

THE ROCKHOUND RECORD

Volume 74, Issue 10 Newsletter for the Mineralogical Society of Arizona
November 2008



NEXT MEETING:
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 2008
AT 7:00 PM

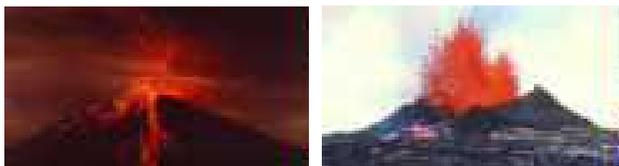
MEETING TOPIC & SPEAKER
OUR SPEAKER FOR NOVEMBER WILL BE
LEO LANGLAND

The Program will be about the Kilauea & Arenal Volcanoes.

We will see action sound history of the lengthiest eruption of this century, Kilauea, recorded by the US Park Service since 1900 & more recently, the USPS helicopter.

The 30 minute video (1997 edition) shows the latest PU U' O'o eruptions from it's start in 1983 when it took out the USPS Wahahula Visitors Center, then the overrun of lava in 1990 of the town of Katapana, & the 1992 overrun of the town of Kamoamo, & the current flowing into the sea, since 1993.

The current update of the Langland's rented helicopter 35mm shots in October 1996 by the Langland's of Arenal volcano in Costa Rica, which has since exploded ash over their motel on May 5, 1998 & then the lava flowed on May 16th 1998 & came to rest just short of the motel, but forced 400 people to evacuate from the town between the volcano & the motel.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have been trying to peer forward to 2009 without overlooking what MSA needs to accomplish this year in November and December.

The input at the October meeting seemed to indicate that a Christmas party at the Museum location is preferred. If we go with pot luck and MSA provides the major meat such as turkey and or ham as last year, I will need interested persons to email either me or Betty Deming with what they can bring such as salad, dressing, dessert etc. I will also have a sign up sheet at the November meeting. My email is epidote555@yahoo.com and Betty's is bd_mac2003@yahoo.com. The date for the potluck would be the regular meeting time and date December 12th 2008.

One thing I would like to arrange for one or more meetings in 2009 is a session where we would spend most of the meeting identifying members' unknown minerals. I would try to get one or two of our club experts or outside experts to help in that program.

The other idea I have been working on is field trips of more than one day with a camp out or motel stay reasonably close by so as to extend a club trip without such a long drive back the same day. Please email me if you have suggestions along that line. I will have November field trip info in a separate write-up and it may include a multiple night stay or a plan B location closer to the city if unable to go too far.

I would like to include in one of our 2009 meetings an award meeting for members who have contributed their time and efforts to our club activities.

See you at our November meeting.

President
Ed Nichols
YeOlde Rockhound



ARIZONA MINERAL COLLECTOR

NUMBER 114

By Raymond Grant

The third Arizona locality with a large number of mineral species is the Tiger area. Tiger was the name of the town by the mines and this name is used on many specimens.

The major mines that produced the specimens are the Mammoth, Collins, and Mohawk-New York mines. In 1934, they were consolidated by the St. Anthony Mining Company, and most specimens are labeled Mammoth St. Anthony mine.

Dick Bideaux was the person who spent the most time studying the minerals from this locality. He looked at thousands of specimens and wrote about Tiger in the Mineralogical Record, volume 11, number 3, May-June 1980, pages 155 to 180. Dick had a list of about 90 minerals from Tiger.

Since Dick's death, the person doing the most work on Tiger material is Joe Ruiz, and he has added a number of minerals to the list.

I have not seen a recent list of minerals from Tiger, but I will check with Joe and maybe you will see it here first. I am sure that there are over 100 minerals from Tiger. There are eight type locality minerals. They are bideauxite, creaseyite, macquatite, mammothite, murdochite, pinalite, wherryite, and yedlinite.

Joe has a mineral that he recently had identified from Tiger that was not on the list of Arizona minerals. It is Mattheddleite, a lead silicate, sulfate, chloride. It occurs at Tiger as microscopic yellowish hexagonal crystals. Previously it was only known from several localities in England. That is mineral number 867 for the Arizona list.

The San Manuel mine is very close to the Mammoth St. Anthony mines, but is a different geological age and type of ore body. The whole area is under reclamation so the chance to collect there is limited, and the good specimens came from underground. Maybe you saw the photographs when they blew up the big smoke stack at the smelter there. Dick Bideaux had an idea about leasing the area and trying to mine for specimens but it did not work out. So any specimens from Tiger or the Mammoth St. Anthony mine are worth keeping.

NOVEMBER BIRTHSTONE

Scorpio (Oct 24 – Nov 22)
Sagittarius (Nov 23 – Dec 21)

By Heather Hill

Topaz is the November Birthstone, the hardest silicate mineral and one of the hardest minerals in nature, an 8 on the MOHS hardness scale. Topaz crystals can reach an incredible size of several hundred pounds. Topaz make attractive mineral specimens due to their high luster, nice colors and well formed and multifaceted crystals. The traditional color for topaz are yellow with a red tint, and come in a variety of colors including yellow, orange, red, pinky red, red-brown, blue, light blue, green, and can be colorless. The Deposits are associated with pegmatites or secondary placers.

Topaz is a common gemstone that has been used for centuries in jewelry. Its golden brown to yellow color is classic but is confused with the less valuable citrine, which is sometimes wrongly sold under the name topaz.

In today's mining industry, the most important suppliers for topaz are Brazil, Sri Lanka, Burma and Russia. Topaz probably derived its name from the name of an island in the Red Sea, now Zebirget, formerly Topazos.

The alternate birthstone for November is citrine, one of the more rare forms of quartz, its name derived from its lemon-yellow color, the color of citrus. Citrine is any quartz crystal or cluster that is yellow or orange in color. Citrine crystals are found in igneous metamorphic and sedimentary rocks. It is believed that some Citrine may have actually begun as Amethyst, but heat from nearby molten rock changed it to the yellow form of quartz.

Citrine is known to change color when subjected to heat, is routinely heated in the jewelry-making process to intensify its color, and for this reason, this gemstone should not be left in direct sunlight for a long time because it will permanently alter the color. Specimens of low grade, inexpensive amethyst or smoky quartz are often cooked at high temperatures to produce the more profitable orange yellow citrine. Citrines whose colors have been produced by artificial means tend to have much more of an orange or reddish cast than those found in nature, which are usually a pale yellow. Much of the natural citrine may have started out as amethyst but heat from nearby magmatic bodies may have caused the change to citrine.

A popular gemstone, ametrine, is a mixture of half amethyst and half citrine: the manufacturer takes an amethyst stone and heats it, which converts it to citrine, then bombards a portion of the stone to beta radiation which converts citrine back to amethyst. By using a metal mask (possibly in the shape of a heart) to block a portion of the beta radiation, an unusual citrine and amethyst gem is produced.

Citrine is often confused with the more expensive orange-yellow topaz and is at times sold as topaz by unscrupulous dealers. This practice has soured many potential citrine fanciers who see citrine as a fake topaz. The finest citrine gemstones have a pure yellow color that cannot be duplicated by golden topaz, which will always have hues of orange or brown to darken the gem.

There is little mention of Citrine used as a gemstone prior to the first century B.C. The Romans were thought to be the first to wear the yellow quartz, but it became more popular during the Romantic Period, when artisans used the gems to enhance gold jewelry. Citrine, like all quartz, was believed to have magical powers, was worn as a talisman against evil thoughts and snake venom, and was considered to have medicinal properties, commonly used as a remedy for urinary and kidney ailments.

Most Citrine is mined in Brazil, but other sources of the quartz are Bolivia and Madagascar. The name Citrine comes from an old French word, "citrin", meaning lemon.

SOURCES: Birthstones.com, Aboutbirthstones.com, Galleries.com

My deep gratitude to MSA member, Gilbert Flores, for submitting the past several months of puzzles for all of our members to enjoy. We appreciate his time and effort.

We would like for all of our members to win prizes. Send your completed entries, with name and address to Ed Nichols 2251 E. Garnet Ave. Mesa, AZ 85204. or email the down and across answers for the puzzle to epidote555@yahoo.com.

Ed will arrange for prizes to be awarded at our Christmas party in December. This applies to back issues of the newsletter for which we haven't awarded prizes to winners.

COALITION TRIP FOR NOVEMBER

ARIZONA COALITION OF ROCKHOUND CLUBS

Trip sponsored by
The White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club
Show Low, AZ

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2008

TIME: 9:30 AM

**PLACE: CHECK-IN SPOT INDICATED ON THE MAP
BELOW – You Will Need To Sign A Liability Waiver
Here And Then Continue On.**

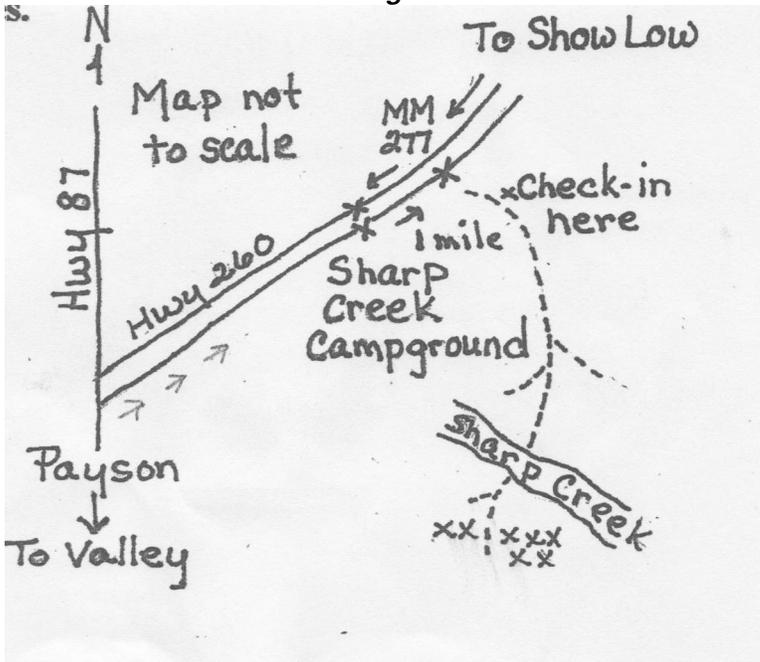
**WHAT YOU WILL FIND: BANDED JASPER
(ZEBRA ROCK) AND FOSSILS
(FROM AMMONITES TO HORN CORAL)
GREAT FOR TUMBLING!**

VEHICLES: HIGH CLEARANCE

**SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT TO BRING: Lunch, Water,
Chairs, Whistles, Walkie-Talkies, Containers, Shovels,
Picks - Wear Brightly Colored Clothes**

**IF YOU BRING YOUNG CHILDREN, PLEASE KEEP
THEM IN SIGHT AT ALL TIMES.**

*Weather (or control burning) is always a factor in
determining a "go" for the field trip. If there are any
doubts, please call Eunice the night before or early in
the morning at 928-536-7209*



MSA NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP

November 15th

Some of you may remember that in January of this year I planned a field trip to Lion Springs for garnets. Most of those who wished to go had cars with little clearance and would need a ride with another person. I'll try this same trip again but will change to an alternate location a little closer to Wickenburg if not enough vehicles have sufficient clearance.

The Lion Springs location is 67.1 miles north of Wickenburg off Hwy. 93, then turn east for 5 miles and then north (left) 1.9 miles and then left on a rough, narrow four-wheel drive road trail for 1.3 miles.

The closer location I don't believe has garnets but the possibility exists, as geology is similar in spots. The location is known mostly for jasper and agate and is site 6 in Neil Bearce's book Minerals of Arizona. This would be the alternate location if vehicles are not equipped to handle the rougher road. The turn off is 44.7 miles north of Wickenburg at the route 97 turn to Bagdad. Go 11.2 miles to intersection of 97 and 96. Turn right on 96 and go 3.3 miles and turn left (north) on a well maintained gravel road. Go 1.6 miles to the collecting site.

I will have maps at the November meeting.

The first site where garnets are found in tough vesicular rhyolite is good for surface material. How much rock you wish to break will dictate your choice of tools. I would suggest a screen for the gravels in draws may be a good source. Quarter inch hardware screen should work.

The second closer location is good for surface collecting and only small, light digging tools would be needed.

We will meet at McDonald's in Wickenburg at 8:00 am, leaving there at 8:30 am for site to be determined while we are at McDonald's. I may be staying (camping) at either site depending on whether my son decides to go quail hunting at the location.

I suggest you get gas at Wickenburg if needed as the closest station to one location is probably Kingman, unless we are at the site 6 location. Bring your favorite snacks and plenty of water.

See you at the November meeting.

Ed Nichols
YeOlde Rockhound



**THE ARIZONA MINING AND
MINERAL MUSEUM'S
WISH LIST:**

**EQUIPMENT OR PARTS OF
EQUIPMENT**

STAMP MILLS

MINE CARTS

**WHEELS – ESPECIALLY A PELTON
WHEEL**

MINE RAIL

ARRASTRAS

**SMALL MINING ARTIFACTS:
LAMPS, ASSAY EQUIPMENT, ETC.**

LARGE GOLD WHEELS

BALL MILLS

**ALL TYPES OF STAMP MILL
PARTS: FEEDER BOXES, CAMS,
ETC.**

SMALL WATER CANNON NOZZLE

**CALL JAN OR CHARLIE
AT 602-771-16112 OR 602-771-1612**

***Thank you to all who came out to
The Arizona Mining and
Mineral Museum's
Phoenix Family Day
at the Museum on
Saturday, October 18, 2008!***



The major fund raising events for The Mining and Mineral Museum are the sales of donated items at the Flagg Show, the Symposium and at the Museum's Family Day. Producing the Flagg Show makes a small profit but not enough to cover expenses for the year. Part public service, the show lets all the clubs set up and find new members, provides educational activities for kids, raises funds, and promotes the Museum. For the annual Minerals of Arizona Symposium, the costs are kept as low as possible so everyone can attend and is part of the Museum's educational program, with some years generating a small profit and other years fall short.

You can understand how sales are very important to the Museum and that your donations of specimens for these sales are desperately needed.

To make things easier, the Museum will be having a special

**DONATION DAY AT THE MUSEUM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2008
FROM 11 AM – 4 PM**

Bring your boxes of minerals to donate, have them appraised and you will receive a donation letter for tax purposes

If you can't make it December 6th, let us know and the Museum will make arrangements to pick up your donation. Your generous support is greatly appreciated.



NEWS FROM THE TREASURER:

Roster for 2008-2009

Everyone should have received the roster by now.

If you didn't get yours, please contact Ed Nichols at 480-636-1251 or email at epidote555@yahoo.com and he will send you one.

Please look up your info in the roster & if there are any mistakes contact Betty Deming at 602-242-1553 or email at bd_mac2003@yahoo.com

Dues are due for 2009.

Deadline is Dec. 31st.

Please either pay at the meeting or mail to my address:

**Betty L. Deming
2922 W. Claremont St.
Phoenix, AZ 85017**

+++++

Congratulations to these Arizona State Fair 2008 Award Winning MSA Members:

Melissa Langland, student Earth Science Award – Fossils

Valerie Langland Arizona Mineral & Mining Junior Award - Fossils

Betty Deming, Ellis Johnson Award – Cabochons

Barbara Amato won the Fred Labahn Award (Best Fossils)

MSA CONTACT INFO:

President & Field Trip Coordinator (Club Trips):
Ed Nichols
(480) 636-1251

Treasurer and Coalition Field Trip Coordinator:
Betty Deming
(602) 242-1553
Email address
bd_mac2003@yahoo.com

Secretary and Vice-President: Positions vacant. Interested?
Contact Ed Nichols

Newsletter Editor:
Heather Hill-Oliverson
Email address:
sagegirl777@juno.com

Mineral Curator:
John McLaughlin
(623) 979-5246

Librarian/Door Prizes/Hospitality:
Bob Holm (623) 247-1325

Refreshments: Lynne Dyer
(480) 396-2393

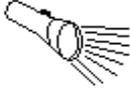
MSA BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
LYNNE DYER, TERRY DYER
BOB HOLM, K.J. WERNER

MSA PUZZLE OF THE MONTH

ONE PRIZE WILL BE GIVEN TO A JUNIOR AND AN ADULT CLUB MEMBER

 +  =

 r +  t =

 + O +  =

 +  =

 + i +  =

 +  t =

 +  + t  t =

 +  t =

 r +  t =

 i +  t =

Bonus: Your pictogram of a mineral!

**HEATHER HILL
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ARIZONA
1502 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

www.azminerals.com



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Exchange Editors: Please send all newsletters to the return address listed above.



**Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Founded 1935
A Non Profit Organization**

Purpose: To promote popular interest in the various Earth Sciences, and particularly the fields of Geology, Lapidary, Mineralogy, and related subjects.

ID badges are available from the Treasurer.

Meetings: 7:00 p.m. at the Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum, 1502 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ - on the second Friday of the month, September through June (*except February, which is the third Friday*).

Dues: Adults – Single Adults \$12.00, Juniors (18 yrs. and under) -\$2.50, Families & Couples - \$20.00.

**Mail dues to Betty Deming at
2922 W. Claremont, Phoenix, AZ 85017**

The Mineralogical Society of Arizona is a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies.



www.amfed.org

www.rmfmms.org

Newsletter: Reprinting permission granted with proper credit given. Unless otherwise noted, articles are written by the Editor.