

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

Editors: Leslie Walker, La Vella Tomlinson, Wayne Mallon

May 2017

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MDGMS Officers 2017

President: **Danny Watts**
Vice-President: **Scott Stevenson**
Treasurer: **Judy Livingston**
Secretary: **La Vella Tomlinson**

Board of Directors

Bill Johnson
Janna Johnson
Joe Sumners
Tony Pizzo
John Printz
Past Pres. **Vivian Watts**

Annual Membership Dues

Adults: \$ 20.00
Juniors: \$ 10.00 (10-18 yr)

Meetings / Workshops

Meetings: 1st Friday 7:00 PM
Workshop: 3rd Friday 6:30 PM
Location: 25647 W. Main St
Barstow, Ca 92311

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.

facebook —

www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety

web site — www.mdgms.net

email — mdgms.contact@gmail.com

SHOW DATES

May 5 - 7: YUCAIPA, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Yucaipa Music & Arts Festival
Yucaipa Blvd and Adams Street
Hours: Fri 6 - 9; Sat 12 - 10, Sun 12 - 6
Contact: Lee Peterson, (909) 794-0731
Website: www.yvgms.org

May 6 - 7: JACKSON, CA

Amador County Gem & Mineral Society
Kennedy Mine Hours: 10 - 4 daily
12594 Kennedy Mine Rd (off Hwy 49/88)
Contact: Gaylene Lichty, (209) 245-5388
Email: mountaingirl@volcano.net
Website: amadorgemandmineral.org

May 6 - 7, 2017: RENO, NV

Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Reno Livestock Event Center
1350 North Wells Ave. Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Daniel Ellis, (775) 359-6068
Email: sailondan55@aol.com
Website: www.renorockhounds.com

May 6 - 7: ANAHEIM, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4:30
Contact: Margaret Hogarth, 909 815-3045
Email: hogarth.m@gmail.com
Website: www.searchersrocks.org

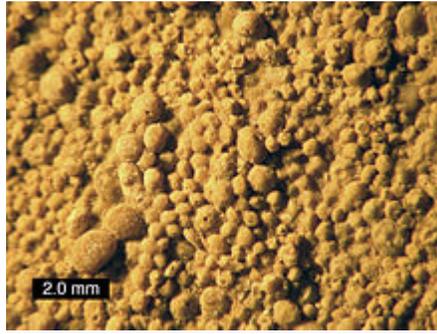
Happy Birthday

Judy Livingston	2 nd
Martin Baum	12 th
Charles Toles	12 th
Wayne Mallon	23 rd
Leslie Walker	28 th

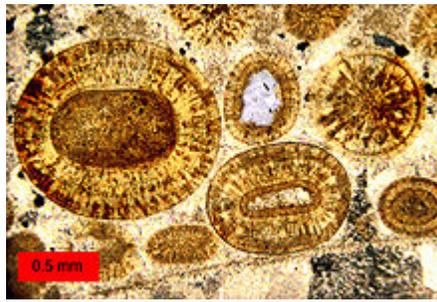


Rock of the month . **Oolite**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Ooids on the surface of a limestone; Carmel Formation (Middle Jurassic) of southern Utah



Thin-section of calcitic ooids from an oolite within the [Carmel Formation](#)

Oolite or **oölite** (*egg stone*) is a [sedimentary rock](#) formed from [ooids](#), spherical grains composed of concentric layers. The name derives from the [Ancient Greek](#) word *ὄον* for [egg](#). Strictly, oolites consist of ooids of diameter 0.25–2 mm; [rocks](#) composed of ooids larger than 2 mm are called [pisolites](#). The term *oolith* can refer to oolite or individual ooids.

Composition: Ooids are most commonly composed of [calcium carbonate](#) ([calcite](#) or [aragonite](#)), but can be composed of phosphate, clays, [chert](#), [dolomite](#) or [iron](#) minerals, including [hematite](#). Dolomitic and chert ooids are most likely the result of the replacement of the original texture in limestone. Oolitic hematite occurs at [Red Mountain](#) near [Birmingham, Alabama](#), along with oolitic limestone.

They are usually formed in warm, supersaturated, shallow, highly agitated marine water intertidal environments, though some are formed in inland lakes. The mechanism of formation starts with a small fragment of sediment acting as a 'seed', e.g. a piece of a shell. Strong intertidal currents wash the 'seeds' around on the seabed, where they accumulate layers of chemically precipitated calcite from the supersaturated water. The oolites are commonly found in large [current bedding](#) structures that resemble sand dunes. The size of the oolite reflects the time they have had exposed to the water before they were covered with later sediment.

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Field Trip Report by Vivian Watts

March 18 2017. 5 members plus Jonathan, of the MDGMS, met up with **Ron** and **Martin** from the Sierra Pelona rock club. They met at the Sunshine market, in North Edwards at 8:30 am. We headed out to search for some Petrified wood and Rhyolite.

While searching, we came across 3 horny toads, a desert Tortoise and lots of wild flowers. **Lana** found a nice size, beautiful piece of wood, Almost everyone else found at least one piece. **Toni** found a nice piece, right by my feet, as we were looking at the Desert Tortoise. We picked up a few pieces of the Rhyolite, which is a pale blue/green with tan markings. We also stopped and looked for the Pastel rhyolite.

We then headed over to the Sierra Pelona clubs' claim, for some nice Travertine. **Lana** enjoyed getting in the hole and having her shot of digging the large boulders out. Travertine was broken to smaller pieces and everyone took their share.

We decided afterwards to head to the Rio Tinto mine in Boron, since some had never been there. At the turn off, we lost **Joe** somewhere and waited for awhile but still no **Joe**. We watched a short video about the mine and its history, walked around the shop then a few headed to the dumps to pick up a few pieces of Ulexite. It was a beautiful day for adults and **Jonathan** to enjoy. **Vivian Watts**



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Workshop news: Scott Stevenson is opening the workshop every Friday except the first Friday of the month (general meeting night). We all hope you can take advantage of this club opportunity. **Denise Hansen**, from Northern California, taught 8 of our club members her method of making cabochons. Follow all the steps and get a smoothed shaped and nicely domed cab, every time! **Judy Livingston** won “Cab of the Month” with one of the rocks she was taught with, using Denise’s method. Thank you Denise for your help.



Judy's Cab



Chieko Print's agate cabochon



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General Meeting Minutes, April 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by **Scott Stevenson**, vice president, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Guests: **Peggy Prater, Leslie & Dian**'s aunt; **Edith Walden**, visiting from Lake Havasu visiting with **Rick & Gayle Gilpin**; **Gary & Vonya Wike**, long time members back again; **Lisavette Barden**, visiting again from Lucerne Valley.

Business: Minutes – **Toni Pizzo** moved & **Gayle Gilpin** seconded, that the minutes from the March General Meeting be approved as read in the newsletter; the membership voted to approve the minutes as motioned.

Treasurer's Report: **Judy Livingston** gave the treasurer's report. Purchase of new tables & storage rack for the December Gem & Mineral Show was approved at the Board Meeting; **Scott Stevenson** ordered the tables for Costco today. Income this month was from the Gold Pan, T-Shirt sales & Membership Dues. Expenses were for the second half of **Kayla Black**'s 2016–2017 scholarship; and a new checkbook for MDGMS' s treasurer. **Remember that DUES ARE DUE for 2017.**

The Community Promotional Fund Application to the City of Barstow for the waiver of fees for the use of the Cora Harper Community Center for our December Gem & Mineral Show was submitted. Needed for the application was our MDGMS' s federal tax-exempt status certificate— **Judy** discovered that it had been missing from the MDGMS' s files for many years. **Judy** was on the phone, on hold for a LONG time, through three federal departments, and now the replacement tax-exempt status certificate is on the way in the mail. Accolades to **Judy Livingston** for this accomplishment.

Scholarships: **Judy Livingston** has been receiving in the mail scholarship applications & is very impressed with their Senior high school accomplishments and goals in college. *There will be a Scholarship & Board Meeting April 21st at 6pm before the Friday workshop to review and award the scholarship applications.* Our rock club works hard during the year to prepare for the December Gem & Mineral show where the money earned by the Spin the Wheel, Grab Bags & Silent Auctions to fund our scholarship program.

Sunshine: **John & Chieko Printz** report that **Ceci** and **George Kawasaki** are still recovering from surgery & illness. We hope that April will bring a return of good health.

Face Book & Community Events: **Bill Johnson** reports that our club's Facebook page now has 420 followers — www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety

April 18th the Helendale Earth Day celebration has invited our club to participate. **April 22nd** is the Earth Day Celebration in Barstow.

A Home School would like help and site ideas for a field trip. Contact **Bill Johnson** if you can help.

Workshop: **Leslie Walker** reports that the new Friday workshops for cab making are progressing well. **Leslie & Scott Stevenson** plan to continue with a workshop every Friday at 6:30 pm(except for the 1st Friday which is Meeting night)

Field Trip: **Lana Heller-Wood** presented a program on the March field trip to the Highway 58 area. **Danny & Vivian Watts** led 10 field trippers first to Castle Butte where they found petrified wood and a mystery stone (which does polish, but what is it?).

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Minutes continued... Then to the Rhyolite site, followed by the Travertine and La Paloma Rock Club's Onyx claim on the south side of Highway 58. Collecting is free at the claim, but La Paloma asks that you document in their log how many pounds you collected for their assessment work records. Here **Danny** has been working on extracting a large boulder of onyx from a 6 foot deep hole and members helped with the challenge. **Lana** brought her field trip collection, including a chunk off **Danny's** boulder to view, and a bucket of onyx to share. This onyx is very colorful in dark reds, brown, yellow and contrasting white. The trip ended with a visit to the Boron Mine Museum, now free. **Lana** reported this museum is impressive and not to be missed. There is also a dumped pile of Borax ore where you can look for Borax crystals. [Editor's note - there is a second museum in Boron, south by the railroad tracks-also impressive and not to be missed.]

Hostess: A big thank you to all who have signed up for bringing refreshments to our meetings. Please check the list on the bulletin board for monthly vacancies & fill them in.

Show & Tell: Brazilian Agate was the Rock of the Month and beautiful polished agates filled the table. **Trisha Sheppard** brought a variety of slabs collected & cut by her father **Art Riggle**. **Lana Heller-Wood** brought her polished slab that she found at Diamond Pacific. **Bill Johnson** brought large polished slabs that he bought at an estate sale. **Judy Livingston** brought miniature polished nodules that she won years ago as door prizes from **Bill Depue**. **Bill Tomlinson** brought a few of his Brazilian Agate slabs that he used for his display at the December Show; most were purchased over years from Tailgate. Please note that no one went to Brazil in person to collect their agate!

Lisavette Barden brought a collection of rocks from her backyard, mostly float, that she has found. One had a thick seam of brown quartz, another was bird's eye rhyolite & more interesting rocks, but we need more help with identification.

Cab of the Month: **Judy Livingston's** two cab entries won 1st AND 2nd place - one was whale bone & the other was from a garnet mine which **Leslie Walker** gave her to polish at the cab making workshop. **Scott Stevenson** brought a cab made from a slab given to him by **Danny Watts** that was a fish eggs jasper-agate from Utah. **Lana Heller-Wood** entered three cabs - one of the Mystery Stone, another of Onyx, both found on the field trip. And a cab of Vasolite (did I spell that right?). Congratulations to all the cab makers, thank you for sharing.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were gifted by **Bill & Janna Johnson** and by **Lana Heller-Wood** from **Jesse Collins's** collection. **Seth Perez** drew the tickets, followed by cheerful and noisy competition for the winning numbers. There were many gasps of admiration of rocks & slabs from the Calico Mountains, the Fort Irwin area, the Cady Mountains, the Newberry Mountains, and other areas that could only be wondered.

The meeting was motioned to be adjourned by **Judy Livingston** and **Toni Pizzo**. **Scott Stevenson**, vice president, adjourned the meeting at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted, **La Vella Tomlinson**, secretary





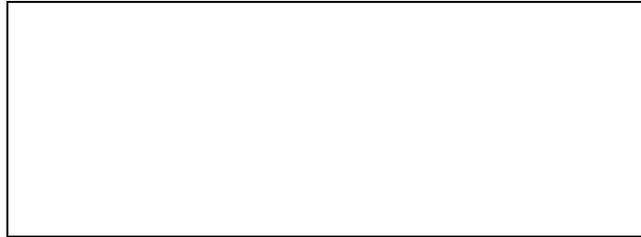
Mojave Desert
Gem & Mineral Society
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Stamp

First Class Mail



Newsletter



Desert Diggings

