

# Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

October 2015

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## MDGMS Officers 2015

President: Danny Watts  
Vice-President: Dian Walker Hare  
Treasurer: Joe Summers  
Secretary: La Vella Tomlinson

## Board of Directors

**Bill Johnson**  
**Kemp Root**  
**Leslie Walker**  
**Rob Stapp**  
**Past Pres. Vivian Watts**

## Annual Membership Dues

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

## Editors

**Leslie Walker**  
**La Vella Tomlinson**  
**Dian Walker Hare**  
**Wayne Mallon**

## Meetings / Workshops

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

## October Meeting

Theme: **Searles Lake Minerals**  
Hostess: **Eve & Charles Toles**

Door Prizes: **Janna Johnson**

facebook site:

[mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety.com](http://mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety.com)

## SHOW DATES -

### October 3 - 4: BORON, CA

Mojave Mineralogical Society  
Boron Park  
12000 Boron Avenue  
Hours: 9 - 4 daily  
Contact: Steve Breckenridge, (760) 559-0872

Email: [rock5b@starband.net](mailto:rock5b@starband.net)

### October 3 - 4: VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society  
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum  
2040 North Santa Fe Avenue  
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4

Contact: Ray Pearce, (760) 535-5524

Email: [vistarocksgms@gmail.com](mailto:vistarocksgms@gmail.com)

Website: [www.vistarocks.org](http://www.vistarocks.org)

### October 10: MARIPOSA, CA

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club  
Rock Swap  
Mariposa County Fairgrounds  
Hours: 10 - 5

Contact: Nikki West, (209) 742-4234

Email: [mgmc@sti.net](mailto:mgmc@sti.net)

### October 10 - 11: ANDERSON, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society  
Shasta District Fairgrounds  
1890 Briggs Street  
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4

Contact: Kelley O'Leary, (530) 772-7133

Email: [shastagemandmineral@gmail.com](mailto:shastagemandmineral@gmail.com)

Website: [www.shastagemandmineral.com](http://www.shastagemandmineral.com)

### October 10 - 11: GRASS VALLEY, CA

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society  
Nevada County Fairgrounds (Main Building)

11228 McCourtney Road

Hours: 10 - 5 daily

Contact: Wald-Tuttle, (530) 277-6195

Email: [anitaw1t3@gmail.com](mailto:anitaw1t3@gmail.com)

Website: [www.ncgms.org](http://www.ncgms.org)

### October 10 - 11: TRONA, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society  
SLG&MS Show Building  
13337 Main Street

Hours: Sat 7 - 5; Sun 7 - 4

Jim & Bonnie Fairchild, (760) 372-5356

Email: [slgms@iwvisp.com](mailto:slgms@iwvisp.com)

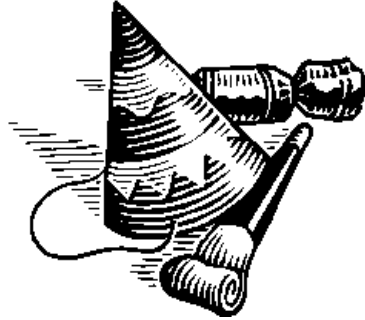
Website: [www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub](http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub)



# Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

October 2015

Happy Birthday to You!



October

7<sup>th</sup> - **Ann Sexton**  
7<sup>th</sup> - **Scott Stevenson**  
9<sup>th</sup> - **Danny Davis**  
10<sup>th</sup> - **Abigail Baum**  
12<sup>th</sup> - **Alex Falkowski**  
13<sup>th</sup> - **Don Depue**  
14<sup>th</sup> - **Ken Barwick**  
14<sup>th</sup> - **Ted Hadley**  
25<sup>th</sup> - **Gloria Moore**  
30<sup>th</sup> - **Bob Menelly**

Rocks of the Month

**Nahcolite** Its name refers to the elements which compose it: *Na*, *H*, *C*, and *O*. It is a white [carbonate mineral](#) with the composition of [sodium bicarbonate](#) ( $\text{NaHCO}_3$ )

**Hanksite** ( $\text{Na}_2\text{K}(\text{SO}_4)_9(\text{CO}_3)_2\text{Cl}$ )  
Over 99% of hanksite in the world is found in Searles Dry Lake.  
Terminated hanksite is collected in brine. Barrel and pancake hanksite is collected in dark green mud.

Website: [www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub](http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub). Check out the show dates and field trip times.

Show Dates continued...

**October 11: FALLBROOK, CA**

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Facility  
123 West Alvarado Street  
Hours: 9 - 4  
Contact: (760) 728-1130  
Email: [fgms@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fgms@sbcglobal.net)  
Website: [www.fgms.org](http://www.fgms.org)

**October 17: WEST HILLS, CA**

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers  
First United Methodist Church  
22700 Sherman Way  
Hours: 10 - 5  
Contact: Anita Niles, (818) 349-2943  
Email: [info@rockchippers.org](mailto:info@rockchippers.org)  
Website: [www.rockchippers.org](http://www.rockchippers.org)

**October 17 - 18: PLACERVILLE, CA**

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society  
El Dorado County Fairgrounds  
100 Placerville Drive  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Karen Newlin, (530) 676-2472  
Email: [info@rockandgemshow.org](mailto:info@rockandgemshow.org)  
Website: [www.eldoradorocks.org](http://www.eldoradorocks.org)

**October 17 -18: WHITTIER, CA**

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society  
Whittier Community Center  
7630 Washington Avenue  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Marcia Goetz (626) 260-7239

**October 24 - 25: LOS ALTOS, CA**

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society  
Los Altos Youth Center  
One No. San Antonio Road  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Steve Jobe, (408) 834-5384  
Email: [steve\\_job@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steve_job@sbcglobal.net)

Also, **Halite** can be on your field trip next month in Trona. Please be careful with these minerals, they dissolve in water and many people destroy their pretty pink halite.  
Note:

Because of brine and mud, wear old clothes. Shovel, pry bars and buckets are needed tools.

## General Meeting Minutes, September 4, 2015, Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

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

Hostess — Happy Birthday greetings were given; Eve Toles celebrated her September birthday by getting to cut the three layer chocolate cake. Members enjoyed the refreshments brought by hostesses Judy Livingston, Eve Toles, Vivian Watts & Terese Carlson. (Not a crumb was left of the chocolate cake & the fresh from the garden salsa received rave's.)

Business: The minutes for the August 7th general meeting as written in the newsletter were motioned by Rob Stapp & seconded by Terese Carlson, to be approved; voted approved by the membership.

December Gem & Mineral Show Report:

Show Chairman: Danny Watts will be the show chairman for the Gem & Mineral show again this year. Rounding up tables will be a priority & working with Diamond Pacific & club volunteers regarding set-up and take-down.

Date: Dian Hare motioned that the MDGMS have their annual Gem & Mineral show on the first weekend in December, this year December 5th & 6th. Seconded by La Vella Tomlinson. The motion was passed by the membership.

Place: Dian Hare reports that the Cora Harper Center has been reserved for the show.

Advertisement: Bill & La Vella Tomlinson agreed to work on the show advertisement. Dian Hare made a motion that up to \$1500, if necessary, could be spent on advertisement for the gem & mineral show in 2015. Judy Livingston seconded the motion; the motion was approved by the membership. Judy Livingston commented that the "Around Town" notices in the Desert Dispatch have helped to increase awareness of the gem show. Judy suggests that when you see an advertisement for the Gem show that you cut it out & post it on a bulletin board for coworkers & friends to see. Vivian Watts will place the show dates on the California Federation's calendar.

Danny Watts noted that our show is on the web site show listings for "Rock & Gem" & we don't know yet if it will appear in the magazine.

Dealers: Danny Watts reported that there will be three new dealers this year. Two dealers have paid their fees — the dealers have until November to pay & Danny will keep the members updated.

Grab Bags: Danny reports that the rock samples to fill the 600 grab bags have been gathered; labeling & preparing have been done by many workshop volunteers. La Vella reported that the bags, except for a few drawstrings, have been sewed. Those who sewed the bags — Terese Carlton, 150, Joan Bird, 150, Kayla Beglay, 80, Leslie Walker & La Vella Tomlinson. Those who donated fabric, thread & yarn — Dian Walker, Leslie & Kayla, Terese, Joan, La Vella, Ceci Kawasaki & Joyce De Garmo. The bags will be filled by assembly line at the November meeting.

Silent Auction: On the Gem & Mineral show's Saturday & Sunday the club has three silent auctions a day. Danny & Vivian have gone through the club's rocks & minerals that have been donated & stored at Norm & Trisha's house. At the October workshop rocks need to be cleaned & labeled for two more silent auctions. Four silent auctions have already been cleaned & organized. Items can still be donated for the silent auction.

Volunteers: Our show is produced by volunteers. Can't lift tables and put together show cases? There are many smaller areas that can be determinedly accomplished by a volunteer — and many volunteers make the Friday Pot Luck happen!

Newsletter: Kent Berryman had to resign after many years as our *Desert Diggins* Newsletter Editor & we thank Kent for his dedication. Leslie Walker volunteered for the adventure. And Leslie's comment after two successful newsletters — "Are you working on a display for the show?"

Treasurer Report: Joe Summers announced that he will stepping down as the treasurer in 2016. Treasurer is a low key, but very important job. Joe has an organized computer system set up and will teach this method to the new treasurer, making due dates, reports, spread sheets & keeping the books balanced a much easier task.

Rockhound News: Shep Koss, an old-time rockhound, passed away on Sept 1st. Vivian Watts reports that Trina's Facebook page "Cabs & Slabs" is organizing an auction that will help pay for his funeral & expenses.

Genie Auction: The auction for the club's Genie was won by Carlos Avila. His daughter Mayla who has collected crystals as a young girl, has now caught the lapidary bug.

Program: Dian Hare and Vivian Watts presented the program of wire-wrapping. Both set up tables with needed wire wrapping supplies and finished pendants. They had two different methods, which were demonstrated and then everyone had a chance to try.

Dian showed her very different wire wrap on tumbled glass, a bit easier to start as the glass was larger than her polished wire wrapped cabs displayed. Vivian showed how her pendants have an Victorian look by using jeweler's antiqued brass wire. Thank you Dian & Vivian for sharing. Both will help some more at workshops.

Cab of the Month: #3, a turquoise cab from the Royston Mine near Tonopah, collected & made by Dian Hare, won Cab of the Month. #8, a Lazulite cab from Graves Mt, Georgia, made by Vivian Watts and #13, a Graveyard Point cab with marcasite inclusions, made by Charles Toles, were close runners up.

Show & Tell: Rob Stapp brought classic Barstow rocks that have been collected from the 1950's & 1960's. First was Paul Bunyan Agate, which is famous & unique for its red flame plumes and stringers of quartz & chalcedony. Slabs had been cut from the chunk collected by his dad — but slabbing stopped when a drusy pocket was revealed. Second was Silver Lace Onyx from Gary Grant's collection. The Calico Mountains mine is now closed, but Bill Depue reports that many good fist sized pieces can be found on the dumps. Third was Butler Onyx, found off Fort Irwin Road. Rob's showed large dog toothed calcite crystals in the vugs. Fourth was Calico Rose Jasper, located in the 1950's in the hills behind Mule Canyon. Rob reported that you can go to BLM's site LR2000 to check the claim status on mines in our desert.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were gifted by Danny & Vivian Watt. Joseph Deer was in charge of drawing the winning tickets. Tonight's rule was the first person to have the winning ticket, had to bring door prizes for the October meeting. The first winner was..... Janna Johnson, who accepted the challenge and signed up for door prizes next month. (Everyone please remember to check the bulletin board for the monthly meeting sign-ups for refreshments & door prizes).

Other winners were Leslie Walker with a slab from the Cady Mts Hill #2; Ann Baum a slab of Chapinite; Charles Toles won something really neat; Joseph Deer won a fossil that was called Barstow Cycad, but is now known to be an early algae, stromatolite that formed around a branch in pre-cambrian times; Dian Hare won an agate slab from the San Simeon area; Mayla Avila won gold sheen obsidian.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm by president Danny Watts. Respectfully submitted, La Vella Tomlinson, secretary.

Note: *Boron Gem & Mineral Show is close to home! See page 1 for details.*

Mojave Desert  
Gem & Mineral Society  
P.O. Box 138  
Barstow, CA 92312

Stamp

First Class Mail



Newsletter



# *Desert Diggings*

