

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

Editors: Leslie Walker, La Vella Tomlinson, Wayne Mallon April 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 Summers
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.**
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facebook —

www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety

web site — www.mdgms.net

email — mdgms.contact@gmail.com

SHOW DATES

April 1 - 2: CHICO, CA
Paradise Gem & Mineral Society
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds
2357 Fair Street - Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4

April 1 - 2: TORRANCE, CA
South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society
Ken Miller Recreation Center
3341 Torrance Blvd- Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4

April 7, 8 & 9: VISTA, CA
Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 North Santa Fe Ave - Hours: 9 - 5 daily

April 8 - 9: MARIPOSA, CA
Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5007 Fairgrounds Rd/Hwy 49 So.
Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5

April 22 - 23: PASO ROBLES, CA
Santa Lucia Rockhounds
Paso Robles Event Center
2198 Riverside Ave -Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4

April 22 - 23: THOUSAND OAKS, CA
Conejo Gem & Mineral Club
Borchard Park Community Center
190 Reino Road -Hours: 10 - 5 daily

April 29 - 30: LANCASTER, CA
Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Lancaster High School
44701 32nd Street West -Hours: 10 - 5 daily

April 29 - 30: SANTA CRUZ, CA
Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
307 Church Street - Hours: 10 - 5 daily

Happy Birthday

Sandy Wagner, April 16th

Carolyn Fender, April 28th



Rock of the month ..*Brazilian agate* is found as sizable geodes of layered nodules. These occur in brownish tones interlayered with white and gray. Quartz forms within these nodules, creating a striking specimen when cut opposite the layered growth axis. It is often dyed in various colors for ornamental purposes. Certain stones, when examined in [thin sections](#) by transmitted light, show a diffraction spectrum due to the extreme delicacy of the successive bands, whence they are termed *rainbow agates*. Often agate coexists with layers or masses of opal, jasper or crystalline quartz due to ambient variations during the formation process.” *from* Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Kemp Root's Bazillion Agate display 2015

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MDGMS- General Meeting Minutes - General Meeting Minutes, March 3, 2017

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

Guests & Members: **Lana Heller-Wood** brought her sister **Linda Poindexter**. **Hal Bigham** brought his son **Christian** who is a junior member. **Donna Patterson**, long time member, brought her brother **Bill**. **Dian Hare** brought her granddaughter **Hailey** & friend **Gary**.

Ceci Kawasaki is under the weather; everyone sent get well wishes to her. **Kemp Root** is very ill, please sign his card tonight.

Program: **Danny Watts** presented the program about the recent field trip to the Cady Mountains and their rock & mineral finds. This area is on the other side of the mountain from Top Notch where there are three Fluorite mines. The mines themselves are not stable - displaced wood supports, places where the ceiling and sides have collapsed, and on the floor among the rubble, rat droppings that could be contaminated with the Hantavirus. **Danny** recommends looking through the tailings - where there were good finds. The first & largest find was on the road as **Vivian Watts** stepped out of the truck. Other finds on the trip were Angel Wing, Amethyst, and in the Agate field, orbicular nodules that contain agate, many that had a hematite shell, sagenite sprays, and unusual jasper tubes that went through quartz crystals - perhaps a fossil? **Danny** talked about collecting sites and the specimens that can be found in the Highway 58 area. Most are described in the book "California Gem Trails".

Field Trips: The field trip in the February Newsletter to the Clay Mine Road sites was incorrectly dated for March - instead it was in February and rained out on the Saturday planned. Several did go on Sunday. The field trip Saturday, March 18th, lead by **Danny**, will be to the North Edwards petrified wood site & the nearby onyx and travertine sites, and to the Boron Mine visitor center (free) if there is time. Meet at 8:30 at the grocery store & cafe less than 1/2 mile north off the Clay Mine Road Exit on Highway 58.

Hostess: Delicious refreshments were brought by **Trisha & Norm Sheppard** and **Dian Hare**. Thank you to all our hostesses.

Business: **DUES ARE DUE** - can be given to **Judy Livingston**, treasurer, at a

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meeting or mailed to MDGMS, P.O. Box 138, Barstow, CA 92312.

Minutes for the February general meeting were motioned to be approved with the correction of the field trip date of Feb 18th by **Judy Livingston & Toni Pizzo**, & then voted approved by the membership with the correction. **Judy Livingston** congratulated the editors of the newsletter, **Leslie Walker, La Vella Tomlinson & Wayne Mallon**, for a job well done.

Gem & Mineral Show: **Judy Livingston** reports that the City of Barstow has a new Community Promotional Fund Program which changes how the MDGMS applies for use of the Cora Harper Center for our Gem show. **Judy Livingston, La Vella & Bill Tomlinson** will attend the City of Barstow's workshop on March 9th. This new application is due by April 1st for approval by the City Council.

Workshop: In addition to the 3rd Friday workshop at 6:30, **Leslie Walker** and **Scott Stevenson** are planning to have more workshops – their goal is to have a workshop every Friday (except the 1st Friday which is the monthly general meeting). Their new workshop schedule will be announced. **Dian Hare** reports that, **Denise Hansen**, one of California Federation Mineral Society's expert cab maker (who will be attending Zzyxx) will give a cab making seminar to our members on March 24th at 6:30. Attendance is limited to 10 – 11 members and **Dian Hare** has the sign-up sheet.

Gold Pan & Cab of the Month: **Bill Depue** has restocked the Gold Pan with new slabs. Leave a donation for the the one you pick out to polish up as a winner for the Cab of the Month. **Dian Hare** won the Cab of the Month with her colorful Fordite cabs. (Fordite is the hardened layers of paint from the factory floor). Also entered were cabs of Tiger Eye, Chrysocolla, and Barstow Agate.

Show & Share: **Danny** brought his sphere of Mariposite, which is the rock of the month. Pyrite, Copper & Gold are associated with Mariposite, but he doesn't see any gold in his sphere. **Danny** has also found a brown Mariposite near Randsburg that will polish very nicely. Rock & Gem Magazine had an article on Mariposite and that was shared also.

Lana Heller-Wood brought a large Rhyolite nodule – looks a bit like an ostrich egg. A little agate is showing on the outside and she would like to cut it to check out the center. **Norm Sheppard** brought some Marcasite that he cut today (and has a bandage on his finger that was also cut). There is some quartz & agate in these in these slabs. Marcasite and Pyrite have the same chemical

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formula, but different shaped crystals. Marcasite is less stable and when wet will produce a chemical reaction that forms acid and will then change the Marcasite to powder. **La Vella Tomlinson** brought green cabs for March - Fluorite from a mine in Austin, Nevada, Thulite from north of Ludlow, & tri-colored marble from Stoddard Wells area.

Door Prizes: **Lana Heller-Wood** gifted the door prizes of slabs, geodes & rough that **Jesse Collin** donated from his collection.. **Christian, Hailey & Seth**, our Junior members, drew the tickets & were also among the lucky winners.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm by president **Danny Watts**.

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

Our rock-hound friend, **Kemp Root**, passed away. **Kemp** was generous to our club with his donations of slices and specimens to grab bags, drawings and auctions. He was on the board of directors until this year and was always keeping a watchful eye at the annual club show. **Kemp** was a Marine for 20 years, serving 3 tours in Vietnam, worked at Boron and retired from the Borax Company. His favorite rocks were petrified wood.

We also lost **Bob Menelly**, a long time member of our club. **Bob** was involved with lapidary equipment and was willing to give classes in wire wrapping and intarsia! The intarsia was his specialty. We missed him this year at Quartsite Pow-Wow, where he usually demonstrated flat lap machines and his beautiful intarsia.



Bob Menelly's intarsia & wire wrapping

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

Stamp

First Class Mail



Newsletter



Desert Diggings

