



Fieldtrip: Thanksgiving 2023 @ Burro Creek, Nothing, AZ

Attendees: Richard Muller, Dave Rosendahl, Randy & Madeline Lafound, Bryan Bendtlow, and John & Tina Hanson

Day 1:

Richard and Dave secured the campsite early and had a javelina pass through as they waited for everyone else to arrive.



Day 2:

With Richard as our guide, we headed down the road ready for our first adventure to look for Burro Creek Purple/Lavender Chalcedony/Agate. We stopped off at the lithium mine for a quick look around. The mine dumps include lavender colored agate. After checking out the pit and walking around for a few minutes we got back on the road.

Richard, Dave, Randy, John, and Brian dug along the seam, while Madeline and Tina surface collected. The Burro Creek Purple/Lavender Chalcedony/Agate proved to be elusive and after a few hours we headed off to a more productive spot.





Richard led us back up the road and down a wash to search for Brecciated Porcelain Burro Creek Jasper Agate with vugs that fluoresce under UV light.

Just up the bank of the wash an outcropping awaited us. The agate ranged in color from orange to a dark brown. Randy was the first to use the boulder holder for a beautiful large chunk. With milk crates and buckets full we headed back to camp.



Day 3:

Thanksgiving started out with a beautiful drive down to the patented claim of Zanarapolis where we spent time exploring the site. The sky was overcast which made for great hiking weather.







After exploring the mine buildings, Richard took the group down to the river valley of Burro Creek. The lush river valley was gorgeous. We stopped at a beach area where we all got to walk around and explore. Cady had a great time playing in the water!

Before heading back to camp for our Thanksgiving feast we drove back up the road to just beyond the river crossing and walked through the larger river cobbles – hoping to find something good!

A big **THANK YOU** to Randy for making sure the Thanksgiving tables were loaded down with a delicious feast! From the turkey and ham to the cheesecake desert, and every side dish in between – Randy's cooking skills were very much appreciated by all!



Day 4:

With storm clouds off in the distance we headed out of camp today in search of dendritic opalite. Once we arrived at the location everyone fanned out choosing to either search the wash, dig through tailings, or to continue digging where others have dug before. Beautiful material was found – including the Sunset dendritic opalite (lower right photo).



After a while, we decided to head back to the Burro Creek Purple/Lavender Chalcedony/Agate site to try our luck once again. Today was productive, but it took a lot of patience and digging! Thankfully the cloud cover made the work much more tolerable. On the way out of the wash a calf led the way for a bit as we headed back to the lithium mine to search the wash below it for more great finds.



Day 5:



It was a chilly ride as we headed out for the final day of searching, the last chance to get a great specimen.

We stopped first at the lithium mine to collect a large yard piece. Then headed back first to the Brecciated Porcelain Burro Creek Jasper Agate site, then to the Burro Creek Purple/Lavender Chalcedony/Agate site before heading back to camp for one last campfire before everyone headed home in the morning.





Thank you Richard for leading us on such a great adventure!!







Brecciated Porcelain Burro Creek
Jasper Agate with vugs that
fluoresce under UV light.

