

DESERT

Club Objectives

To Collect and study minerals and rocks. To disseminate a general knowledge of the science of mineralogy and allied subjects. To provide opportunity for the exhibition and exchange of specimens.

Meetings and Workshops

Meetings: 1st Friday, 7:00PM

Workshops: 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Fridays, 6:30PM.

Location: 25647 W. Main St., corner of Western & Main, Lenwood/Barstow.

MDGMS Officers 2018

President:

Danny Watts

Vice-President:

Scott Stevenson

Treasurer:

Judy Livingston

Secretary:

La Vella Tomlinson

Board of Directors 2018

Bill Johnson

Joe Sumners

Janna Johnson

Toni Pizzo

John Printz

Past President:

Vivian Watts

Editors: Wayne Mallom

La Vella Tomlinson

Lana Heller-Wood

DIGGINS

Gem & Mineral Show 2017



Nicolette Grill displays her unique collection with the eye of a geologist, rock hound and lapidary artist. Her hearts are in the display box, left corner.



Vivian Watts & Lana Heller-Wood brought their lapidary hearts to share at the February meeting.

ROCK OF THE MONTH — BERYL

Ireland, the Emerald Isle ~ leprechauns, rainbows with pots of gold, fields of lucky clovers, and dancing a jig. A beautiful land with lush green countryside and Emeralds and Aquamarines, both Beryls.

Beryl is a mineral composed of beryllium aluminum cyclosilicate, hexagonal crystals that can be up to several meters in size. Pure Beryl is colorless, but tinted with impurities can be green,

blue, yellow, red & white ~ creating Emeralds, Aquamarines, Morganite, Red Beryl, Heliodore and Goshenite.

Beryl is found most commonly in granitic pegmatites, but also occurs in mica schists in the Ural Mountains, & limestones in Colombia. Beryl is found all over the world; in the United States beryl locations are in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Maine, North Carolina, South Dakota, Utah and New Hampshire — where it is the state mineral.

Aquamarine is the blue, blue-green beryl, colored by trace amounts of iron.



Emerald is green beryl, colored by trace amounts of chromium and sometimes Vanadium.

Golden Beryl can range in colors from pale yellow to a brilliant gold. Heliodor has the greenish-yellow shades of beryl.

Colorless Beryl is called Goshenite. It was originally found in Goshen, Massachusetts. The lenses of eyeglasses made in 13th century Italy used clear Beryl, as glass could not be made clear enough. Today Beryl is used as a gemstone & a source of Beryllium.

Morganite, also known as Pink Beryl, Rose Beryl, Pink Emerald, or Casein Beryl, is a rare light pink to rose colored gem quality variety of Beryl.

Red Beryl, the rarest form, marketed as Red Emerald or Scarlet Emerald, was first described in 1904 for its type locality & occurrence at Maynard's Claim (Pismire Knolls), Thomas Range, Juab County, Utah. Red Beryl was first called ' Bixbite ', but the name was changed because of confusion with the mineral Bixbyite (both were named after the mineralogist Maynard Bixby).

While gem Beryls are ordinarily found in pegmatites and certain metamorphic stones, Red Beryl occurs in Topaz bearing Rhyolites. Associated minerals include Bixbyite, Quartz, Orthoclase, Topaz, Spessartine, Pseudobrookite and Hematite.

*******ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE*******

Annual Membership Dues

Adults - \$20.00; Juniors - \$10.00

OUR MARCH HAPPY BIRTHDAY

13TH GREG WAGNER

General Meeting Minutes — Feb 2, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by president Danny Watts, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Guests & New Members: Cindy Skjerve and daughter Keera - Cindy is a geology major & plans to come to the workshops too. John Hill, a past member is back - he came to last Friday's workshop and shared his black jade from the Stoddard Valley.

Workshop: Danny thanked Scott Stevenson and Leslie Walker for instructing the workshops on the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Fridays. Club members are improving their lapidary skills with the help of Leslie & Scott. Leslie brought a box of findings donated by Regina Oxley to make pendants, bolos, belt buckles & bracelets. Leslie is going to set it up so that club members can purchase them to finish their workshop projects and to make items for prizes at our Gem & Mineral show. Leslie volunteered to write the thank you letter to Regina Oxley.

Hostess: Delicious refreshments were brought by Vivian Watts, Chieko and John Printz. Chieko brought a special cake to celebrate the February birthdays and Vivian brought her traditional Valentine chocolate dipped strawberries. Donna Patterson's 93rd birthday is on February 20th (missed the February birthday list).

Program: Tales from the Rockhounds

Danny told of his new find on the way to Quartzite on Hwy 62. He noticed green rocks beside the road near the Iron Mountain Aquaduct Water Pump Station. He turned around to check them out ~ beautiful green marble, serpentine & a bit of quartz, which were being used for rip-rap along the washes. CHP stopped to ask Danny if he was geocaching; CHP had no problem with picking up rocks instead. Danny spoke with a security guard at the Iron Mt. gate who remembered that they came from a quarry at Eagle Mountain mine. Danny checked other washes along this part of Hwy 62 and found similar rock. Danny's regret was that he couldn't bring home his favorite green 6 foot boulder! Danny brought his new find to the workshop to share.

Carlos Avila told about their trip to the fee collecting Tourmaline Mines. Mayra found what looked to be a black tourmaline crystal, but at home discovered it to be a deep purple. Carlos has a heart cab on the cab of the month table made from a heart shaped rock found and polished.

Danny told about his search for the Missing Broken Glass Mine, which he did find. The glass is a thick aqua which he tumbled. Says it is an Ocean Desert (well, at one time the desert was an ocean) environmental cleanup!



A very nice selection of Rock of the Month Paul Bunyan agate & other plume agates was shared. Lana Heller-Wood brought 2 large Paul Bunyan hearts that she has been making at workshop. Danny brought a Paul Bunyan Sphere. And then he shared the Rockhound's Secret: When everyone says the site is depleted, walk farther, dig deeper, & remember that rain uncovers good rocks. Danny & Bill Johnson both brought Paul Bunyan chunks found just this way. Both Danny & Bill brought different plume agates: from the south Cady Mountains found last weekend, Wingate Pass plume from Death Valley, Priday Plume in a Thunder Egg, Sage Plume, Graveyard Plume, Feather River Plume.

LaVella brought a Magic Garden that grows mineral salt plumes just as the plume agates do. A specimen of Bill Depue's Magic Forest agate from north Cady Mts, shows the plumes that were not completely covered by agate in the final stage. Bill Tomlinson his never to be cut, red jasper & chalcedony from the south Cady Mts, that was also a ventifact having been polished during hundreds of sand storms. Tricia Sheppard brought her crystal and gemstone trees that sit on her windowsill. Vivian brought her heart collection. She is especially proud of her large calcite & fluorite heart that she made from calcite collected in the Panamint Valley. This is also the same calcite that she collected 600 pieces to donate for the grab bags.

Which reminds everyone to collect small rocks that can be labeled for the grab bags. Remember that you don't need to collect 600 to help make a dent in the 4200 rocks needed for Grab Bags. Danny reminds us that now is the time to start working on our 2018 Gem & Mineral Show! Plans are coming up for workshops to make rock prizes for the Wheel of Fortune, painted rocks, gem trees, sewing grab bags, labeling grab bag rocks, and hopefully wire-wrapping again. Any ideas? Volunteers? Check the bulletin board — sign up for Hostess. The club will reimburse up to \$35 for refreshments. Sign up for donating door prizes.

Door Prizes: Bill & Janna Johnson gifted the door prizes tonight. Bill brought 5 gallon bucket of jasper & agate that they found last weekend in the Cady Mts. Everyone got to choose a rock from the bucket. He also brought the mysterious brown bags for the door prizes. Lucky winners were Carlos Avila, Linda Hensley, Keera Skjeeve, Tricia Sheppard, Judy Livingston, John Hill, Bill Tomlinson & John Printz.

Business: Danny reminds that it is time for the 2018 MDGMS club dues. Judy Livingston, treasurer, is collecting the dues tonight.



Danny reminds that there will need to be work days to unload & repack Gem Show supplies from the MDGMS Gem show trailer & to do some maintenance repairs to the trailer.

Treasurer Report: Judy Livingston reports the second semester scholarship payment for Ludymar Chester. She has had a 4.0 GPA this year.

<<Ludymar Chester, one of our scholarship recipients.

Field Trip Report: Bill Johnson announced that he is leading a field trip to Lavic Siding on Feb 24th. Later in the day they will go to some 4Xdrive collecting sites in the south Cady Mountains. Bill reports that the monthly field trips will be announced in the MDGMS Facebook site—members need to check there for information. Bill Johnson volunteers as the Facebook editor. John Printz reported that Ceci Kawasaki needs Jasper to use for gem tree bases for the Gem Show. [Editor's Note - I checked with Ceci; she plans to go on the Lavic Field trip and collect the Jasper she needs. She is planning on 88 smaller trees for the Wheel of Fortune and 35 larger trees for the display cases. She will let us know if she needs more jasper bases and if she needs help making the trees. If you received one of Ceci's trees this year, take a second look. Ceci has used several large rolls of copper wire & bags of gem stones in the beautiful trees she has made in the last 3 years. Thank you Ceci, for the work that you do to make our Gem & Mineral show fun and successful.]

Trisha Sheppard has also volunteered to help members learn to make gem trees. Cab of the Month: Janna Johnson won Cab of the Month with her #9 Wingate Plume Agate cab. The other beautiful cabs were #1 Smoky Quartz & #2 Paul Bunyan Plume agate - both by Lana Heller-Wood & both made at workshop. #11 Heart cab made by Carlos Avila from a heart shaped rock that he found & polished up to even more beauty. #7 Moss & tube agate cab found & polished by Danny Watts & #8 a petrified palm cab also made by Danny Watts.

The meeting was adjourned by president Danny Watts at 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

La Vella Tomlinson, MDGMS Secretary.

2017 Gem & Mineral Show Report: Bill Johnson made the post show report to the Barstow City Council on February 20th, a requirement of the grant MDGMS was awarded to use the Cora Harper Fitness Center for our Gem & Mineral show. Bill did a great presentation that not only thanked the City, but also let many know about our activities - remember that the meeting was televised. Thank you Bill. And thank you Judy Livingston for the work you did to obtain this grant from the City of Barstow. This grant also allowed us to continue to award the MDGMS scholarships.

MDGMS Contact & Information

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety

Web Site: www.mdgms.net

Email: mdgms.contact@gmail.com

SHOWS: Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club Tailgate, March 9-11th. Outdoors with a variety of vendors & tailgaters, camping is free. Sat 9am-1pm field trip for marble- Antique Verde & Tri-Colored. Black Jade is also from this area. From Barstow go I-15 & exit Dale Evans Parkway. Go to Stoddard Wells Road, turn left/east about 6 miles on graded dirt road. Follow the green & gold "Tailgate" signs. Please see map & flier at club website: www.vvgmc.org. Not to be missed - Everything is there.

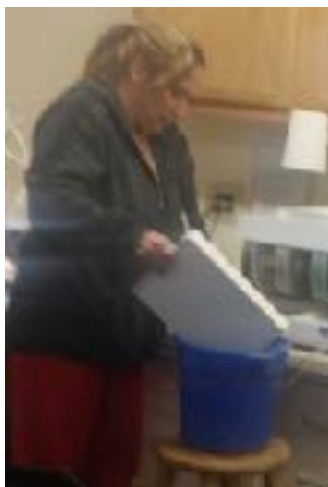
March 3-4th Ventura Gem & Mineral Society, Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd; 50th annual show. www.vgms.org

March 3-4th South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, Ken Miller Rec. Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd, Torrance, CA. southbaylapidaryandmineralsociety.com

March 10-11 Pasadena Lapidary Society, Annual Show: San Marino Masonic Center, 3130 Huntington Dr, San Marino, CA. www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org

Workshop has been busy.....

Leslie Walker, Sofia, Scott Stevenson, La Vella & Bill Tomlinson, John Hill, Josh Pickett, Chloe Fortenberry, Bill Depue, Sawyer Schonne, Toni Pizzo, John Pickett, Liam Fortenberry, Lana Heller-Wood.



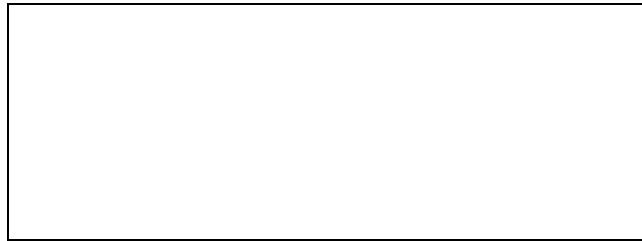
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Newsletter



Desert Diggings

