



MARCH & APRIL BIRTHDAYS

In March we have Mellissa Watkins

And in April we have Seth Perez and Sandy Wagner

Happy Birthday...

President: Danny Watts

Vice President: Scott Stevenson

Secretary: Lana Heller-Wood

Treasure: Judy Livingston With co.
Tres. Mary Broski and Joe Sumners

Board Members

Joe Sumners, John Printz, Toni Pizzo

Connie Horn and Melissa Martin

Past Pres. Vivian Watts

Editors: Lana Heller-Wood &

Wayne Mallon

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.



Picture of LaVella receiving her & Bill Tomilsons Appreciation award.

Adults: \$ 20.00

Juniors: \$ 10.00 (10-18 yr)

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

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

Location: 25647 W. Main St, Barstow, Ca., 92311

**If you wish to contact the MDGMS team or
Desert Diggins**

facebook —

**[www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemand
mineralsociety](http://www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety)**

web site: www.mdgms.net

email: mdgms@gmail.com

editors' email: lhellerwood82@msn.com

General meeting March 1st, 2019

Meeting was called to order a 7pm.

“Pledge of Allegiance “

Minutes were accepted

Danny and Vivian brought in some desert roses and some black tourmaline for grab bags.

Danny Watts and the Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society Presented a 1000.00 check to Cliff Walker of the Mojave River Valley Museum for their building expansion.

In appreciation for all of their many years of helping the MDGMS club Norm and Trisha Shepard were presented a beautiful bouquet of flowers.



Bill and LaVella Tomilson were presented an appreciation plaque for their 30 plus years of dedication to the club.

Bill Depue also was presented a appreciation Rock Hammer made from Verdie Antique Marble for his many years of help to the club.



On behalf of the MDGMS Thank You for everyone’s support of our club.

Break was taken. Thank you to our many hosts this month.

Show and Tell

Danny Watts brought in some of his sphere collection: 1 Borrow Creek Arizona, 2 Mushroom Jasper/Rhyolite out of Arizona, 3 Mayors Onyx out of Arizona, 4 Onyx conglomerate out of Panniment valley, 5 Buttler Onyx.

Lana brought in some of her Calico Rock collection One that was found behind calico by her mother in the Late 60’S.

Donna Patterson brought in some stromalite

Lana made a motion to buy some more T-shirts for the club, it was 2nd by Connie Horn



Correction needs to be noted that MDGMS Treasure is Judy Livingston with co treasure: Joe sumners and Mary Broski.

Bill Depue won cab of the month

Door prizes were Margerie, Joe sumners, Cliff Walker, Melissa Martin, and Danny Watts.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Rock of the Month

As rockhounds in search of awesome finds we all have found a rock or two that had what looked like fossilized plant life . Well sometimes it may not be. Some of these are actually called Dendrites.

Dendrites form as water rich in manganese and iron flows along tiny cracks between layers of limestone and other rock types. Dendrites may also consist of iron oxides and other minerals, and can also form in quartz materials like agate and jasper.



In paleontology, dendritic mineral crystal forms are often mistaken for fossils. These pseudofossils form as naturally occurring fissures in the rock are filled by percolating mineral solutions. They form when water rich in manganese and iron flows along fractures and bedding planes between layers of limestone and other rock types, depositing dendritic crystals as the solution flows through. A variety of manganese oxides and hydroxides are involved including:

birnessite ($\text{Na}_4\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_7 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$)

coronadite ($\text{PbMn}_8\text{O}_{16}$)

cryptomelane ($\text{KMn}_8\text{O}_{16}$)

hollandite ($\text{BaMn}_8\text{O}_{16}$)

romanechite ($(\text{Ba},\text{H}_2\text{O})\text{Mn}_5\text{O}_{10}$)

todorokite
($(\text{Ba},\text{Mn},\text{Mg},\text{Ca},\text{K},\text{Na})_2\text{Mn}_3\text{O}_{12} \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$) and others.

A three-dimensional form of dendrite develops in fissures in quartz, forming moss agate.



Manganese Dendrites with Calcite



Manganese Dendrites with Quartz



Manganese Dendrites with Limonite

**MDGMS Club Members,
Don't Forget Dues are Due....**

Shows in California

APRIL

April 5, 6 & 7: VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 North Santa Fe
Hours: 9 - 5 daily
Contact: Kurt Kluey, (760) 917-5781
Email: klueysgems@yahoo.com
Website: vistarocks.org

April 13 - 14: MARIPOSA, CA

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5007 Fairgrounds Road (South of Mariposa off Hwy 49)
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Meredith Meehan
Email: mgmcc@sti.net
Website: mariposagemclub.org [Show Page](#)

April 13 - 14: PASO ROBLES, CA

Santa Lucia Rockhounds
Paso Robles Event Center
2198 Riverside Avenue
Hours: 10 - 5 Daily
Contact: Kim Noyes, (805) 610-0603
Email: kimnoyes@gmail.com
Website: slockhounds.org [Show Page](#)

April 13 - 14: THOUSAND OAKS, CA

Conejo Gem & Mineral Club
Borchard Park Community Center
190 Reino Road
Hours: 10 - 5 Saturday; 10 - 5, Sunday 10 - 4

Contact: Chuck Borchart, (805) 551-9946
Email: borchartcme@gmail.com
Website: cgamc.org

April 27 - 28: LANCASTER

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Avenue H (Hwy. 14 & Ave. H)
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Susan Chaisson-Walblom, (661) 406-0143
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com
Website: avgem.weebly.com

April 27 - 28: RENO, NV

Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Reno Sparks Livestock Event Center
1350 North Wells Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Daniel Ellis, (775) 229-4420
Email: sailondan55@aol.com
Website: renorockhounds.com

April 27 - 28: SANTA CRUZ, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
307 Church Street
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Sarah Hawklyn
Email: shawklyn@yahoo.com
Website: scrockngem.org [Show Page](#)

Remember to always bring Water, sunscreen, something long sleeved, and snacks, it could save your life.

Be aware of your surroundings.

We have had a lot more rain this year so please be cautious when out exploring.

~*~ Also don't forget if you go on a rockhounding adventure and would like to share it. Please send it in to me and I will consider it for the following newsletter. I want to hear your story... Email to: lhellerwood82@msn.com, with the subject line: Rockhound Adventures

Rockhounds Vocabulary

Fissures- a long, narrow opening or line of breakage made by cracking or splitting, especially in rock or earth.

Dendrites

T T W N B K J V T V L A F S R
 I R O N O X I D E S A F O F S
 B A T G E Z B Z D K T L Q K R
 J T K K L B C E S N S B C Q R
 W F R G K E N K P C Y A O I R
 Z R S H B D T P I Q R R R H E
 L H N H R I X X E C C I O Z H
 E W A I J S R R T O H M N U K
 N X T L X S E N N H P A A M D
 D E N Y U B E R E V Y M D P R
 S G L O W U S H U S D R I C K
 E S E N A G N A M S S H T X M
 W A Q S F H K D C P S I E W U
 B V W Q F Q A K K A M I T R Z
 G W F H X U H C Q C U D F E U

BIRNESSITE
 CORONADITE
 CRACKS
 CRYSTAL

DENDRITES
 FISSURES
 IRONOXIDES
 MANGANESE

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

Stamp

First Class Mail



Newsletter



Desert Diggings

