

The Rockhound Record

Mineralogical Society of Arizona

www.mineralogicalsocietyarizona.org



CHRISTMAS PARTY -THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.

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

Our party will be on Dec. 8th (our regular meeting night). It will be a potluck. We will eat at 7:00 p.m., but we will be there to set up and receive food at 6:00 p.m. Following is the list of members bringing food. If your name isn't on the list and you want to attend, please bring something to the party that isn't already listed. - Thanks, Betty Deming, 602-242-1553

1. Bob & Joyce Hendrix - macaroni salad & a cake
2. Julie Massey - sweet potato casserole
3. Terry & Lynne Dyer - au gratin potatoes
4. Dave Lay - dinner rolls & butter
5. Chuck Krog - fruit
6. Frank Burns & Sam - turkey & chocolate pies
7. Betty Deming - cornbread stuffing; plates, cups, napkins, silverware; & desert dishes
8. Ed Nichols & Maria - assorted fruit & cranberries
9. Mary Parsons & Alexis - ham & ice
10. Jonnene Alders - green bean casserole
11. Shirley Fiske - drinks
12. Al Tomas - dessert
13. Chris Whitney-Smith - apple pie
14. Joanne Hesterman - chili, bowls & spoons
15. Staci Rolfe - ice for drinks & container
16. Mary & Dave Bishop - pickles, olives & pumpkin pie

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE THE KITCHEN AT THE CHURCH THAT NIGHT BECAUSE ANOTHER GROUP ALREADY HAS IT RESERVED.

There will be a signup sheet for the Flagg Show volunteers. Also, if you have rocks/minerals for the show, please bring them to the party or to the show.

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



**Barite & Fluorite
Old Fluorspar Mine
Collected by Dave Lay
On October 29, 2011, Field Trip
The Find of the Day!**

Picture by Chris Whitney-Smith

2012 OFFICERS ARE PENDING FOR SALE!



MSA DISPLAY CASES

GREAT BUY!

PRICE:

\$10 EACH - MSA MEMBERS

\$15 EACH - NON-MEMBERS

CONTACT:

Ed Nichols

(480) 636-1251

epidote555@yahoo.com

ARIZONA MINERAL COLLECTOR NUMBER 143



By Dr. Raymond Grant

To take a break from minerals, I thought I would tell you about some of the creatures that I have found in mines. Of course, one of the most common are rattlesnakes. I always throw some rocks in a mine tunnel or bang around with a stick to see what response there is before going inside, and many times there is a rattle. Once my friend Dan Helm and I were exploring south of Superior, and we looked in every tunnel we found and did not find much. At one of them, the usual throwing in some rocks brought about a dozen or more rattles from across the whole tunnel. We did not go in that one! Was it the one with big crystals? At the Rawhide mine one time there was a very aggressive snake. He/she rattled but would not move away from the entrance. I don't kill snakes, or mess with them. Fortunately, there is a second entrance to the Rawhide, not as easy, but I used it to get into the mine. After several hours of collecting, a check of the easier entrance showed the rattler still blocking the entrance as stubborn as ever, so out the harder way.

When you go in a tunnel and see eyes reflecting your light, it can be scary. In a few tunnels, I have found javelina this way and always made a hasty retreat. At the Olsen (Black Prince) mine that produced small red vanadinites on white calcite there was a resident ring-tailed cat.

One time going down the inclined shaft at the Rowley mine, something flew out and hit my shoulder. It really scared me. It was a large owl. Another collector told me that the owl gave him a scare also.

Of course, there are bats, lots of bats. Besides eating insects, bats have done a good thing. They keep mines from being permanently closed. Many abandoned mines like the Grandview in the Grand Canyon would be closed by the government by blasting the entrances shut, meaning access would be gone. But because of the bats, steel gates are put on so the bats can get in and out, and if needed collectors can get in, too. Maybe in the future I'll tell about some of the interesting humans I met at mines.

**PHOENIX AREA'S
LARGEST GEM AND
MINERAL SHOW
40th FLAGG GEM AND
MINERAL SHOW
(JEWELRY, GEMS,
BEADS, FOSSILS, MINERALS,
AND LAPIDARY SUPPLIES)**



**FREE PARKING
FREE ADMISSION
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY
JANUARY 6, 7, and 8, 2012
9 A.M. TO 5 P.M. EACH DAY**

A GREAT FAMILY EVENT

**FREE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN
(SUCH AS DIG FOR FOSSILS)**

**FREE MINERAL SAMPLES FOR
CHILDREN AND TEACHERS**

**BOOTHS BY LOCAL MINERAL
AND LAPIDARY CLUBS AND
THE SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN
LOST DUTCHMAN MUSEUM**

**EXHIBITS AND SPECIAL
FLUORESCENT DISPLAY
PERALTA STONES**

**LOTS OF DEALERS SELLING
JEWELRY, BEADS, MINERALS,
FOSSILS, ROCKS**

**MESA COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
WEST PARKING LOT
DOBSON ROAD NORTH OF
THE SUPERSTITION
FREEWAY (ROUTE 60)
MESA, ARIZONA**



Go to www.flaggshow.info
for more information
and directions

Sponsored By



WANTED!

Mineral Specimens for Rock Roulette Wheel

The club needs mineral materials to use on the Rock Roulette Wheel at the Flagg Show on January 6 through 8, 2012 (Friday, Saturday, & Sunday). This show will take place before our January 12, 2012, meeting.

If you would like to donate some material, you are welcome to bring it to the Christmas party on Thursday, December 8, 2011, or bring it to the Flagg Show with you. If you have questions, please call Betty Deming at 602-242-1553. Your donations will be very much appreciated.



WANTED!

Volunteers to Work at the Flagg Gem and Mineral Show

The MSA will once again participate in the Flagg Gem and Mineral Show scheduled for January 6 through 8, 2012, and will be hosting a booth where we will have our Rock Roulette Wheel. Volunteers are needed to man the booth for two-hour shifts, if possible, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There will be a signup sheet at the Christmas party.

COALITION FIELD TRIP

BUCKSKIN MOUNTAINS - BOUSE, ARIZONA

HOSTED BY: VERDE RIVER ROCKHOUNDS OF COTTONWOOD, AZ

DATES: Saturday, December 31, 2011, and Sunday, January 1, 2012

MEETING PLACE(S) AND TIMES - For both days, meeting time is 8:30 a.m. Meeting place is at Midway, which is about 15 miles north of Bouse. From the intersection of Main & RT 72 in Bouse, turn east on Main, cross the RR tracks, drive .25 mile to Rayder Rd, turn left on Rayder which soon becomes Swansea Rd. and go 2.2 miles to a fork. Bear left (NE) and drive 10.5 miles to Midway, intersection of Swansea, Lincoln-Ranch and Transmission Line roads.

DIRECTIONS TO BOUSE, ARIZONA - It is 200 miles to Bouse from Cottonwood, or about 130 miles from Phoenix. If you are coming from Cottonwood, allow about 4 hours driving time to the meeting place. Take Hwy 89A from Cottonwood to Prescott Valley all the way to the intersection with Hwy 89. Continue south on Hwy 89 all the way through Prescott, Kirkland Junction, Yarnell and Congress. At Congress, turn right (SW) onto SR 71 which will go under Hwy 93 in a few miles and continue on to intersect with U.S. 60 at Aguila. Go west on U.S. 60 through Gladden, Wenden, Salome & Hope. At Hope, turn right onto SR 72 and proceed about 20 miles to Bouse. From any other location, consult a good map or use MapQuest.

VEHICLE REQUIRED - Passenger cars can make it to the meeting place, but high-clearance, 4WD vehicles will be required to get to the collecting sites. Should you need to switch to another vehicle, we can usually find space somewhere for you.

GENERAL ITINERARY - Ellen and I will be staying in our travel trailer at Midway. We will be parked in a big, flat camping area at Midway (you can't miss it). You are welcome to join us for camping out there Friday & Saturday nights. Both days we will meet at Midway and collect at several sites near Midway as well as sites SW of Bouse along the Plomosa Rd. After Sunday Ellen and I will move down to Quartzsite where we will spend a couple of days at the various shows. It's a little early at some venues, but there should be a lot to look at (and buy). So you can plan on a one or two-day outing, but if you plan for Saturday or Sunday only, you will have to get up **really early** to meet us at 8:30 a.m.

(Continued on Page 7)

COALITION FIELD TRIP

(Continued from Page 6)

NOTE: * NEW YEAR'S EVE ***** - For Saturday evening, bring some bubbly to celebrate if you like, but **please do not bring any fireworks**. The authorities may take a dim view of such activity what with all of the drought and fire restrictions in effect. Let's have a Potluck - everyone bring an item, picnic-style to share with others. It can be a drink, an entrée, a vegetable or dessert, enough to serve 4-5 people. We will have a group campfire to gather around, but don't be surprised if we don't make it all the way to midnight to celebrate!

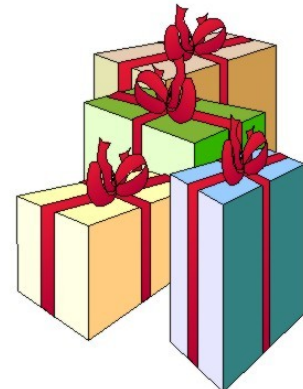
MOTELS IN THE AREA - Bouse, AZ - Ocotilla Lodge, 928-851-2219, \$36.75/night; Salome, AZ - Sheffler Motel, 928-859-3001

WHAT TO COLLECT (WE'RE FINALLY GETTING TO THE GOOD PART) -

The Buckskin Mountains and surrounding area are honeycombed with old mines and prospect holes, mostly from people looking for gold and silver over the last 150 years. Most of the mines follow fairly rich copper deposits, but there was not much money in the copper itself. A list of the minerals we will collect include chrysocolla, malachite, jarosite, gypsum, hematite, barite, augite and epidote.

WHAT TO BRING - Gloves, eye protection, rock hammer, sledges, chisels and digging tools(for the energetic treasure hunters), water, lunch and appropriate clothing. Daytime temperatures should be around 80° and nighttime around 50°.

TRIP LEADER - JIM VAN WERT - 928-649-1938, 928-202-2177 (cell), jerockshop@gmail.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First off, I want to say to everyone, MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR! This is my last message as president of MSA, and I want to say that it has been an honor to work with and for MSA during the last two years as its president. I hope that some new people with fresh ideas will be stepping forward to run for the office of president and vice president. It is wrong for one person to hold two officer roles for the club at one time.

I want to thank all those that supported the club and the officers for the past two years. It is important that each new set of officers improve the club and its functions each year, and to leave it in better shape for the next group of officers that take over.

When a person takes office, they have to put aside their personal agenda and work to make the club better. And the outgoing officers have to be ready to assist the new incoming officers with advice and help when needed. We outgoing officers should be always available to the new incoming group to make their term in office as easy as possible. We should always be moving forward. It is important that the club is always improving. The board should look at upgrading the by-laws governing the club at least every five years, or at least looking at them and seeing if they can be improved.

Again, I want to say thanks to those on the governing board and the members of the club for the two years I served as your president. Let's move forward and upward with the club this year.

Roger Deming

2011 Officers and Committees

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BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Lynne Dyer
Terry Dyer
Bob Holm
David Lay

Peace On Earth



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.***

**WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS!**

*John & Lucy Casey
Phoenix, AZ*

*Chloe Main
Julie Massey's Daughter
Scottsdale, AZ*

Joined November 2011

Home-grown
Alum Crystals



Staci
catzy1@gmail.com

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Happy
New
Year!

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

Address Correction Requested



EXCHANGE
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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
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Phoenix, AZ 85017-1629

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