

THE ROCKHOUND RECORD

Volume 75, Issue 3 Newsletter for the Mineralogical Society of Arizona
March 2009



NEXT MEETING:
FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2009
AT 7:00 PM

MEETING TOPIC & SPEAKER

"The Wonderful World of Wulfenite" Leo Langland

Leo will take us to visit the wonderful world of wulfenite. Or as a sign painted by a hippie on the shed that used to be at the Red Cloud Mine, near Yuma. "wulfenite is love".

A slide program showing The Langland collection of wulfenite with illustrations and information about it's formation, crystal form, properties, chemistry and occurrences.

In the 1960s on a trip back to Iowa in the 1960s, his wife, Barb, saw her first wulfenite at Benjy's Rock Shop in Ouray Colorado. So there it began. Arizona probably has more wulfenite localities & types than anyplace in the world. Leo has taken slides of them, showing how they were formed, & the many world wide sources.

WASHINGTON – A land management bill that swept through the U.S. Senate last month, headed for a House vote this week punishes rock collectors and paleontologists with arrest and expropriation of their cars and other equipment for even unknowingly disturbing fossils on public land, say critics.

In the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, a "forfeiture" provision would let the government confiscate "all vehicles and equipment of any person" who digs up or removes a rock or a bone from federal land that meets the bill's broad definition of "paleontological resource," says a report by Jon Berlau of the Competitive Enterprise Institute.

"The seizures could take place even before a person and even if the person didn't know they were taking or digging up a 'paleontological resource,' writes Berlau. "And the bill specifically allows the 'transfer of seized resources' to 'federal or non-federal' institutions, giving the government and some private actors great incentive to egg on the takings."

Tracie Bennett, president of the Association of Applied Paleontological Sciences, is protesting the bill's vague language and severe penalties. "We can visualize now a group of students unknowingly crossing over an invisible line and ending up handcuffed and prosecuted," she wrote to members of Congress

Subtitle D of the bill called the "Paleontological Resources Preservation Act" would make it illegal to "excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface or attempt to excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface any paleontological resources located on Federal land" without special permission from the government.

"Paleontological resource" is defined in the bill as "any fossilized remains, traces, or imprints of organisms, preserved in or on the earth's crust, that are of paleontological interest and that provide information about the history of life on earth." Penalties for violations include up to five years in jail.

Berlau believes picking up rocks could be interpreted as a violation of the law since most would fit the broad definition under the law.

The forfeiture provision is effective before a trial and conviction, making the defendant guilty until proven innocent, Berlau suggests.

Berlau believes the House will take up a vote on the bill this week. He is urging Americans to contact representatives before the bill, known both as S. 22 and the "Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009" is approved, as expected, and heads to the White House for President Obama's signature.

Source: "Collect a rock, lose your car - Ominous forfeiture provisions in new bill restricting use of federal land"
Posted: February 22, 2009 at 9:43 pm Eastern
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ARIZONA MINERAL COLLECTOR

NUMBER 117

By Raymond Grant

If you didn't get to the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show this year, the theme was "mineral oddities". The definition of a mineral oddity was open to interpretation. Some of the things considered oddities were pseudomorphs, twin crystals, unusual crystal growths, spherical shaped minerals, minerals shaped like different objects such as an animal or a gun, and anything else considered odd.

Some of the minerals from Arizona on display in the oddities category were pseudomorphs including quartz after anhydrite from New River, quartz after aragonite from Coolidge Dam, smithsonite after calcite from the antler mine, and chrysocolla after gypsum from the Ray mine. Some were unusual crystal growths including curved gypsum from near Payson, a calcite ring from Bisbee, quartz scepters from the Fat Jack mine, a curved malachite stalactite from Bisbee, and faden quartz from the Veta Grande mine.

Other Arizona oddities were the bird's nest calcites from Bisbee, a calcified Say's Phoebe's nest from Salt River Canyon, and native copper which forms on mine timbers in old mines. Also, the Mining and Mineral Museum had their Banquet of Rocks on display.

The Seventeenth Annual Minerals of Arizona Symposium will be Saturday March 21, 2009. The program will be:

1. Wulfenite in Arizona - Jan Rasmussen
2. Mines and Minerals of the Turquoise district (Courtland, Gleeson), Cochise County, Arizona - Anna Domitrovic
3. Quartz from the Santa Nino mine area, Santa Cruz County, Arizona - Barbara Muntyan
4. Paramelaconite from Bisbee, Arizona - The Type Locality - Evan Jones
5. Solar Wind, Searles Canyon, and Maynard claims, Utah - Mark Carter
6. How new minerals are recognized and characterized - Marcus Origlieri
7. Mineral preparation and cleaning - 101 - Les Presmyk
8. What's new in Arizona minerals - Harvey Jong and Ray Grant

If you are interest in a great day to meet with other collectors and listen to some good talks you should plan to attend.

MARCH BIRTHSTONE

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Aries (Mar 21 – April 20)

By Heather Hill

The March birthstone is aquamarine, the blue-green or aqua variety of the mineral beryl, and colored by trace amounts of iron. Aquamarine varies in color from blue-green to a light sky blue, but green, yellow or pale stones are often heat-treated to remove the less desirable colors. A majority of Aquamarines, unlike other gemstones, are flawless, and it's a relatively abundant gem. The hardness and durability of aquamarine make it a fine gemstone, a 7½ - 8 on the Mohs' hardness scale.

Beryl is a mineral that crystallizes within large grained igneous rocks on the earth's crust. It varies in color from clear to vibrantly colored gemstones such as the Emerald. Beryl was used as far back as 2,000 years ago to correct vision, and it continues to be used today in the manufacture of eyeglasses. Other gemstone color varieties that are also the mineral beryl include morganite and heliodor.

Aquamarine is sometimes found in huge crystals (unlike emerald). It is also known in a glassy form, often without showing crystal form, and sometimes with many holes or other odd shapes. Other times a large cluster of prismatic crystals can be seen to all have the same alignment - a sign that it is really a single crystal with many faces.

There are aquamarine deposits in all continents, but the most important are in Brazil, the leading producer of aquamarines - mined from pegmatite and coarse-grained granite.

Other sources of Aquamarine are in India, Australia, Africa, and the United States. Pakistan and China also produce beautiful specimens; recently, a new mine in China has produced large numbers of excellent flat (stubby) hexagonal crystals, for a fraction of the price of the fine Pakistan specimens.

Derived from the Roman word "Aqua," meaning water, and "mare," meaning sea, ancient Romans believed that the Aquamarine was sacred to Neptune, the god of the sea, having fallen from the jewel boxes of sirens and washed onto shore. Early sailors wore aquamarine talismans, engraved with the likeness of Neptune, as protection against dangers at sea. The association with water led to the belief that the Aquamarine was particularly powerful when immersed. Water in which this gemstone had been submerged was used in ancient times to heal a variety of illnesses of the heart, liver, stomach, mouth and throat. Aquamarines were also used to reverse poisoning and to aid in fortune telling.

It is said that the gift of aquamarine is symbolic of safety and security, especially in long standing relationships. Some folks say aquamarine renews love in a tired marriage.

There is also an alternate birthstone for March, the Bloodstone, a dark green opaque quartz flecked with red spots. The name Bloodstone derives from a legendary belief that the red coloration resulted from the blood of Christ spilling onto green jasper during the crucifixion. For this reason, it is also called "martyr's stone." Bloodstone is mined in the United States, Australia, Brazil, Uruguay, and in India. Ideal for carving into cameos and beads, the stone symbolizes courage.

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

Minerals of Arizona
Seventeenth Annual Symposium

Sponsored by the Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation, and
The Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources

Saturday March 21, 2009, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the
Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum, 15th Avenue and Washington
Phoenix, AZ

Registration includes, breakfast (8 to 9 AM), coffee breaks, lunch, and symposium
proceedings. Program starts at 9.

Registration Form:

**Detach and mail this form with the \$35.00 registration fee before March 14, 2008
(Foundation members pay \$30.00) so lunch and other food can be ordered.**

**To: Symposium:
Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation
P.O. Box 41834, Mesa, AZ 85274**

Make checks payable to: Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation.

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ registrations.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation Membership

Your membership in the Foundation will help us to continue supporting improvements at the Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum.

For \$25.00 you can be a member and you will entitled to:

- ❖ A one-year subscription to the Foundation newsletter
- ❖ A 10% discount at the Museum Store for one year
- ❖ An invitation to special events such as mineral sales, field trips and programs
- ❖ A discount for Foundation- sponsored events. Members pay only \$30.00 to attend the Seventeenth Annual Symposium
- ❖ Free Museum admission

I would like to be a member and have enclosed \$25.00

Make checks payable to: Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation.

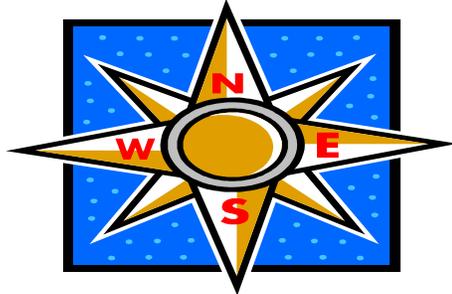
Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ registrations.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

**Send to:
Arizona Mineral and Mining
Museum Foundation
P.O. Box 41834
Mesa, AZ 85274**

THERE IS NO COALITION TRIP PLANNED FOR MARCH



MSA MARCH FIELD TRIP **SATURDAY, MARCH 21st**

We will have two locations to explore on this trip.

The Hull Rd. location is an agate site, & up the road a short distance is the Harquahala Mine site, mined by the Bonanza Mining Company as early as 1888.

Meet at Tonopah, AZ. about 60 miles west of Phoenix. Take exit 94, make left at stop sign, going over the freeway overpass into Tonopah. On the right is a Truck Stop restaurant.

The yellow MSA sign will be on one of the vehicles. Meet there at 8:00 a.m. We will be leaving there at 8:30 a.m. Get back on I-10 westbound and go to exit 53 Hovatter Rd. Right turn at exit & we'll stop for short break there.

I'll have maps at the March 13th meeting and at Tonopah. If you have questions prior to field trip call my home phone 480 636 1251 or email at epidote555@yahoo.com I'll have my cell on the trip, # is 480 370 6716.

Your choice of tools heavy sledge for boulders, light for lighter application of muscle power, rock pick for general duty digging and tapping. Take plenty of water & check your spare tire. Both of these locations are car accessible. First location is ideal for youngsters. Second location is ok for youngsters with good parent supervision. Tonopah is best place for gas, food, restrooms, groceries etc.

See you at next meeting or at Tonopah on the 21st of March.

Ed Nichols
YeOlde Rockhound

ROCK SHOWS



MARCH 21, 2009

**MINERALS OF ARIZONA
SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL
SYMPOSIUM
PHOENIX, AZ**

Full day symposium with presentations on Arizona's Minerals and Mineral Localities.

Sponsored by the Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum Foundation, and The Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources

Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum
1502 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Sat. 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Co-chairpersons:
Jan Rasmussen, Curator,
Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum
Ray Grant – Chair, AMMMF
(480) 814-9086



MARCH 13, 14, 15, 2009

**33RD ANNUAL VERDE
VALLEY GEM & MINERAL
SHOW**

**The Mingus Gem
& Mineral Club**

In the past, it has been held at the Mingus High School. NOTE: The 2009 Show will be at the Verde Valley Fairgrounds
800 E. Cherry Street
Cottonwood, AZ 86326

Admission

Friday 9am to 5pm - \$1.00
Saturday 9am to 5pm - \$3.00
Sunday 10am to 4pm - \$3.00

****SPECIAL****

Children free with adult admission.

FREE \$5 worth of raffle tickets with paid admission and coupon. Limit 1 per admission.

Go to our website to print coupon - <http://mingusclub.org/show.html>

Show Highlights –

See, Discover, and Buy!

Worldwide Mineral and Gems, Fine & Costume Jewelry, Stunning Gem & Mineral Displays, Fluorescent Minerals, Raffles & Silent Auctions, Jewelry Tools & Supplies, Free Gem & Mineral Identification (Sat. only 10-3), Free Rocks & Activities for Children
This is our BIGGEST SHOW ever!
ENJOY A FUN FAMILY ACTIVITY!
Children's Activities with FREE kids' rocks!

The Rockhound Record - Mineralogical Society of Arizona March 2009

IF YOU'RE TRAVELING AROUND THE SOUTHWEST IN MARCH 2009:

12-15--DEMING, NM: 44th annual show, "Rockhound Roundup"; Deming Gem & Mineral Society; Southwestern New Mexico Fairgrounds; Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; displays, demonstrations, jewelry, rocks, drawings, raffle, field trips, silent auction, live auction; contact Bud Daily, P.O. Box 1459, Deming, NM 88031, (575) 267-4399

13-15--OGDEN, UT: 58th annual show, "2009 Gemstone Junction"; Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society; Union Station, 2500 Wall Ave.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$2, students \$1.50, children under 12 free with adult; more than 25 dealers, more than 30 display cases, dinosaur bones, fossils, minerals, jewelry, beads, faceted stones, geodes, petrified wood, lapidary tools and equipment, demonstrations, rock bags, wheel of fortune, door prizes, silent auction; contact Richard Gabel, P.O. Box 12835, Ogden, UT 84412-2835, (801) 648-5060; e-mail: club@goldenspikegem.org

14-15--SAN MARINO, CA: 51st annual show, "Tournament of Gems"; Pasadena Lapidary Society; San Marino Masonic Center, 3130 Huntington Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; member displays, demonstrations, dealers; contact Drew Wilson, (626) 298-1534

14-15--SPRECKELS, CA: 63rd annual show; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Spreckels Veterans Hall, 5th St. and Llano St.; displays, beads, finished jewelry, rough rock, fluorescent display, kids' activities, demonstrations, free hourly door prize, raffle, dealers, silent auction, minerals, fossils, lapidary; contact Ernie deFever, (831) 422-3422, or Karin Salomon; e-mail: kcbakes27@sbcglobal.net; Web site: Salinasrockandgem.com

14-15--TURLOCK, CA: Show, "Treasures from the Earth"; Mother Lode Mineral Society; Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, 900 N. Broadway; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, children 12 and under free; vendors, 80 educational exhibits, 20 demonstrations, fine jewelry, beads, minerals, fossils, dinosaurs, tools, large children's area with free activities, fluorescent tent, silent auction, speakers: Bob Jones, Dr. Alan Schaffert, Walter Wright, Richard Wade, David K. Lynch; contact Bud & Terry McMillin, P.O. Box 1263, Modesto, CA 95350; (209) 524-3494; e-mail: terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com; Web site: www.turlockgemshow.com

20-22--ALBUQUERQUE, NM: 41st annual show, "Treasures of the Earth Show"; Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club; School Arts/Flower Bldgs., New Mexico State Fair Grounds (EXPO-NM); Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$1 (Fri.) and \$3 (Sat. and Sun.), kids under 13 free; more than 35 dealers, mineral displays, demonstrations, door prizes, kids' booth, silent auctions; contact Paul Hlava, (505) 255-5478; e-mail: hp5@qwest.net

20-22--SANDY (SALT LAKE CITY), UT: Show; Gem Faire Inc.; South Towne Exposition Center/Exhibit Hall 5, 9575 S. State St.; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; \$5 weekend pass; contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: www.gemfaire.com

20-22--SPANISH FORK, UT: 50th annual show, "Spring Parade of Gems"; Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society; Spanish Fork Fairgrounds, 475 S. Main; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; free admission; contact Don Bagshaw, 210 S 400 E, Salem, UT 84653, (801) 423-2538; e-mail: baojiazhi1@msn.com

21-22--ESCONDIDO, CA: Annual show; Palomar Gem & Mineral Club; Army National Guard Armory, 304 Park Ave.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; adults \$2, seniors \$1, children free; dealers, rough rock, finished stones, jewelry, tools, related products, gem identification; contact Van Lynch, 30135 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center, CA 92082, (760) 749-4164; e-mail: michelleandvan@hotmail.com; Web site: www.palomargem.org

21-22--VALLEJO, CA: Show and sale, "Spring Bling"; Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society; Vallejo Elks Lodge, 2850 Redwood Pkwy., at the intersection of Redwood Pkwy. and Admiral Callahan Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, ages 12-18 \$2, children under 12 free; beads, jade, fossils, meteorites, opals, rough rock, slabs, door prizes, silent auction, "Wheel of Fortune"; contact Phyllis Malicki, (707) 745-3255; (707) 745-3255; e-mail: ygms01@yahoo.com; Web site: www.iwired.org

27-29--FORT COLLINS, CO: 48th annual show, "Nature's Treasures"; Fort Collins Rockhounds; Lincoln Center, 419 W. Magnolia St.; Fri. 4-8, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, \$5/weekend, seniors \$3, students (under 18) \$1, children under 12 free with adult; exhibits, door prizes, grab bags, silent auction, demonstrations, 7 gem and mineral dealers; contact Dave Halliburton, P.O. Box 482, Fort Collins, CO 80522, (970) 493-6168; e-mail: showchairman@fortcollinsrockhounds.org; Web site: www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org

27-29--FRESNO, CA: Show, "The New Jewelry, Gem, Bead & Mineral Show"; High Sierra Investment Group Inc.; Fresno Convention & Visitors Bureau, 848 M St.; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; adults \$6, seniors and students \$3, children free; door prizes, gold panning specialist and certified gemologist and appraiser on hand; contact High Sierra Investment Group Inc., 20385 Pahute Rd., Apple Valley, CA 92308, (702) 869-0269; e-mail: GEFisher39@aol.com; Web site: www.HighSierraInvestments.net

28-29--ANGELS CAMP, CA: Annual show and sale, "Jump for the Gold!"; Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society; Calaveras "Frog Town USA" fairgrounds, Hwy 49; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; admission \$3; shuttle service to Mark Twain Hall, dealers, minerals, rocks, jewelry, findings, beads, lapidary supplies, raffles, silent auction, kids' area; contact Tak Iwata, (209) 928-5579; Web site: <http://Calaverasgemandmineral.org>

28-29--LEMOORE, CA: 1st annual show; Lemoore Gem & Mineral Club; Trinity Hall; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; free admission; contact Judy Pereira, 335 W. D St., Lemoore, CA 93245, (559) 924-4052

28-29--ROSEVILLE, CA: 47th annual show; Roseville Rock Rollers; Roseville (Placer County) Fairgrounds, 800 All America City Blvd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$5, seniors (60+) \$4, children 12 and under free; more than 30 indoor and outdoor vendors, crystals, gold, geode cracking, beads, gemstones, fossils, polished stones, handcrafted jewelry, opal, world-class mineral specimens, tourmaline, sunstones, amber, mineral identification, "Kids' Junction," demonstrations, silent auctions, 40+ exhibits, raffles, lapidary shop open house, "Rookie Rock Rollers" information; contact Gloria Marie, (916) 216-1114; or e-mail: g16marie@ftcnet.net; Web site: www.rockrollers.com

28-29--TORRANCE, CA: 60th annual show, "Nature's Treasures"; Torrance Recreational Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; exhibits, demonstrations, children's workshops, slabs, rough, tumbled stones, jewelry, lapidary items; contact Larry Hoskinson or Leslie Neff, (310) 318-2170; Web site: www.palosverdes.com/sblap/

***Thank you to all
who came out
to visit and
work at
PROSPECTORS' DAY
Saturday, February 21
at the Arizona Mining
and Mineral Museum***



**SAY HELLO TO OUR NEW
MEMBERS!**

**LAURIE & ROBERT BRAINARD
OF SUN CITY, AZ**

**THOMAS C. PHILLIPS
OF MESA, AZ**

MSA CONTACT INFO:

President:
Lois Splendoria
chimes@extremezone.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:
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**HEATHER HILL
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ARIZONA
1502 West 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

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