

THE ROCKHOUND RECORD

Volume 75, Issue 7 Newsletter for the Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Phoenix, AZ ~ September 2009



NEXT MEETING:
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2009
AT 7:00 PM

MEETING TOPIC & SPEAKER

GENE KNUCKEY

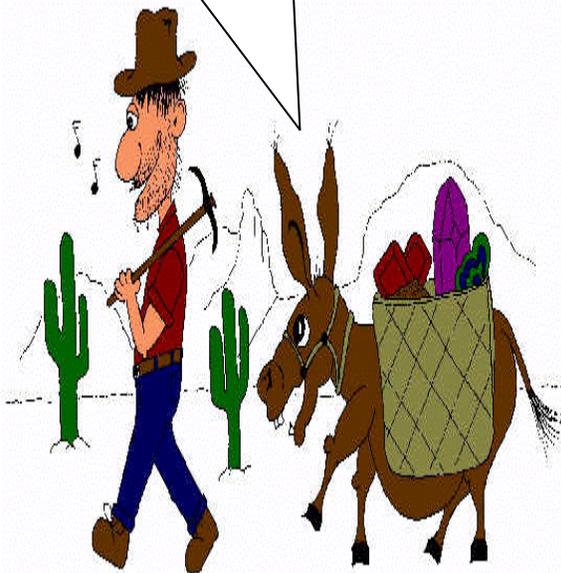
If you were at the April 2007 meeting, you will remember Mr. Knuckey, & if you missed it, you will have the chance to hear him speak September 11th; it will be the same program. Mr. Knuckey is a local author who worked for the City of Phoenix for 27 years before retiring. He will speak about the topic of mining at the Chrysotile Mine from 1914-1945.

The Chrysotile mine is located in Ash Creek just east of Globe in Gila County. Asbestos was the mainstay of the mine, & chrysotile is named for the type of asbestos that was mined. In particular, when Hoover Dam was constructed in the 1930s, asbestos from chrysotile was used for insulation of the hydroelectric plant.

Mr. Knuckey will tell us about the mine from his unique historical perspective: he is the third generation in his family to have lived at the mine. Gene's grandfather, Frank Knuckey was a supervisor of the mine and his father, Francis Knuckey grew up living at the mine.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

We have a new website address:
www.mineralogicalsocietyarizona.org



Hope everyone had fun this summer and time for an adventure or two. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the September 11th meeting.

Lois Splendoria
President



ARIZONA MINERAL COLLECTOR

NUMBER 121

By Raymond Grant

Last month I wrote about arizonite, a mineral named after our state, which has been discredited. As it stands our mineral rich state will not have a mineral named after it, as the standard procedure is that once a name has been used and discredited it cannot be used again.

Several of our most famous localities are in the same position. They have had minerals named after them that were later discredited and are not valid names today.

Morencite was named after the town of Morenci that today has the largest mine in Arizona. W. Lindgren and W. F. Hillebrand described morencite from the Arizona Central mine in Morenci in 1904.

It was determined to be identical with nontronite in 1935 and the name nontronite is the proper name instead of morencite.

Bisbeeite, named after Arizona's most famous mineral locality, is not considered to be a mineral. W. Schaller described bisbeeite from the Shattuck mine at Bisbee in 1915. Later some samples were determined to be a mixture of chrysocolla and plancheite and not a distinct mineral. Dick Bideaux (personal communication) was convinced that it was a valid species and felt that more work on other samples would show it to be a valid mineral. But, at present it is a discredited mineral. (Shattuckite was described at the same time from the Shattuck mine and is still a valid mineral.)

Jeromite named after another famous Arizona mining town is also not considered a mineral. C. Lausen described jeromite from the United Verde mine in Jerome in 1928. It formed as a coating from fumes from the underground mine fire. It was considered a valid mineral until a few years ago (2007), but because it is amorphous and of variable composition, it was therefore not considered a valid mineral species and removed from the list.

EDITOR'S NOTE

When I received the July issue of Rock & Gem, I was excited to read an article written by our member, Hilde Zahm, about a field trip to the Sitgreaves National Forest in Pinedale to collect black fossil wood. Seems her group was issued a ticket by a National Forest Ranger for not having a "permit". I also read an item submitted by a reader to the June-July AFMS Newsletter, about a similar encounter with the law while collecting. My family & I have been collecting for years too, but are unaware of any necessary permits. I know that like Hilde's group, & the AFMS Newsletter contributor, I & most rockhounds I know, would be dumbfounded in this situation, especially because I know we are good, honest, ethical people. These experiences remind me of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Code of Ethics. The second rule is to keep informed on laws that govern collecting. I think it's a good idea to include the following, and going forward, I'd like all of us to make an effort to research and share information about permits we might need for field trips. ~ Heather Hill

AFMS CODE OF ETHICS

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and Will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

SEPTEMBER COALITION TRIP

FOURTH OF JULY AGATES
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2009

The September field trip will be held on Saturday, September 26th and we will be heading out to Fourth of July to pick up agates.

To get to the meeting area, head west on I-10 to exit 112 (Gila Bend / Yuma). You'll be heading south after getting off the freeway. At the first traffic light (MC 85), turn left, and there will be a Shell gas station near the corner. This is where we will be meeting to sign waiver forms and hand out maps. I should be there at 7:30 am (look for the big bronze F250). We will leave promptly at 8:00. The agates show good banding, are usually gray and white, although we have found some peach and white ones and are walnut-sized.

It is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that you have a 4WD for this trip, as there are a few wash crossings that are quite sandy as well as some areas that require some clearance. Also, pack a lot of water - it will be warm. Bigger vehicles may get some desert pin-striping, as the trail is not very well used and overgrown.

The trip coordinator will have cell phone on if people need to contact the day of the trip 602-703-5188.

Hope to see you on the 26th!



MSA SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP

September 19, 2009

I've been trying to think of a new spot for a field trip and something quite different from past rockhounding areas. I think our desert weather is still going to be very warm the third weekend of September, therefore I'll plan a trip to a flagstone collecting area just north of Ash Fork, AZ. As you probably know, that type of stone is found in layers in sandstone formations. Some rockhounds use it for painting scenic pictures, and some flagstone found in the area north of Ash Fork has fossil imprints on the layers. If you have children or grandchildren it is excellent material to draw or paint on as only a piece of sandpaper is needed to erase the tablet for new paintings or drawings. I will probably stay overnight Saturday and go to Whitehorse Lake south of Williams on Sunday. My wife and I haven't settled on a place to stay Sat. night. We want to go south of Whitehorse on Sunday to Sycamore Canyon if the weather is dry. The overlook is beautiful anytime of the year and is good for collecting augite crystals. There are two KOA campgrounds close to Williams and of course, campgrounds at Whitehorse and motels in Williams if you want to stay overnight. I'll have maps at the two meeting places. First at the Museum at 7:00 A.M. on the 19th, and then at Ash Fork at about 9:30 A.M. on the 19th. Look for the yellow MSA sign at the east entrance to Ash Fork. Tools are rock hammer, small sledge, small chisel and a short pry bar would be handy.

Gas and food are available at Ash Fork. Not sure about motels there.

Contact me at 480 636 1251 or e mail epidote555@yahoo.com prior to the 18th of September if you're going on the trip.

See you at the Sept 11th meeting.
Ed Nichols - YeOlde Rockhound

ROCK SHOWS AND EVENTS

**SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2009
TUCSON**

FALL TUCSON BEST BEAD SHOW
Kino Veterans Memorial
Community Center,
2805 E. Ajo Way, Tucson, AZ 85713-6217
Sponsored by: Crystal Myths, Inc.
Hours: Fri., Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
Show Chairperson: Lewis Wilson,
P.O. Box 3243, Albuquerque, NM 87190
505-883-9295, crystalmyths@msn.com
Website: www.crystalmyths.com



**SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2009
GREEN VALLEY**

**GREEN VALLEY LAPIDARY ARTS &
CRAFTS FAIR**

West Social Center, Green Valley, AZ
Sponsored by: Green Valley Lapidary
and Silversmith Club
Hours: Sat. 9-4, Sun. 11-4
Admission: Free

Website: www.gvrlapidaryclub.com/craftschedule.htm



**SEPTEMBER 19-20
JACKSON, CALIFORNIA**

**9TH ANNUAL TAILGATE GEMBOREE
FOSSILS FOR FUN SOCIETY**

Kennedy Gold Mine
12954 Kennedy Mine Rd.
Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5
free admission

indoor exhibits, outdoor dealers, rocks,
gems, minerals, fossils, Sat. night auctions,
surface mine tours, gold panning
contact Debbie Bunn, P.O. Box 255702,
Sacramento, CA 95670, (916) 929-6665
e-mail: fossilsforfun@hotmail.com

Web site:
www.geocities.com/fossilsforfunociety/index.html

SEPTEMBER 16-20

**DENVER, COLORADO
"Colorado Mineral &
Fossil Show - Fall"**

Martin Zinn Expositions
Holiday Inn - Denver Central
4849 Bannock St.
Wed. 10-6, Thu. 10-6, Fri. 10-6,
Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
free admission

200 wholesale and retail dealers,
**free shuttle bus to
Merchandise Mart.....**



SEPTEMBER 18-20

**"Colorado Fossil Expo"
Martin Zinn Expositions
Denver Merchandise Mart
Plaza Annex**

451 E. 58th Ave.
adults \$6, seniors and teens \$4; 50
dealers, fossils, meteorites, petrified
wood, amber, paleontological exhibits

**PART OF THE
DENVER GEM & MINERAL SHOW
ONE TICKET
COVERS BOTH SHOWS
Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5**

*contact Martin Zinn Expositions P.O.
Box 665, Bernalillo, NM
87004-0665, fax (505) 867-0073
e-mail: mz0955@aol.com
Web site: www.mzexpos.com*



**The AZ Mining & Mineral Museum
(AZMMMR) maintains a list of Arizona
club shows on their website:
<http://mines.az.gov/General/museum.html>**

**OCTOBER 10-11, 2009
PAYSON RIMSTONES ROCK CLUB
ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW**

Tonto Apache Reservation Recreation Center, Mazatzal Hotel & Casino Event Center on Highway 87 in Payson, AZ

Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4

Admission: \$3.00

(\$1.00 OFF ADMISSION COUPONS
ARE AVAILABLE)

Children Under 12 Free
Gems, Minerals, Lapidary Arts & Hand-Crafted Jewelry

Dealers will display and sell a vast assortment of jewelry, chains, gems, findings, rough slabs, minerals, fossils, books, tools & supplies, Silent

Auctions, Spinning Wheel,

Fluorescent Light display.

Lots of family fun!!!

Show contact:

Barry & Margaret Jones

928-476-3513

froggie1048@msn.com



**OCTOBER 10-11, 2009
35TH ANNUAL HUACHUCA GEM,
MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW**
At the Elks Lodge on Wilcox Avenue in
SIERRA VISTA, AZ
Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4
Admission & Parking are FREE
Live Demos, Educational Displays, Rocks,
Jewelry, Gems, Minerals, Fossils,
Equipment, Lapidary Supplies & More!
Proceeds benefit the
Club's Scholarship Fund.
Contact: Ingrid 520-459-3718

DON'T MISS IT!!!

FAMILY DAY AT THE MUSEUM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009,

**Co-sponsored by
the Arizona Mineral and Mining
Museum Foundation**

**Arizona Mineral Museum
1502 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Hours: Sat. 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Free Admission and Parking**

**Demonstrations and activities
for children will be sponsored
by the Museum.**

**For event information call:
602-771-1611**

**For dealer booths contact:
Darrell Dodd at 480-575-5214**



DMMR Board of Governors 1st Quarter Meeting
Monday, November 16, 2009, 10 A.M.
DMMR Conference Room
2nd floor, 1502 W. Washington, Phoenix
Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice is hereby
given that the Board of Governors of DMMR will
hold a quarterly meeting open to the public.
Information concerning the Board's agenda for
the meeting may be obtained by calling 602-
771-1602 or 1-800-446-4259.

Persons with a disability may request
reasonable accommodation, such as a sign
language interpreter, by contacting Jacqueline
Hall, Administrative Assistant, 602-771-1602.
Requests should be made as early as possible.



IN MEMORIAM.....

Marcella “Marc” Walker Watson’s love affair with Arizona began more than 70 years ago. She died Tuesday, June 9, 2009 in Glendale after a long illness. She was 90.

Marc [Mrs. Watson] was well known in the Phoenix area and throughout the state for her wide ranging interests and volunteer activities. As a 4-H Club leader for nearly 60 years, she was still teaching leather craft and helping children of former members with their projects well into her 80s.

An ardent mineral collector, Marc [Mrs. Watson] was among the founders of the Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum. In 1999, she was recipient of the first A.L. Flagg Distinguished Service Award for her contributions over 40 years to the Mineralogical Society of Arizona. She was well known for her knowledge of quartz crystals, and had served as president and board member of the MSA.

In addition to her mineral collections, she displayed a collection of more than 3,000 bells in her home and was for many years an active member of the local chapter of the National Bell Association. Her diverse enthusiasms and interests were reflected throughout her home, where walls and cabinets also displayed collections of nativity sets, Native American artifacts and jewelry, cowboy and western art and family photographs.

Marc [Mrs. Watson] was born in Sacramento, Calif., on Aug. 26, 1918, to Charles Thomas Walker and Eva Belle Miser Walker. A daughter of the California Gold Rush, her ancestors settled in El Dorado County in the 1850s. She grew up on family cattle ranches in Clarksville and the Lake Tahoe area and attended schools and college in the Sacramento area.

She owned and rode horses most of her life and, as a young woman, joined cowhands in cattle drives, competed in rodeos and was a rodeo queen. Her last ride, at age 66, was a week-long trail ride from Northern Arizona to Phoenix.

In 1940, Marc [Mrs. Watson] married Clifton “Cliff” Lloyd Watson, who died in 1989. She is survived by a son, Walter “Bud” Watson and his wife, Rebecca; daughters Roberta Richardson and Leslie Albin; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; a brother, three sisters and 13 nieces and nephews.

In accordance with Marc’s [Mrs. Watson’s] wishes, no services were planned. Her ashes and her spirit will endure in her beloved Arizona landscape.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Marc & Cliff Watson Memorial Fund to sponsor educational programs of the Mineralogical Society of Arizona, c/o Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum, 1502 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

Phyllis Sonnenberg, a long-time member of the MSA, passed away on June 24th at the age of 85.

She was born on a farm in Wisconsin at a time when there was no electricity and they used only kerosene lanterns. They got their water from a creek and used an outhouse. She had to walk two miles to a one room school house. When the soles of their shoes wore out, they would put in pieces of cardboard.

When she got married, they couldn't afford to buy gasoline to drive a car. They lived in an upstairs flat and only had a hot plate to cook on. They had a little oak ice box that had to have a cake of ice put in it each day. The ice was delivered by a horse drawn wagon.

While her husband, Ron, was in the service during WWII, she moved to Phoenix. Their son, Gary, was born in 1946. Their daughter, Lynne, was born in 1949. When Gary was around 10 years old, he was introduced to the hobby of rock collecting by a neighbor boy, Dick Sherer. Another neighbor, Edna Barrett would drive them to the MSA meetings. Later Phyllis and Lynne joined. They enjoyed attending the club meetings which were held at the old Mineral Museum on the State Fairgrounds. They all knew Mr. Flagg. They also enjoyed going on the club field trips and participating in the club shows. Phyllis entered her mineral collections and baked goods often in the Arizona State Fair winning many awards over the years.

Phyllis became a micromounter and became the best of friends with Virginia & Marvin Deshler and Bill & Edna Hunt. They enjoyed many outings together. Phyllis also became good friends with well-known micromounters from back East including Paul & Hilde Seel, Neal Yedlin, and Lou Perlof and enjoyed trading specimens with them.

In later years, her health declined and she became afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.



NEWS FROM THE TREASURER:



The Arizona State Fair will be here sooner than you think!!
The deadline for mineral related items is September 29th!

They didn't send out handbooks this year, but you can download them on www.azstatefair.com/entries

So start cleaning up your minerals, jewelry & even beads, & Send In An Entry! Who knows, you might win a trophy & even money!



The Fair dates this year are October 16th to November 8th.

See you there. Betty



HEADS UP!

December Coalition Trip will be a camp-out. tentatively in the Quartzite area.....

Tyson Wells Gem and Mineral Show
Jan. 1-10.....

MSA CONTACT INFO:

President:
Lois Splendoria
lois.splendoria@gmail.com
602-571-4577

Vice President
& Field Trip Coordinator
(Club Trips):
Ed Nichols
epidote555@yahoo.com
(480) 636-1251

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

**Secretary: Position vacant.
Interested?
Contact Lois Splendoria**

Newsletter Editor:
Heather Hill-Oliverson
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, DAVE LAY

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

www.mineralsocietyarizona.org



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

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