

THE ROCKHOUND RECORD

Volume 76, Issue 3 Newsletter for the Mineralogical Society of Arizona
March 2010



NEXT MEETING:
FRIDAY, MARCH 12TH, 2010
AT 7:00 PM

MEETING TOPIC & SPEAKER

JEFF SCOVIL

The program will be on Jeff's travels with Leslie Albin and friend Tomek Praszkiar in Morocco where they visited a number of famous mineral localities (including Taouz, Mibladen, Bou Azzer and Imilchil). The trip was taken from November 2 to 18, 2009.

Jeff's programs are intriguing, interesting and always just wonderful, please join us.

ARIZONA MINING AND MINERAL MUSEUM'S FUTURE?

By Heather Hill

I am sure many of you by now have heard the news. Governor Jan Brewer announced in a ceremony at the Mining and Mineral Museum on February 12th, plans for a Centennial Birthday Present for the State of Arizona. In the next two years, the historic Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum will transform into the Arizona Centennial Museum. Interactive displays will highlight our state's 5 fundamental industries, the "Five Cs": Copper, Cattle, Citrus, Climate and Cotton. However, a clear statement was made that no one industry would be more displayed than any of the other four. This translates to only 20% of the space being devoted to mining.

The Governor says that no public funds will be used to build the new museum. To renovate and maintain the museum, private sector donations will be raised by The Arizona Centennial Commission and its non-profit Arizona Centennial 2012 Foundation, the Arizona Historical Society, and representatives from each the "Five Cs" industries. It is said that the Centennial Museum will be administrated by The Arizona Historical Society. The professional design services firm Brewer hired to renovate the museum is Gallagher & Associates, recognized for their work on projects such as public and private museums, visitor centers, learning facilities, science centers, & traveling exhibits. To read the Press Release, go to: http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_021210_CentennialMuseum.pdf

During the press conference, Richard Gallagher of Gallagher & Associates, and the director of the Centennial Commission were asked about the timing. They expect the fundraising (\$9 million: \$1 million anticipated from each of the "5 Cs", and additional matching fund grants from foundations and the federal government (is \$ from the federal gov't considered "public funds"?) to take about 9 months, with construction completed sometime in 2012. We have also heard that no mineral specimens will be sold and that the Arizona Historical Society values collections of artifacts and minerals as well, and is well versed in the care of collections.

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There is great concern because an existing Museum with an outstanding program is being closed and replaced with something else. Thousands of people come to the Museum every year from all over the world. Last year 25,000 students came for a science and technology educational experience, and 25,000 visitors, many from out of state or from other countries, visited the Museum. Millions of dollars flow into our great state thanks to mineral collectors. Arizona has become a world destination for mineral collectors because of events like the Tucson Gem and Mineral show, Quartzite shows, and activities here in Phoenix related to mineral collecting, including the Mineral Museum. Will people come from around the world to see a "5C" Museum?

Some people have spoken up and said that to spend 9 million dollars on changing something that is already good seems a waste. Why not find another building in the area that is not currently occupied, thus improving the area? The Historical Society already has existing museums in Tempe & Tucson. Why can't they incorporate such displays into these museums?

This news is upsetting to many people. Our local governments are cutting jobs and budgets, including police protection, and our state's education system is taking brutal cuts, not to mention the wealth of other significant and vital programs we cannot seem to afford, and we need this? Thanks but no thanks, but how does one politely refuse a gift? Mama never taught me that one.

Some of our concerns, and we need to voice them, are:

The impact of the loss of the museum to educating children and adults about minerals and mining in Arizona. The museum gives nearly 1,000 free mineral identification kits and mineral specimens to Arizona teachers annually.

There is the Museum's outreach program for schools financially unable to bus to Phoenix, taking mineral specimens to small schools around Arizona, what about those kids?

Will the Friends and Foundation of the Museum have any input in the care of the collection going forward, or only the Arizona Historical Society?

What will happen to the outside exhibits? The historic stamp mill, one of the few working stamp mills nationwide from the old Swallow Mine, & the mineral collection.

Will the prospecting/mineralogy clubs that currently meet at the museum be able to continue doing so?

What about: the lapidary shop? lapidary and silversmithing classes, wire wrap classes?

What about the Mineral Symposium? Copper Gallery? The Mine to You project?

What about all those Boy Scouts who earn their geology badges?

What we can still do, hopefully, is try to ensure the preservation and storage of the collection in the hopes of a future reopening at another location. We must get the word out that we want to keep the minerals and mining artifacts at the Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum.

It isn't known how long the Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum will remain open. But if the new Centennial Museum is set to open by 2012, it won't be open long. Go see the collection as soon as you can.

You can go to <http://www.politicomafioso.blogspot.com/2010/02/governor-jan-brewer-announces.html> for more information on what organizations and individuals are behind this decision. You can contact them, and your state representatives, but it looks like the decision is made, at least about the Museum's current location.

To contact your legislators or find their direct phone numbers, (also write to Russell Jones, chair of Natural Resources Committee) Go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/MemberRoster.asp> Also if you're outside the Phoenix area, you can call your legislators' offices toll free at 1-800-352-8404. In the Phoenix area call (602) 926-3559 (Senate) or (602) 926-4221 (House) and ask them to connect you with your legislators.

The Arizona State Geologist has set up a blog on the conversion of the mineral museum to a centennial display: www.arizonageologyblogspot.com

Other Contact Info:

Friends of the Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum.

Website: www.fammm.org.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 27795, Tempe, AZ 85285.

Phone Number: 623-935-2007

(FAMMM Board Chairman, Charlie Connell)

Arizona Mineral & Mining Museum Foundation.

Website: www.AzMinFun.com.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 41834, Mesa, AZ 85274.

Newsletter Editor's email: sundog@azminfun.com

The Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum's curator, Jan Rasmussen.

email: curatorazmmm@gmail.com. phone: 602-771-1612.

Museum website: www.mines.az.gov.

Museum general email: azmmm@hotmail.com



ARIZONA
MINERAL
COLLECTOR

NUMBER 127

By Raymond Grant

If you did not get to the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show this year, the exhibits were outstanding as usual. The theme was gems & gem minerals. In the various exhibits were the following faceted stones from Arizona: pyrope garnet from the Navajo Reservation, amethyst from Four Peaks, peridot from San Carlos, fluorite from a couple of Arizona localities, a sphalerite from the Silver Bell mine, & two wulfenites from the Red Cloud mine. In the cabachon category from Arizona were cut azurite, malachite, shattuckite, turquoise, hemimorphite, smithsonite, papagoite, opal, & fire agate.

Some of the mineral exhibits included an outstanding collection of Tiger minerals by Evan Jones, an exhibit of Grandview mine minerals by Malcolm Alter, and a collection of azurite and malachite specimens by the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum.

The University of Arizona Mineral Museum has a special exhibit of Bisbee minerals until March and perhaps extended until May. It has some of the best Bisbee mineral specimens from several collections and is spectacular.

Go to their website – www.uamineralmuseum.org to get information on hours and location. The website was not up to date when I looked and did not have information about this exhibit. The phone number to call is 520-621-4227. They are open for limited hours so check before going.

March 20 is the date for the 18th Minerals of Arizona Symposium. We have a great program planned.

See pages 6 and 7 for more info and registration form.



Arizona Facts and Trivia

Arizona's most abundant mineral is copper, and Arizona leads the nation in copper production. The amount of copper on the roof of our State Capitol building is equivalent to 4,800,000 pennies.

- Once a rowdy copper mining town, Jerome AZ's population dwindled to as few as 50 people after the mines closed in 1953.
- Bisbee, located in Tombstone Canyon, is known as the Queen of the Copper Mines. During its mining history the town was the largest city between Saint Louis and San Francisco.

Petrified wood is the official state fossil. Most petrified wood comes from the Petrified Forest in northeastern Arizona.

The bola tie is the official state neckwear.

Turquoise is the official state gemstone. The blue-green stone has a somewhat waxy surface and can be found throughout the state.

The state's most popular natural wonders include Grand Canyon National Park, Havasu Canyon, Grand Canyon Caves, Lake Powell/Rainbow Bridge, Petrified Forest/Painted Desert, Monument Valley, Sunset Crater, Meteor Crater, Sedona Oak Creek Canyon, Salt River Canyon, Superstition Mountains, Picacho Peak State Park, Saguaro National Park, Chiricahua National Monument, and the Colorado River.

The original London Bridge was shipped stone-by-stone and reconstructed in Lake Havasu City.

The capital of the Navajo Reservation is Window Rock. Rising to a height of 12,643 feet, Mount Humphreys north of Flagstaff is the state's highest mountain.

Grand Canyon's Flaming Gorge got its name for its blazing red and orange colored, twelve-hundred-foot-high walls.

Grand Canyon's Disaster Falls was named to commemorate the site of a previous explorer's wreck.

Grand Canyon's Marble Canyon got its name from its thousand-foot-thick seam of marble and for its walls eroded to a polished glass finish.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGES

Members, please remember while out picking up mineral that you fill a bucket of mineral for the fall/winter rock show. We need some every year for the spinning wheel. It is nice to have some real showy stuff for the wheel. Please remember to set aside some nice pieces for the State Fair booth as well.

Petrified Forest

reprint from Arizona Highways:

My husband, Dan, was discharged from the Air Force in California in late 1945, and we decided to visit the Petrified Forest on the way home to Kansas.

The park ranger who greeted us at the west gate asked politely if we had any petrified wood with us, and where we got it. "Yes Sir," said Dan, "bought a piece in Phoenix."

"Where is it?"

"In the bottom of that duffel bag, I think. Want to see it?"

The ranger eyed our conveyance: a 1931 Model A Ford that showed its many thousands of miles. Each front fender held a bulging duffel bag tied with rope. In back, the rumble seat was full, and the seat cushions were lashed on top. Dan was still in uniform.

The ranger studied for a moment and then said, "Never mind. Go on and enjoy yourselves."

As we drove away, his final words were. "And when you get to the east gate, just say no."

Thank you all, see you at the meeting.

Roger Deming



COALITION TRIP FOR MARCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH

SPONSORED BY ARIZONA LEAVERITES

Meeting time: 8:45 AM

**Location: Sears Kay Ruins
(Right side of the road on forest road 24
north of Cave Creek on the way to Seven
Springs)**

**Contact information for trip leader:
Tom Parks tlparks_us@yahoo.com**

Radios: FRS/GMRS channel 13 zero or no code.

Warnings:

Bring water, food, spare tire that works. Cell phones will not work 5 miles north of Seven springs.

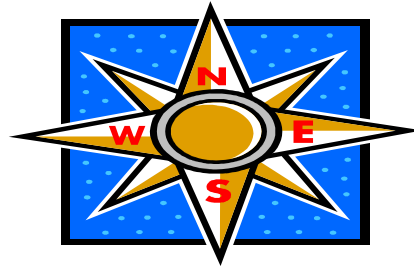
Most vehicles can make the trip.

We all meet at the ruins and depart at 9:00 AM. I will poll the folks who show up as to where they want to go.

Destination Options:

**Travertine north of Seven Springs, Arizona
Agate Mine location, and purple saginite
location near Sheep's Crossing.**

This will be a day trip ranging from 5 to 12 hours.



MSA MARCH FIELD TRIP

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2010

The field trip will be to a location near Wickenburg. The site is off Constellation Road.

Any vehicle can make the trip.

Material is small geodes that can be chiseled from the rather soft rock.

Meet at the McDonald's in Wickenburg at 9:30 am.

Call me at 480 636 1251 for more info prior to the trip date.

See you at the March 12th meeting.

Ed Nichols
YeOlde Rockhound

**Minerals of Arizona
Eighteenth Annual Symposium Saturday March 20, 2010
8 AM. to 5 PM. Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum
15th Avenue and Washington**

Tentative Program

- 8:00 - 9:00 - **Coffee Hour**
- 9:00 - 9:10 - **Welcoming Remarks and Introductions**
- 9:10 - 9:40 - Arizona's Mineral Heritage - a new book project
Les Presmyk
- 9:40 - 10:10 - Smithsonian in Arizona – Tony Potucek
- 10:10 - 10:50 - **Break, Mineral Silent Auction**
- 10:50 - 11:20 - Aquamarine from Sierrita Mountains, Pima County, Arizona –
Barbara Muntyan
- 11:20 - 11:50 - The Eureka Mining District & Vicinity (T13.5-15.5N, R9W),
Yavapai County, Arizona –Anna Domitrovic
- 11:50 - 1:20 - **Lunch, Mineral Silent Auction**
- 1:20 - 1:50 - How to find a meteorite in Arizona – Carlton Moore
- 1:50-- 2:20 - Brian Beck – title to be announced
- 2:20 - 2:50 - **Break, Mineral Silent Auction**
- 2:50 - 3:20 - Rare minerals from Tiger, Arizona– Harvey Jong and Joe Ruiz
- 3:20 - 3:50 - Mineralogy of the Grandview mine, Grand Canyon – Ray Grant,
Malcolm Alter, and Peter Williams
- 3:50 - 4:20 - What's New in Arizona Minerals – Marcus Origlieri, Harvey
Jong and Ray Grant
- 4:20 - Closing remarks

A Sunday field trip has been arranged, registrants will be notified of the details.

**Minerals of Arizona Eighteenth Annual Symposium
Registration Form:**

Please mail this form with the \$35.00 registration fee (Foundation members pay \$30.00) before March 14, 2010 so lunch and other food can be ordered.

Mail to:

**Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation
P.O. Box 41834
Mesa, Arizona 85274**

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

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ registrations.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Saddle Mountain Public Lands Appreciation Day



Friends of Saddle Mountain

Cordially invite you to participate in a Saddle Mountain Public Land Appreciation Day to be held **Saturday April 10, 2010 9am to 2 pm** (Easy Access from I-10*) Located in Maricopa County on the outskirts of Tonopah, Arizona, Saddle Mountain is a great place to explore. We are partnering with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and we have invited organizations such as Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Game & Fish, Arizona Wilderness Coalition, Back Country Horseman, Mineralogical Society and Archeological Society among others to show the public the diverse place your Public Lands at Saddle Mountain are. We would be honored if you could join us in promoting our Public Lands, we welcome exhibitors that will remain true to the theme of the event and ensure that their items are appropriate. For example, we ask that you if you sell items that they have outdoor, nature or cultural themes. Items that promote your program or organization are appropriate. We will have some tables and tents but it would be most welcome if you could provide your own. Please let us know if you can participate so we can include you in our advertising. We will be doing fliers, newspaper inserts and Radio Spots.



*Red Star is Saddle Mtn event location.

Sincerely,

Carol Millette, Secretary
Friends of Saddle Mountain (FoSM)
3708 N. 339th Ave.
Tonopah, AZ 85354
Email: fosmaz@wildblue.net Website: <http://www.fosmaz.org>

ROCK SHOWS

**March 12-14, 2010
VERDE VALLEY
GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW
35TH ANNUAL**

Verde Valley Fairgrounds
800 E. Cherry St.
Cottonwood, AZ 86326
1 block north of Hwy 89A

Sponsored by:

Mingus Gem and Mineral Club

Website: www.mingusclub.org

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

Admission: Fri. \$1.00, Sat.-Sun. \$3:00, children free
w/ adult admission

BIGGEST Show Ever!

Worldwide Minerals and Gems

Fine & Costume Jewelry

Stunning Gem & Mineral Displays

Raffles & Silent Auctions

Jewelry & Lapidary Tools & Supplies

Free Gem & Mineral Identification Saturday ONLY
10-3

Show Chairperson: Doug Evenson,
928-634-0459 dougeverson@cableone.net

Dealer Chairperson: Richard Casmier,
928-592-0232, rcasmier@aol.com



**SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2010,
PHOENIX**

**EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MINERALS OF
ARIZONA SYMPOSIUM**

**SPONSORED BY THE MUSEUM AND
ARIZONA MINERAL AND MINING
FOUNDATION**

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

Hours: Sat. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fee event.

Contact: Ray Grant- 480-814-9086

See Pages 6 & 7 in this newsletter for more details

**THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2010
DMMR BOARD OF GOVERNORS
3RD QUARTER MEETING**

11:00 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 602-771-1601 or 1-800-446-4259.

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Sandra Regalado, 602-771-1601. Requests should be made as early as possible.



UPCOMING:

**APRIL 10-11, 2010
KINGMAN ANNUAL SHOW**
Kingman Academy of Learning HS
Sponsored by: Mohave County

Gemstoners

P.O. Box 3992

Kingman, AZ 86402

Displays, silent auction, dealers, demos,
raffle and door prizes.

Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4 Admission and
parking: Free

More Info: Nan Russell 928-846-0927 or
visit www.gemstoners.org

**APRIL 30, MAY 1-2, 2010
MAYER MINER MADNESS**
Ranch Town Plaza on Central
Hours: Fri., Sat. 8-6, Sat.
Cookout 6 p.m., Sun. 8-2, Mine Tour 2:30
Dealers Contact: Ken 928-899-6810

6-7--ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA: Show; Monrovia Rockhounds; LA County Arboretum, 301 S Baldwin Ave.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; adults \$7, students and seniors \$5, children \$2.50; more than 15 vendors, rocks, gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, wire wrapping, findings, beads, grab bags, Treasure Wheel, Fossil Find; contact Jo Anna Ritchey, 224 Oaks Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016, (626) 359-1624
e-mail: joannaritchey@gmail.com
Web site: www.moroks.com



11-14--DEMING, NEW MEXICO: 45th annual show, "Rockhound Roundup Gem & Mineral Show"; Deming Gem & Mineral Society; SWNM Fairgrounds, Raymond Reed Blvd.; Thu. 9-5, Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission; more than 100 dealers, demonstrations, displays, field trips, jewelry, rocks, drawings, cash raffle, silent auction Fri., live auction Sat.; Web site: dgms.bravehost.com



18-21--SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA: Tailgate show; Orange Belt Mineralogical Society; Western Regional Little League Ball Park, 6707 Little League Dr.; Thu. 2-8, Fri. 8-8, Sat. 8-8, Sun. 9-7; free admission; silent auction, bulk rough, raffle, dealers, lapidary-related items, jewelry; contact Shane Ripley, 31975 Yucaipa Blvd. #1, Yucaipa, CA 92399, (909) 557-3605; e-mail: OBMS_PR@yahoo.com; Web site: www.meetup.com/Jewelry-Making-for-Fun-and-Profit/



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

19-21--SPANISH FORK, UTAH: Show, "Spring Parade of Gems Invitational"; Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society; Spanish Fork Tennis Court, 475 S. Main St.; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; free admission; Mr. Bones walking dinosaur, handmade jewelry, gems, minerals, fossils, lapidary supplies, demonstrations, educational displays, silent auction, rough rock; contact Larry Hataway, P.O. Box 103, Spanish Fork, UT 84660, (801) 798-2758; e-mail: larry@spanishtrailssilver.com; Website: spanishtrailssilver.com



26-28--ADA, OKLAHOMA: Show, "The Rock 'n Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show 2010"; Ada Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club; Pontotoc County Agri-Plex, NE corner of state Hwy. 99 and Richardson Loop Bypass; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; demonstrators, fluorescent displays, dealers, kids' fossil dig, spinning wheels; contact Ed Vermillion, P.O. Box 782, Purcell, OK 73080, (405) 527-6431; e-mail: okieed42@windstream.net; Web site: <http://www.freewebs.com/agmfc/index.htm>



26-28--FORT COLLINS, COLORADO: 49th annual show; Fort Collins Rockhounds; Lincoln Center, 419 W. Magnolia St.; Fri. 4-8, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$3, (\$5 weekend pass), students under 18 \$1, children 12 and under free with adult; Minerals of the American West with a special focus on quartz, exhibits and demonstrations by club members and invited guests, door prizes, silent auction, grab bags, seven gem and mineral dealers; contact Dave Halliburton, 2506 Pear Court, Fort Collins, CO 80521, (970) 493-6168; e-mail: fcrockhounds@yahoo.com; Web site: fortcollinsrockhounds.org



I'm sure most of you have heard or read about rockhounds from an Arizona club being arrested and fined for collecting on Forest Service land? Yes, the individuals were collecting petrified wood on Forest Service land. The issue was that they had taken way TOO MUCH petrified wood off the land. The limit is 25 lbs + 1 piece. In this case, their trucks were really loaded down. Moral of the story is rather clear. Take less than the limit and you have no problems.

We have also learned that the Prescott Forest Service can impose fines up to \$5,000 if you go on certain new roads up there, be careful, apparently they may not all be marked.

The best thing to do is research where it is you want to go rockhounding, know the limits, know the boundaries.



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MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ARIZONA
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

www.mineralogicalsocietyarizona.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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