

# Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

Editors: Leslie Walker, La Vella Tomlinson, Wayne Mallon November 2017

Page 1

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Birthdays	3
Show Dates	1 & 2
Rock of the month	3

## 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 Summers**  
**Toni Pizzo**  
**John Printz**  
Past Pres. **Vivian Watts**

## Annual Membership Dues

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

## Meetings / Workshops

Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 7:00 PM  
Workshop: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety)

web site — [www.mdgms.net](http://www.mdgms.net)

email — [mdgms.contact@gmail.com](mailto:mdgms.contact@gmail.com)

## SHOW DATES - NOVEMBER

**November 3, 4 & 5: EUREKA, CA**  
**Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Redwood Acres Fairgrounds**  
**3750 Harris St. Fri 9 - 6; Sat 9 - 6; Sun 10 - 5**  
**Contact: Toni L Tyson, (707) 502-9574**

**November 4 - 5: ANAHEIM, CA**  
**American Opal Society, Business Expo Center**  
**1960 S. Anaheim Way, Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5**  
**Contact: Veronica Purpura, (714) 501-9959**

**November 4 - 5: CONCORD, CA**  
**Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society**  
**Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd 10 - 5**  
**daily Contact: Mary Hicks, (925) 779-0698**

**November 4 - 5: RIDGECREST, CA**  
**Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Desert Empire Fairgrounds**  
**520 South Richmond Rd 9 - 5 daily**  
**Contact: John DeRosa, (760) 375-7905**

**November 11 - 12: YUBA CITY, CA**  
**Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds - Franklin Hall**  
**442 Franklin Ave. Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4**  
**Contact: Karen Horita, (530) (916) 677-6696**

**November 18 - 19: LAKESIDE, CA**  
**El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Lakeside Rodeo Grounds**  
**12584 Maplevue St. Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4**  
**Contact: Mary Ness, (619) 449-0759**

**November 18 - 19: OXNARD, CA**  
**Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society**  
**Oxnard Performing Arts Center**  
**800 Hobson Way Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4**  
**Contact: Stephanie Hagiwara, (805) 394-8002**

continued on page 2

## SHOW DATES -

November 18 - 19: SANTA CRUZ, CA  
Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society  
Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange  
1900 17th Avenue  
Contact: Michael Cox, (831) 459-0572



## 43rd Annual Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Show

[www.mdgms.net](http://www.mdgms.net)

**Family Friendly Fun! FREE Admission**

**Date:** December 2 & 3, 2017 (Sat & Sun)  
**Time:** 10 am to 5 pm  
**Where:** Cora Harper Fitness Center  
841 S. Barstow Road  
Barstow, CA 92311 (North of I-15 on Barstow Road)





### AWESOME ACTIVITIES

- Demonstrations
- Displays (40 plus)
- Educational Exhibits
- Great Food
- Gem & Mineral Dealers
- Gifts for all Ages
- Jewelry Galore
- Kids Activities
- Grab Bags
- Spin the Wheel
- Lapidary Arts/Crafts
- Silent Auction
- Raffles



Cora Harper Fitness Center courtesy  
of the City of Barstow

**Proceeds go to our local Scholarship**

Please sign up for duties on the Spin the Wheel, Auction and Genie  
Also, Pot Luck on Friday, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, for the venders and volunteers!



November

4<sup>th</sup> Nicolette Grill

6<sup>th</sup> Danny Watts

14<sup>th</sup> Joseph Salazar

23<sup>rd</sup> Bill Johnson

### Rock of the Month: *Obsidian*

The translation into English of [Natural History](#) written by [Pliny the Elder](#) of Rome shows a few sentences on the subject of a volcanic glass called obsidian (*lapis obsidianus*), discovered in Ethiopia by Obsidius, a Roman explorer. Obsidian is the rock formed as a result of quickly cooled [lava](#), which is the parent material. [Tektites](#) were once thought by many to be obsidian produced by [lunar](#) volcanic eruptions, though few scientists now adhere to this [hypothesis](#).

Obsidian is [mineral](#)-like, but not a true mineral because as a glass it is not [crystalline](#); in addition, its composition is too variable to be classified as a mineral. It is sometimes classified as a [mineraloid](#).<sup>[17]</sup> Though obsidian is usually dark in color similar to [mafic](#) rocks such as [basalt](#), obsidian's composition is extremely [felsic](#). Obsidian consists mainly of SiO<sub>2</sub> ([silicon dioxide](#)), usually 70% or more. Crystalline rocks with obsidian's composition include [granite](#) and [rhyolite](#). Because obsidian is [metastable](#) at the Earth's surface (over time the glass becomes fine-grained mineral crystals), no obsidian has been found that is older than [Cretaceous](#) age. This breakdown of obsidian is accelerated by the presence of water. Having a low water content when newly formed, typically less than 1% water by weight, obsidian becomes progressively [hydrated](#) when exposed to [groundwater](#), forming [perlite](#).

Pure obsidian is usually dark in appearance, though the color varies depending on the presence of impurities. Iron and other transition elements may give the obsidian a dark brown to black color. Very few samples are nearly colorless. In some stones, the [inclusion](#) of small, white, radially clustered crystals of [cristobalite](#) in the black glass produce a blotchy or snowflake pattern (*snowflake obsidian*). Obsidian may contain patterns of gas bubbles remaining from the lava flow, aligned along layers created as the molten rock was flowing before being cooled. These bubbles can produce interesting effects such as a golden sheen (*sheen obsidian*). An [iridescent](#), rainbow-like sheen (*rainbow obsidian*) is caused by inclusions of [magnetite nanoparticles](#). The article and photo below are from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Nominations for our club officers and board members are due next meeting. Please see or call Danny Watts if you would like to nominate someone, keep your position or volunteer for another rewarding opportunity for MDGMS. Newsletter editor is open! Thank you all for the time and energy in making our club such a nice place to go.



obsidian

**Exhibitor Application Annual Gem & Mineral show on December 2nd and 3rd, 2017**

**Exhibitor Application - MDGMS**

PO Box 138, Barstow, Ca 92312-0138

We invite you to enter a display at our Annual Gem & Mineral show on December 2nd and 3rd, 2017. Our show will be held in the community center, 841 S. Barstow Rd. Please complete the application by November 4th and return to PO Box 138, Barstow, Ca 92312-138.

Display may be set up from 3:00PM to 7:00 PM on Friday Dec. 1st

Tear down will be from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Sunday, Dec.3rd.

The club will host a potluck dinner at 6:00 PM on Friday Dec, 1st for all guest exhibitors, dealers and our club members. We hope you will attend.

I will need \_\_\_\_\_ display cases, size 44 x 21 inches

I will need \_\_\_\_\_ space for my own display cases.

Below is a brief description of my display entry/entries:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

For more information please call Danny Watts (760)-373-1309

# Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Page 5

October 6, 2017 - General Meeting Minutes — The meeting was called to order at 7:15 by **Danny Watts**, president, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Happy October Birthdays were wished to **Scott Stevenson, Ann Baum, & Gloria Moore**.

**Danny & Vivian Watts** gave a report on their rock-collecting vacation to Oregon, especially recommending McDermitt. They found Opalized & agatized wood, including an 8 foot log, Gary Green & Plume Agate, Thunder Eggs, and a new find of Purple Cow Agate.

Treasurer's Report: **Judy Livingston** gave the treasurer's report — income was from December show dealer's fees, club dues, & the Gold Pan. Expenses were from the California state fee for the show Raffle, Scholarship expenses, & MDGMS Insurance Renewal. **Judy & Danny** are working on the insurance for the MDGMS Gem & Mineral Show. **Joe Sumners** is working with **Judy** to resubmit the 2015 information that the State Franchise Board is requesting.

**Danny Watts** requested nominees for the 2018 slate of MDGMS officers & board members. The nominations, volunteering & voting will be at the next General Meeting on **November 3rd**. Please contact **Danny Watts** if you are volunteering or have a nomination.

Minutes: Whoops - **Debbie Savacool** made the Agate Heart that won second at September's Cab of the Month (incorrectly reported **Denise Orebaugh**). **Trisha Sheppard** motioned that the September General Meeting Minutes be accepted with this correction, **Janna Johnson** seconded and the members voted approval.

Gem & Mineral Show Report: **Danny Watts** shared a letter from our long-time dealers & friends, **Charlie & Helen** of Teton Gems. **Helen** is very ill and they will not be able to make the show this year.

**La Vella Tomlinson** reported that **Bea Lint** is arranging our show advertising with the Daily Press & Desert Dispatch. There will be a different format as the Desert Dispatch is only printed on Tuesdays now. **Bill Johnson** has set up local group notification of our show via our Facebook site. Copies of our show flyer will be taken by **Vivian Watts** to the CFMS meeting, **Bill Depue** to the Joshua Tree show, **Gale Gilpin** for the Lake Havasu Show, & by **Janna Johnson** to be distributed at work & locally. There will be more flyers printed so that everyone can distribute & promote our Gem & Mineral Show.

Grab Bags - **Vivian Watts** has brought a colorful assortment of 300 sewn grab bags donated by **Dorothy Millard**. **Chieko Printz** is also going sew bags for next year. We now have the 600 bags sewn for this year's show, but need some larger rocks/minerals in the 3 inch size for fillers.

**Danny Watts** reports that this year there will be two numbered boards for our Spin the Wheel. One will have prizes for \$1 and the other \$5. **Danny** also brought a 5 gallon bucket filled with agates & jaspers slated for our Show's Silent Auction & requests that those attending the workshops each week polish a window to show off how beautiful each one will be when finished.

**Danny** reported that he has received 9 request for display cases at the show; Our club members make great displays, so turn your request in by the November 3rd meeting. **La Vella Tomlinson** shared how & why to raise the bottom of your display case 1.5 to 1.75 inches for better viewing. **La Vella** has some lightweight cardboard boards that will help.

Program: A video on the history of Gold was enjoyed. From the Roman mines in Spain & through other cultures in ages past.

Hostess: **Toni Pizzo** brought the delicious refreshments for our break time. Cab of the Month: **Janna Johnson** won again with her wire wrapped polished cab. **Margaret De Angelis, Vivian Watts, Bill Johnson & Danny Watts** also submitted award winning cabs.

Rock of the Month: **Bill & Janna Johnson** brought a plate of pink halite from Searles Lake, with 3 inch hopper crystals - very beautiful.

Door Prizes: **Bill Johnson** gifted the door prizes for the lucky winners. The bags of jasper & agate slabs were won by **Trisha Sheppard, Danny Watts, Carlos Avila, Norm Sheppard, Gayle Gilpin & Debbie Savacool**. **Trisha Sheppard** motioned that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded and approved by all the members. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 by **Danny Watts**, president. Respectfully submitted by **La Vella Tomlinson**, secretary



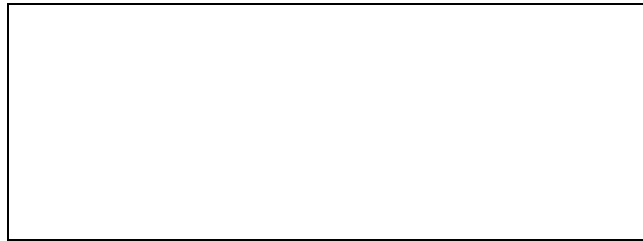
Mojave Desert  
Gem & Mineral Society  
P.O. Box 138  
Barstow, CA 92312

Stamp

First Class Mail



Newsletter



# *Desert Diggings*

