

**MDGMS Officers
2018**

Desert Diggings

Club Objectives:

To collect and study minerals and rock.

To disseminate a general knowledge of the science of mineralogy and allied subjects.

To provide opportunity for the exhibition and exchange of specimens.

Geology is the art of earths storytelling...



President: Danny Watts

Vice-President: Scott Stevenson

Treasurer: Judy Livingston

Secretary: La Vella Tomlinson

Board of Directors

Bill Johnson

Janna Johnson

Joe Sumners

Toni Pizzo

John Printz

Past Pres.: Vivian Watts

Editors:

Wayne Mallon

La Vella Tomlinson

Lana Heller-Wood



Happy Birthday!

Bill Tomlinson

July 2nd

. Annual Membership Dues

Adults: \$ 20.00

Juniors: \$ 10.00 (10-18 yr)

Club business meeting : 1st Friday of the month: 7:00 PM

Workshop: 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Fridays of the month 6:30 PM

Location: 25647 W. Main St Barstow, Ca 92311

Rock of the Month

Petrified Wood

Petrified wood (from the Greek root petro meaning "rock" or "stone"; literally "wood turned into stone") is the name given to a special type of fossilized remains of terrestrial vegetation. It is the result of a tree or tree-like plants having completely transitioned to stone by the process of per mineralization. All the organic materials have been replaced with inorganic minerals (mostly a silicate, such as quartz), while retaining the original structure of the stem tissue. Unlike other types of fossils which are typically impressions or compressions, petrified wood is a three-dimensional representation of the original organic material.

The petrification process occurs underground, when wood becomes buried under sediment or volcanic ash and is initially preserved due to a anaerobic environment(an environment that lacks oxygen), which inhibits aerobic decomposition. Mineral-laden water flowing through the covering material deposits minerals in the plant's cells; as the plant's lignin and cellulose decay, a stone mold forms in its place. The organic matter needs to become petrified before it decomposes completely. The process lasts millions of years. A forest where such material has petrified becomes known as a petrified forest.

Elements such as manganese, iron, and copper in the water/mud during the petrification process give petrified wood a variety of color ranges. Pure quartz crystals are colorless, but when contaminants are added to

the process the crystals take on a yellow, red, or another tint.

Following is a list of contaminating elements and related color hues:

- carbon – black
- chromium – green/blue
- cobalt – green/blue
- copper – green/blue
- iron oxides – red, brown, and yellow
- manganese – pink/orange
- manganese oxides – blackish/yellow

Petrified wood can preserve the original structure of the stem in all its detail, down to the microscopic level. Structures such as tree rings and the various tissues are often observed features.

Petrified wood can be found all around the world; some of the most popular places in the United States include:

- Petrified Wood Park in Lemmon, South Dakota
- Ginkgo/Wanapum State Park in Washington state
- Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona
- Petrified Forest (California) in California
- Mississippi Petrified Forest in Flora, Mississippi
- Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument near Florissant, Colorado
- Yellowstone Petrified Forest and Gallatin Petrified Forest, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming
- The south unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park outside Medora, North Dakota
- Gilboa Fossil Forest, New York
- Escalante Petrified Forest State Park in Utah



- Agate Desert in the Upper Rogue River

Valley near Medford, Oregon

General meeting Minutes

At 6pm Danny Watts, president, welcomed everyone to our June meeting & annual potluck.

All stood for the "Pledge of Allegiance"

Business was brief; the minutes for the May meeting were approved as written in the newsletter.

. Sandy Wagner gave the Blessing. Everyone started with the delicious food. Rob Stapp, once again; cooked delicious barbecue Mmm Good tri-tip roast and chicken. Thank you- There was a wonderful variety of potluck dishes brought in by those attending. Thank you-

- Terese Carlson donated a hundred of grab bags for the December Mineral & Gem show. All beautiful child novelty prints and more of her famous dragon bags. Thank you, Terese.
- Lana Heller-Wood brought in more rocks that her sister Mara Heller painted for the wheel of fortune. "They didn't qualify for the Ugly Rock contest" Thank you-

The Ugly Rock contest was more unusual than ugly (are any rocks ugly to a rockhound??) — however a truly unique rock won. Lana Heller-Wood created a granite face using strategic placed tumbled stones for lips, nose, eyes—looked a bit like an Easter Island statue and was certainly deserving of first place and a prize win of Mexican geodes donated by Bill Tomlinson.



Next was the Silent Auction. Danny & Vivian Watts donated fluorescent rocks found on their recent vacation to Nevada and Utah. Lights went off while Danny used a black light to show the purple of Fluorite, red of Calcite, yellow of Barite, green of agate — all in the same rock. There were also two tables of agates & slabs up for auction.

A great time was had by all.

Respectively submitted, La Vella Tomlinson, secretary.

Name: _____

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petrified wood

M	L	B	E	S	R	Q	D	E	E	A	E	D	L	O	O	T	A	H	Y	FOSSILIZED
V	F	N	Q	N	R	O	C	R	W	E	R	I	O	I	Z	E	N	K	U	TERRESTRIAL
U	C	A	L	M	H	O	G	R	P	H	Z	I	D	Q	S	J	A	O	B	PETRIFACTION
Z	A	W	B	V	E	F	H	F	E	B	D	W	N	E	G	L	E	A	T	UNDERGROUND
D	G	H	C	M	P	P	D	B	T	R	Z	I	N	G	G	H	R	U	A	MANGANESE
W	X	G	F	Y	U	X	Q	J	R	I	N	A	S	U	S	H	O	D	F	IRON
C	A	R	B	O	N	Q	B	U	I	V	G	S	L	A	J	E	B	L	V	COPPER
E	Q	F	W	A	S	S	V	H	F	N	G	A	U	L	G	F	I	F	D	VOLCANIC
Q	U	T	S	B	E	S	R	K	A	U	I	K	A	K	C	K	C	U	O	ASH
Q	V	V	E	Z	U	H	I	M	C	R	V	O	L	C	A	N	I	C	U	ANAEROBIC
A	X	K	G	Q	O	P	X	L	T	B	S	T	B	O	J	Z	D	A	N	CARBON
A	G	I	C	K	P	U	M	S	I	N	O	R	H	G	C	E	T	J	D	TREE
A	A	Z	X	U	I	A	E	Y	O	Z	L	E	V	E	U	U	D	G	E	RINGS
S	I	F	L	O	T	R	H	I	N	D	E	E	C	C	O	P	P	E	R	MILLIONS
I	H	N	H	S	R	F	L	R	U	U	B	D	Q	B	C	X	Y	P	G	
T	L	O	F	E	L	L	B	O	U	B	N	Y	W	N	D	T	J	Z	R	
A	I	D	T	B	I	O	S	N	G	Q	A	N	H	O	Y	X	Y	Q	O	
D	F	W	X	M	C	N	V	E	Q	Z	Y	L	B	J	S	B	D	H	U	
B	G	A	R	F	L	Z	F	O	F	Q	G	Z	C	H	E	H	E	F	N	
I	S	C	Z	I	P	W	F	J	I	L	Z	C	S	B	B	X	E	R	D	



CFMS Field Trip –

North Field Trip to Davis Creek/Lassen Creek

July 26 – 29, 2018 Hosted by Contra Costa M&GS

Davis Creek is the premier obsidian collecting area in California with an abundance of a great variety of beautiful obsidian. This area is located on Buck Mt. in the heart of the Modoc National Forest. The altitude ranges from 5000 to 7000 feet. A free permit is required for collecting which will be available at camp. Please notify by 7/23/18 if you plan to attend, call if you have questions or need more information:

Dick Pankey

Email: dickpankey@juno.com (preferred)

Ph. 925-439-7509

For our younger Rockhounds

www.diamonddanpublications.net

Invitation: 3 month FREE trial of Mini Miners

Monthly, the only monthly publication for young rock, mineral and fossil collectors.

email us at powellpublicationsgroup@gmail.com and we'll add you to the list!

(This is 18 pages of fun facts, activities and puzzles for kids of all ages to enjoy)



Attention all **Rockhounds**

➤ The daily Temperature has been getting hotter; so please make sure to have plenty of water and an umbrella for shade if you must explore. Also never travel alone. Its best to stay in doors between Noon and 5pm



- Safety should always come first while out collecting
 - Safe collecting rockhounds and explorers.

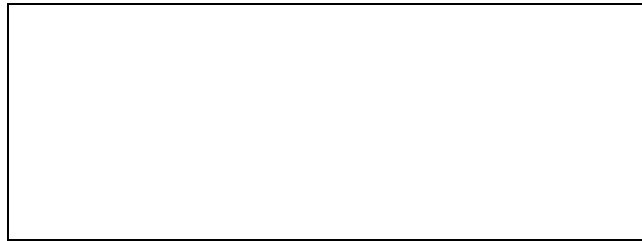
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Newsletter



Desert Diggings

