lower levels had been flooded at one time and looked very dangerous so we limited our exploration to the upper two levels. We found one large quartz pocket that looked like they had put dynamite in the pocket and blew it up. It was full of fragments including parts of very large Japan law crystals, but none worth keeping. So without much in the way of specimens, we climbed out of the mine to find it was pouring rain. By the time we got to the car, we were soaked and miserable. We drove to Nogales and found an all night diner where we could dry out and get some food before the drive to Phoenix.

In the 1970's and 80's the MSA would have a three day trip to Duquesne every Memorial Day weekend. We would camp in the area, and there were many places to collect quartz and other minerals. Today because of the problems along the border, I would not camp in that area. The land around the Holland mine was subdivided and sold off as building lots, and I don't know the current status of the mine and surrounding area.

From: Shirley Cote

Hi Lois,

The Earth Science Museum is planning a fundraiser on October 22, 2011, at Gloria Marsiglia's studio from Noon until 6 p.m. Please see more info at Gloria's website:

<http://www.gallerymarsiglia.com/index.php/newsletter>

An invitation is open for the MSA members to sign up for a booth, show up, or volunteer.

Thanks,
Shirley Cote/Doug Duffy

Saturday, October 22, 2011

**5th Annual "METALS, ROCK, FASHION" Event at Gallery Marsiglia
Treasures: A Collection of Unique Minerals, Gems and Jewelry, Noon-11 pm.
Grand Avenue Festival - 3-11 p.m.**

Gallery Marsiglia will be hosting the Earth & Science Museum, formerly the Mining and Mineral Museum (now closed). They will be doing fundraising booths for kids of all ages from Noon-6pm, including:

Fossil Dig, Spinning Wheel, Gold Panning, Egg Carton Mineral Collections, and raffles throughout the day

Demonstrators in the gallery and outside in the parking lot, along with more local artists in the backyard and around the property. There will be musicians on the street, food, entertainment and art along Grand Avenue, a re-purposed trash/wearable art show, jewelry and accessories, and Grand Avenue boutique fashions on the runway at Braggs' Pie Factory from 5-9 p.m.

ARTISTS INTERESTED? Email me for an application at
gloria@gallerymarsiglia.com. Spaces still available.

Artists Demonstrating:

Copper Enamel Bead making
Lapidary
Blacksmithing
Sand Casting
Fused Glass
Jewelry Making Techniques

LET'S GO TO A SHOW!

October

October 8-9, 2011—Sierra Vista

37th Annual Huachuca Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show

Presented by Huachuca Gem and Mineral Club

Elks Lodge, 1 Elks Lane (off Wilcox Drive)

Hours: Saturday - 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday - 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION & PARKING

Information: (520) 417-6960 or (520) 378-6291

October 15-16, 2011 - Sedona

Sedona Gem and Mineral Club

Sedona Red Rock High School

Hours: Saturday - 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday - 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION

Contact: Gayle Macklin - (520) 921-0100; gayleis@gmail.com

www.sedonagemandmineral.org

Finding Rock Hunting Maps on the Internet

By Glen Miller

Here are some tips for locating free online maps (primarily USA). The good news is that there is a federal program that publishes digital products online that will provide complete national coverage. The bad news is that it is a federal program, subject to manpower and funding constraints, but it is a very good start. The Internet is a source for many maps of other countries. I have viewed geological maps of Oman and even the Moon and Mars online.

Geological and Geophysical Maps - Finding the map you need: Traditionally, one went to a state bookstore to purchase a paper map, hoping it was still in print. The trend today is to publish them online with free access. Tennessee will no longer be printing maps in advance. Maps that aren't online can be purchased for \$20 a map, printed straight from a digital file.

About.com - the quick and easy solution for links to state geological maps. About.com pre-searches and assembles all types and classes of information. If you go to their Geology or Maps sections and poke around, there are pages for state geological maps and state geological organizations. There is also geology.com with similar sources. They also list state authorities and links to their websites.

Once in those websites, you may frequently find a free downloadable map for the local area you are looking for. The USGS has taken great steps to centralize the search for geological maps.



**FOR SALE
MSA DISPLAY CASES**

GREAT BUY!

PRICE:

\$10 EACH - MSA MEMBERS

\$15 EACH - NON-MEMBERS

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(480) 636-1251

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2012 Dues Are Due!

Please see Betty Deming, the treasurer, at the meeting or send to her address.

2922 W. Claremont St.
Phoenix, AZ 85017

Dues Rates:

Families & Couples: \$20.00

Single Adults: \$12.00

Juniors (under 18 yrs): \$2.50

Life Members: (Club Member 25 yrs.):

No Charge

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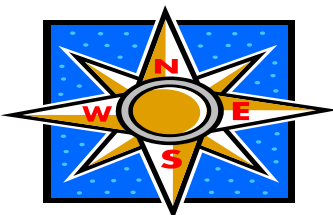
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BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Terry Dyer
Bob Holm
David Lay

COALITION FIELD TRIP

SATURDAY



OCTOBER 1

Hosted by: Payson Rimstones Rock Club, Inc.
What for: Grey's Corner Rock Shop, Holbrook, AZ
When: Saturday, October 1, 2011
Field Trip Leader: Steve Sundra - (928) 478- 4605

Subject: October Coalition Field Trip
Date: 9/4/11 8:11:18 A.M.
From: Barry Jones

Hi, the Payson Rimstones Rock Club INC just took over the October Field Trip responsibility. As a result we are going to have the trip on Oct 1, 2001 rather than the end of the month. Next year we will be back on schedule.

The field trip will consist of shopping at Grey's Corner in Holbrook and then fee collecting at the Dolbell Ranch. The field trip is outlined below:

Oct 1st: We will leave the north side of Taco Bell in Payson at 7:00 A.M. and carpool to Grey's Corner Rock Shop in Holbrook. Taco Bell is at the corner of Hwy 260 and 87 on the north side in the Basha's shopping center. We will meet Steve Sundra at Grey's corner at 9:00 A.M. and after looking at Museum quality rocks, we will follow Steve to the Dolbell Ranch where for \$28, we can collect a 5-gallon bucket of petrified wood. Bring a lunch, water, hat, tools and a 5-gallon bucket for collecting. Please contact Steve Sundra. if you have questions at (928) 478- 4605. If you wish to meet at Holbrook Grey's Corner Rock Shop, please show up by 9:00 A.M. The shop is located on Hwy 77 south of Holbrook at Hwy 377 junction.

Barry Jones
Payson Rimstones Rock Club, Inc.



WIRE WRAP by JOANNE
Contact No.: 602-332-3685
Class every third Saturday

@ Qdoba Mexican Grill
Located at 7th St. & Glendale Ave.
11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Some wire wrap tools
& materials required
(Flat & round nose pliers,
Cabochons, Cutting nippers,
Square & half round wires)
Sterling Silver wire is expensive;
you might want to
start with Red Brass.

***Please buy lunch
in the restaurant.***

Rockhound Poem

By Adin Van Wine

Climbing over rocks and crags,
Putting rocks in pockets and bags,
Walking in mud till each foot weighs a ton,
Getting wet and calling it fun.
Hiking miles through brush and vines,
To hunt the dumps of abandoned mines,
Looking in holes and gravel pits,
Cracking big rocks into little bits,
Doing all this may take some guts.
But these are the reasons they call us nuts.

***Reprinted from the August 2011 Rock Chips
via The Glacial Drifter - July 2011***



Home-grown
Alum Crystals



Staci
catzyl@gmail.com

**WELCOME BACK!
RETURNING MEMBER!**

Tom Cunningham
Sun City, AZ
Re-Joined September 2011

ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWLETTER!
\$25/Year - MSA Members
\$35 - Non-Members

Contact: Lois Splendoria
chimes30@q.com

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Columbus Day
Monday
October 10, 2011

Old Prospector

An old prospector shuffled into the town of El Indio, Texas, leading an old tired mule. The old man headed straight for the only saloon in town, to clear his parched throat. He walked up to the saloon and tied his old mule to the hitch rail.

As he stood there, brushing some of the dust from his face and clothes, a young gunslinger stepped out of the saloon with a gun in one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other.

The young gunslinger looked at the old man and laughed, saying, "Hey old man, have you ever danced?"

The old man looked up at the gunslinger and said, "No, I never did dance ... Never really wanted to."

A crowd had gathered as the gunslinger grinned and said, "Well, you old fool, you're gonna dance now," and started shooting at the old man's feet.

The old prospector, not wanting to get a toe blown off, started hopping around like a flea on a hot skillet. Everybody was laughing, fit to be tied. When his last bullet had been fired, the young gunslinger, still laughing, holstered his gun and turned around to go back into the saloon.

The old man turned to his pack mule, pulled out a double-barreled shotgun, and cocked both hammers. The loud clicks carried clearly through the desert air. The crowd stopped laughing immediately. The young gunslinger heard the sounds too, and he turned around very slowly.

The silence was almost deafening.

The crowd watched as the young gunman stared at the old timer and the large gaping holes of those twin 10 gauge barrels. The barrels of the shotgun never wavered in the old man's hands, as he quietly said, "Son, have you ever kissed a mule's Ass?"

The gunslinger swallowed hard and said, "No sir ... But...I've always wanted to."

There are a few lessons for us all here:

Never be arrogant.

Don't waste ammunition.

Whiskey makes you think you're smarter than you are.

Always, always make sure you know who has the power.

Don't mess with old folks, they didn't get old by being stupid.

From the June 2011 RockCollector

Via Strata Data, 6/11

LOIS SPLENDORIA
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ARIZONA
2922 West Claremont
Phoenix, AZ 85017-1629

Address Correction Requested



EXCHANGE EDITORS: Please e-mail newsletters in PDF format to:
Lois Splendoria (chimes30@q.com)
Paper newsletters should be sent to the return address listed above.

First Class Mail

Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Founded 1935
A Non Profit Organization
www.mineralogicalsocietyarizona.org

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. *on the second Thursday of the month, September through June, at the Church of the Beatitudes, 555 West Glendale Avenue, Phoenix, AZ, 85021.*

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

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