President’s Message
Chris Whitney-Smith

DECEMBER MEETING DATE CHANGED to Saturday, December 13th at 5:00PM in Padre Serra Room at Franciscan Renewal Center. December meeting is our Holiday Jamboree! We will have election of 2015 Officers and Board, Dinner, Fellowship, Door Prizes, Raffles, Silent Auctions and Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony, so you don’t want to miss it! Also, MSA Junior Thumbnail Competition, so juniors get to work for opportunity to win some great prizes and awards!

Mr. Flagg’s MSA originated Thumbnail collecting as a hobby for the children of MSA and it is only fitting MSA Juniors are continuing the TN legacy, Mr. Flagg inspired. Holiday Jamboree food can be dropped off as early as 4:30 PM. MSA will provide turkey and ham. Members are asked to bring the other food. Please contact Lynne Dyer at unodyers@hotmail.com and let her know what you will bring, so there is not too much duplication.

October meeting was another packed house! Bob Jones program on “The Origins of Minerals in the Southwest” and how Mr. Arthur L. Flagg and Mineralogical Society of Arizona played early roles in Arizona Mineral History was a fascinating and nostalgic look at our hobby’s roots and the people whose passion and perseverance continue to inspire us today. Thank you Mr. Bob Jones!!

Every October, MSA will strive to offer a program related to and in honor of Mr. Arthur L. Flagg who founded Mineralogical Society of Arizona in 1935. Mr. Flagg was president for the first 15 years and newsletter editor for the first 17 years. His fire and enthusiasm for our hobby made MSA the great organization that it is today. Please check out MSA website to read current and the first 20 years of the Rockhound Record. Mr. Flagg’s biography and several photos of MSA’s Mineral Collection are also available on our website.

MSA is the oldest rock & mineral society in Arizona and one of the oldest in the nation. MSA will celebrate its 80th anniversary in 2015 and we hope to pack a lot of excitement into celebrating the hobby and reviving some standards that made MSA great, such as helping build excitement & participation in Arizona State Fair. MSA and you have a lot to look forward to as we continue to build and improve our society and the hobby. Many thanks to all of the terrific people who helped us get here and those who continue to help our organization not only survive, but flourish!

To that end, MSA has revived our Arizona State Fair Committee to discuss resuming an awards program with MSA ribbons, plaques and a Mr. Arthur L. Flagg trophy. Exact details will be discussed by committee members Betty Deming, Nathan Scholten, and other members to be determined.

ATTENTION JUNIORS:
Please arrive no later than 6:40PM for New Junior Program before November General meeting. Junior Program is (6:45 - 7:15PM). Past President, Dr. Ray Grant will present a program on Crystallography.

Mr. Arthur L. Flagg Junior Thumbnail Competition is fast approaching. Time is running out to get your collections competition ready. See elsewhere in RR for JR TN Competition rules and details.
2014 Officers and Committees

President: Chris Whitney-Smith
ask.chrisws@yahoo.com (602) 405-1502
Vice President: Mike Williams
M-Williams1@cox.net (480) 650-1090
Secretary: Dawn Boushelle
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Treasurer: Lynne Dyer
unodyers@hotmail.com (480) 396-2393
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Club Field Trip Coordinator:
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Coalition Field Trips: Betty Deming
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Membership: Dawn Boushelle
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Refreshments: Maria Nichols
(480) 636-1251
Statutory Agent: Terry Dyer
unodyers@hotmail.com (480) 396-2393
Webmaster: Patti Polk
rockhound_86326@yahoo.com
Board of Governors:
Bob Holm (2016) - David Lay (2016)
Dr. Ray Grant (Past President)

President’s Message - continued

43th Annual Flagg Gem and Mineral Show; January 9th-11th 2015 “Arizona Gold” MSA Juniors to display their TN Collections at Flagg Show: Flagg Mineral Foundation (FMF) will have display cases available at Flagg Gem & Mineral Show in January 2015 for Junior TN competition. Junior participants will be awarded Flagg Show Bucks redeemable at FMF Mineral Sales Tables. Competition will be judged by Past TGMS competitive collections judge Mr. Les Presmyk.

JUNIORS CONTEST: Attention all Juniors, please submit your Name along with your ideas for Name of Juniors Section of Rockhound Record to Editor Alice “Margie” LaBonte by December 22, 2014. Be sure to not use Junior program names that have already been used. Be original and be creative. It is noteworthy to mention that MSA Juniors came up with name for Rockhound Record nearly 75 years ago. Once all of your ideas have been received, MSA board will select a winner and prize awarded.

For our November program, Mr. Dick Zimmermann will present a great program on Septarian Nodules and Geodes.

After Mr. Zimmermann’s program, stick around for Silent Auctions, Mineral Raffles for Adult, Junior & Visitors, Buy/Sell/Trade Event, Fellowship & Refreshments. Please bring any minerals, lapidary, rocks or jewelry you would like to sell or trade to next meeting.

61st Annual Tucson Gem & Mineral Show; February 12th-15th 2015 “Minerals of Western Europe” is opportunity for juniors to exhibit at the biggest Gem & Mineral Show on Earth! Juniors should have received good evaluations and feedback from MSA & Flagg Show TN competitions and be ready to compete at TGMS. MSA junior members have scored first place at TGMS last two years in their respective categories. Chloe Main; 1st place miniatures, Harris Kominiski; 1st place & Best of Show TN collection at 2014 TGMS

BIG MSA THANK YOU to following who made donations at October meeting:
• Mr. Bob Jones: Signed copy of Frugal Collector and Numerous copies of Rock & Gem.
• Mr. Ed Nichols: (6) Slabs of Iron Stone and (6) Mahogany Obsidian
• Mr. John Weber: Fossil Corral and Bryozoan with label
• Dr. Carleton Moore: Tourmaline Dravite, Australia with label

REFRESHMENTS: Interested in bringing refreshments for November meeting, please call Maria “Helen” Nichols at 480-636-1251.

QUALITY MINERAL DONATIONS WITH LABELS NEEDED.
Please see Mike Williams or Chris Whitney-Smith. Mineralogical Society of Arizona is a non-profit organization and will gratefully acknowledge your significant In-Kind Donation with a TAX Deduction Letter. All individuals making In-Kind donations to our non-profit organization may claim a tax deduction based on the fair resale value of the items donated. It is the contributor’s responsibility to determine this value. Your contribution to Mineralogical Society of Arizona is fully deductible for tax purposes to the extent allowed by the current tax laws. If you have any further questions, please consult your tax advisor.

Thank you again for supporting Mineralogical Society of Arizona!

LECURERS: MSA Members who lecture around the country & world, please provide your schedule of lectures to MSA Editor to share with membership.

Upcoming Field Trips to Copperopolis & UFO Mines and Cave Creek area Agate, Onyx and Jaspers!

Visiting Mineralogists & Rockhounds, please get in touch with us!
MINERAL COLLECTION UPDATE:
I am excited to announce I am in final stages to exhibit best of MSA Mineral Collection at University of Arizona Mineral Museum’s treasury, located inside Fladrau Science Center and Planetarium on campus of University of Arizona.

WEARING MSA NAME BADGES PAYS OFF!! Those wearing their MSA Name Badges to November meeting will automatically be eligible to participate in an additional prize drawing! If you don’t have an MSA Name Badge, see Membership Chair, Dawn Boushelle. MSA Name badges are $6.50.

THANK YOU to following MSA members who volunteered with me at Earth Science Day event hosted by Earth Science Museum & Mesa Community College on Saturday, October 18, 2014: Mike Williams, Joe Philpott Sr., Dawn & Don Boushelle, Bob Holm, Dave Lay, Lynne & Terry Dyer, Julie Massey & Richard Holle. It was a beautiful day and ESM is hard at work planning Earth Science Day 2015!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS: New members who join MSA in June or after only pay half dues price. This is for NEW Members only. Current member who have become inactive due to late payment pay full annual dues.

IN MEMORIAM
Milestone Life Member Mrs. Marjorie Flagg passed away on October 15, 2014 at the age of 92. She was born in Akron, Ohio and raised in Phoenix where she earned a degree in education from Arizona State University. She taught kindergarten and first grade until starting a family, but education was always in her heart. She was a devoted wife to Milestone Life Member Mr. Richard Flagg for 68 years. Together they raised two daughters, Barbara Moos (Stephen) and Carolyn Kerr (William). She is also survived by her beloved granddaughter, Stephanie Sarvana (Adam) and two sisters, Arlyn Uslan (David) and Marcella Merrill (Richard). Marjorie’s husband Richard passed away November 20, 2013. Mr. & Mrs. Flagg were great supporters of Mineralogical Society of Arizona, Flagg Mineral Foundation and Tucson Gem & Mineral Society and the TGMS Show®. They are both missed deeply by us all.

Officers & Board Nominations for 2015
By Nominating Committee
Chair: Mr. Ed Nichols
Member: Mr. Gilbert Flores

OFFICERS
President: Mr. Chris Whitney-Smith
Vice President: Mr. Mike Williams
Secretary: Mrs. Dawn Boushelle
Treasurer: Mrs. Lynne Dyer

BOARD
2017 Mr. Joseph Philpott Jr.
2017 Ms. Julie Massey
2016 Mr. Bob Holm
2016 Mr. David Lay
2015 Mr. Don Boushelle
2015 Mr. Terry Dyer
Election to be held at December Holiday Jamboree. Additional nominations may be made from the floor as long as the nominee is present.

43rd ANNUAL FLAGG GEM & MINERAL SHOW
JANUARY 9-11, 2015 9AM TO 5PM
MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NE CORNER OF US 60 & DOBSON ROAD
Sponsored by Flagg Mineral Foundation
Arizona Gold
Free Admission  Free Parking  Free Samples For Sale
President’s Message - continued

New MSA member Nathan Scholten won six 1st place and two 3rd place ribbons for his lapidary and jewelry creations at 2014 Arizona State Fair. Photo from left to right:
1st Place for Bola Tie without stone, Mammoth ivory intarsia Arizona w/copper and sterling silver aglets.
1st place for Jewelry set: Agate, Jade, sterling silver necklace, bracelet, earrings.
1st place Jewelry with stone: Jade tear drop with rotating center piece of Jade and raw sapphires.
3rd place Stone carved not for jewelry, Bats Jade and agate.
1st place Ten cabochons any shape any stone: Soda bottles and soda caps.
1st place Stone carving for jewelry: Seahorses carved from Jade.
3rd place Intarsia.

Mr. Arthur L. FLAGG
THUMBNAIL MINERAL COMPETITION FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS

ATTENTION JUNIOR Members,
Mr. Arthur L. Flagg Thumbnail (TN) Mineral Competition will be at our December meeting, See the rules below. Great prizes for every Junior member who enters, so start looking for those TN’s!

Rules
- Each junior member can enter 10 thumbnail specimens.
- They must be in thumbnail perky boxes.
- They must be labeled as to what they are and where they are from.
- Juniors can collect specimens, trade for them, buy them, use specimens handed out at the meetings.
- They will be judged on presentation (label completeness and neatness) and what the specimens are.
- The competition will be held at the December 13, 2014 meeting of MSA and prizes will be awarded.
Chrysocolla is probably the most common secondary copper mineral in Arizona. It is found in every county and at hundreds of locations. A good project for someone with a lot of time on their hands would be to take all the Arizona Chrysocolla localities in mindat.org and research each one as to its exact location and mineralogy.

The reason for this month’s column about Chrysocolla is because of a reference in one of the earliest reports on minerals in Arizona.

The first published list of the minerals found in Arizona was made by William P. Blake in 1866, and was part of a report for California and Arizona and included eighteen minerals for Arizona. One of the eighteen was given for Chrysocolla as “fine specimens were taken from the Great Central claim, about 20 miles from La Paz”, Blake reported. La Paz was on the Colorado River not far north of present day Ehrenberg.

Blake was State Mineralogist for California at the time. Then from 1895 to 1910 he was a professor of geology and mining and the Director of the School of Mines at the University of Arizona. In 1898 he also became the territorial geologist of Arizona. In 1909, 43 years after the first report, Blake published the first complete work on Arizona minerals titled *Minerals of Arizona, Their Occurrence And Association with Notes on Their Composition*, a report to the Hon. J. H. Kibby, Governor of Arizona. His list had about 102 mineral species for Arizona.

In this description of Chrysocolla he does not mention the Great Central claim. He has two locations that would be in the same area: “At the Ibex, Plomosa mine, Bouse, Yuma County, with Malachite and lead bearing minerals; and Little Butte, Plomosa district, six miles west of Bouse.”

The Arizona Geological Survey mine files have a report on the Little Butte mine, but nothing on the others. There are thousands of mines, holes, and prospects in Arizona and I think a few of them still have great-untapped mineral specimens, for collecting by the person willing to do the research and spend the time looking.
Mineral of the Month – Galena
By Dr. Ray Grant

Minerals of the Month for November is Galena. Galena, lead sulfide, is the chief ore of lead. It is isometric and is commonly found as cubes. It also has good cubic cleavage so cleavage pieces will also be cubes. The hardness is 2.5 and of course it has a high specific gravity. The silver color, cubic shape and weight make Galena one of the easier minerals to identify.

Mindat.org has hundreds of Galena localities listed for Arizona and there are many places in Arizona where it was mined for the lead, so collectors should have no trouble finding Galena in the state. The even better thing about Galena occurrences is that the Galena will break down with time and is the primary source for the lead to make Cerussite, Anglesite, Wulfenite and all the other secondary lead minerals for which Arizona is so famous.

Also in Arizona silver is commonly found in the same deposits as the Galena. The Galena may contain a few percent silver in its structure which means the silver value will be more then the lead value for the Galena ore. I have been told, but have not seen a study about it, that Galena with a high silver content will have a curved cleavage surface instead of a flat one.

Members are invited to bring one sample from their collection of the mineral of the month and give a brief story about where they collected it or something about the specimen.
Mineral of the Month – Galena - continued

Galena with Sphalerite on Johannsenite, Iron Cap mine, Santa Teresa Mountains, Aravaipa District, Graham County, Arizona, 4.5cm; Ex Les Myers, Chris Whitney-Smith collection & photo.

Galena & Sphalerite, Iron Cap mine, Santa Teresa Mountains, Aravaipa District, Graham County, Arizona; Les & Paula Presmyk collection, Dr Ray Grant photo.

Galena vein, Red Cloud mine, La Paz County, Arizona; Dr. Ray Grant photo.

Galena, Dal'Negorsk, Russia, 7.5cm; Ex Lawrence Conklin, Chris Whitney-Smith collection & photo.

Galena, Joplin, Missouri, 5cm; Chris Whitney-Smith collection & photo.
November Program: “Geodes, Thunder Eggs, and Septarian Nodules: Structure and Origin”
By Dick Zimmermann

For the November program, Dick Zimmermann will present a thorough and fascinating program on Spherical rock structures containing minerals or agates. He will discuss the formation of these fascinating structures found in igneous and sedimentary rocks. Though similar in form, their origins are quite different. Igneous geodes are a primary geological structure formed during the cooling and solidification of certain lava flows. Sedimentary geodes are secondary structures formed by replacement of spherical concretions.

As with the formation of the various spherical structures, there is extensive literature on agate formation and no current consensus. The understanding of these structures has been hampered by the limited scope of related studies. Generally, research teams study specimens of a specific type from a single location. Their conclusions may differ because the specimens they were studying were actually formed by a somewhat different process. A broader study, in which multiple research teams study the same specimens and where specimens from various locations and formations are included, might lead to a better understanding of the origins of Geodes, Thunder Eggs, and Septarian Nodules.

Dick grew up in Wisconsin and attended University of Wisconsin for 1 year, left in 1973 to enlist in U.S. Air Force and currently lives in Tempe, AZ. He is an Aerospace Engineer and received his BSME (1967) and MSME (1972) from Arizona State University. Dick served in the U.S. Air Force (8 years), Unidynamics in Goodyear, AZ (2 years), Flow Technology in Phoenix (7 years), Simula Inc. in Phoenix (15 years) and Zerad Inc. in Tempe (10 years).

Geode; Dick Zimmermann photo.

Septarian Nodule; Dick Zimmermann photo.

Quartz Var Agate, Laguna, Ojo Laguna, Chihuahua, Mexico, 4.5cm; Chris Whitney-Smith collection and photo.

Geode; Dick Zimmermann photo.

Calcite, Sedimentary Septarian Nodule, Oujda, Morocco; Chris Whitney-Smith collection & photo.
Getting to know MSA Honorary Life Member - John Houzenga
By Alice LaBonte

John has been a member of the MSA since he was a junior member as a teenager. He joined before WWII began and a few years after the MSA was founded. We could say he is one of our eldest members. Soon after he was a member, he was asked to become an MSA board member (don’t forget, he was still a teenager), which he gladly accepted.

John fondly remembers his MSA meetings when they were held at The Arizona Museum at University Park and Van Buran Avenue (before it was located at the Arizona State Fairgrounds). The MSA had their own display cases with about 200 specimens!

It was during this time that John was taken under Mr. Arthur Flagg’s “wing”. Mr. Flagg was the museum’s curator and John got to spend countless hours learning from the rock and mineral legend. Mr. Flagg taught John how to organize, label and display the rock and mineral specimens correctly. Mr. Flagg was meticulous about the display cases, but kind in his approach to mentoring younger rockhounds like John. “Mr. Flagg was quite the gentleman” and always wanted to include children and teens in the hobby of rock hounding, said John.

During MSA field trips, MSA junior members were encouraged to go out and find their own specimens, which were then shown to Mr. Flagg. Mr. Flagg either loved what John and the other young members found or told them to keep on looking - that better specimens were out there if they looked hard enough.

On one field trip with Mr. Flagg near Superior, John was able to get his hands on some “clam shell” barite. Mr. Flagg regularly let the junior members go into mines and work on quality specimens. John said that “Mr. Flagg was important to the mining industry” – Mr. Flagg kept the activity alive and made sure the next generation was armed with proper knowledge about rocks and minerals.

Even when John was older, the MSA field trips were very popular with its members. They collected pegmatite, tourmaline and even garnet from locations not far from downtown Phoenix. Today, many of those sites which Mr. Flagg brought MSA to, are off limits to collecting. It was better in the good olé days.

John moved from the Midwest to Arizona as a young boy. He lived his formidable years in Phoenix and has vivid memories of him and his family (who were all rockhounds) scouring the valley for rocks and minerals.

John likes all rocks and minerals, but crystal specimens are his first love. “They each have their own beauty” says John. He’s fascinated by the formation, quality and nature of crystals. Fossils (his second love) also interest John – he’s been lucky to find completely intact plant and animal fossils from a variety of locations in Arizona.

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John has mined for just about every kind of mineral that can be found in Arizona. He has found Kyanite from Squaw Peak, native copper at Superior Mine and limonite near Cave Creek.

John used Rhyolite to build a unique fireplace in his home. This non-explosive Rhyolite was found in a deposit near the New River Mountains. People liked John’s fireplace so much, he ended up building about 50 of them for others who also wanted a unique Arizona fireplace.

If John could visit anywhere to collect minerals, it would have to be Southern Illinois – his home state. Southern Illinois has locations for lead with spectacular purple crystals. John, being the crystal man that he is, said he never saw anything quite like that lead specimen.

Rockhounding has brought years of enjoyment to John, but he also enjoys hunting. Why, John has been known to pick up a mineral or fossil when out on a hunting trip. He has maintained a license through the Arizona Game and Fish Department for over 40 years and was a founding member of the Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society. His love of nature extends from rocks, to plants and to animals.
Some members and friends of the MSA were vendors at this year’s Black Canyon City’s “Rock-A-Rama”.

Barbara Grill, California Rock & Mineral Dealer and good friend of Patti Polk; Chris Whitney-Smith photo.

Tri-City Rock Shop Booth. See announcement about their new location in Tempe. Alice “Margie” LaBonte photo.

MSA Honorary Life Member & Webmaster, Patti Polk; Chris Whitney-Smith photo.

MSA Member Kevin Krichbaum; Chris Whitney-Smith photo.
Black Canyon City “Rock-A-Rama”
October 31 - November 2, 2014

Photos courtesy of Alice “Margie” La Bonte and Stevie Joey photo by Chris Whitney-Smith.
New Rock Shop - “Tri City Rocks and Minerals”
906 South Priest Drive, Suite #107, Tempe, AZ 85218

If you have never heard of Tri City Rocks and Minerals, now’s your chance to go check them out.

They have a new location at:
906 South Priest Drive, Suite # 107, Tempe, AZ 85218

Their new location has “over 4,000 SQ FT of large rooms to display, cut rocks, hold events, teach and learn classes, etc.

Whether you’re looking to buy, sell or learn, Tri City Rocks and Minerals is conveniently located and has convenient hours:
8:00AM to 6:00PM : Monday through Saturday.

Photos courtesy of Tri City Rocks and Minerals.
November 13, 2014 MSA Meeting Silent Auction Items
(Bring Cash/Checks and be prepared to BID)

**Galena, Fluorite & Barite**, Royal Flush mine, Hansonburg District, Bingham, Socorro County, New Mexico; Dr. Ray Grant donation, Chris Whitney-Smith photo (full view).

**Galena, Fluorite & Barite**, Royal Flush mine, Hansonburg District, Bingham, Socorro County, New Mexico; Dr. Ray Grant donation, Chris Whitney-Smith photo (close-up view).

**Galena on Dolomite on Sphalerite**, Tri-State District, KS - MO - OK; Dr. Ray Grant donation, Chris Whitney-Smith photo.
November 13, 2014 MSA Meeting Silent Auction Items - continued
(Bring Cash/Checks and be prepared to BID)

MARCASITE, Galena, Kansas; MSA Donation, Chris Whitney-Smith photo.

The History of Mineral Collecting, Mineralogical Record NOV-DEC 1994; Dr. Carleton Moore Donation, Chris Whitney-Smith photo.

POLYCHROME JASPER, Madagascar; Dana Slaughter Donation, Chris Whitney-Smith photo.
November 13, 2014 MSA Meeting Raffle Items

ADULT RAFFLE: AURICHALCITE, Graphic mine, Kelly, New Mexico; Phil Richardson donation, Chris Whitney-Smith photo.

JUNIOR RAFFLE: Bornite & Chalcopyrite, Mexico; MSA donation, Chris Whitney-Smith photo.

Field Trip with Copperstate Fourwheelers Club
Saturday November 8, 2014

MSA member Tom LaBonte is teaming up with Copperstate Fourwheelers Club on a field trip to Copperopolis and UFO mines on Saturday November 8, 2014.

This unique trip is an effort to provide 4x4 access for MSA members who might not otherwise be able to drive their vehicles to mine sites.

Copperstate Fourwheelers Club has agreed to team up with MSA and offer a limited amount of seats to MSA passengers. This trip is on a first come, first serve basis, so if you are interested, please RSVP to Tom LaBonte immediately for further details and to secure your seat with a 4x4.

Field Trip Leader: Tom LaBonte
Phone: 480-231-2926
Email: yotes1az@cox.net
November MSA Field Trip
Sunday, November 23, 2014

FIELD TRIP LEADER:
Joey Philpott Jr.

PHONE: 602 828 9298
EMAIL: joseph_13_13@yahoo.com

MEETING DATE AND TIME:
Sunday, November 23, 2014
Arrive by 7:30 AM
Depart at 8:00 AM

DIRECTIONS to MEETING PLACE:
Follow Cave Creek Road East to Bartlett Dam Road. See Map.
Turnoff on (SRV RD 205/ Bartlett Dam Road) and look for MSA vehicles at intersection.

FIRST STOP LOCATION:
Cave Creek Jasper
GPS 33o 57.78’n 111o 49.77’w
MINERALS: Quartz Var. Jasper
DRIVING: easy
SITE TERRAIN: easy
MINERAL EXTRACTION: easy

SECOND STOP LOCATION:
Cave Creek Onyx
GPS 34o 00.74’n 111o 52.84’w
MINERALS: Onyx
DRIVING: easy
SITE TERRAIN: moderate
MINERAL EXTRACTION: easy - moderate

THIRD STOP LOCATION:
Bloody Basin Agate
GPS 33o 58.51’n 111o 51.99’w
MINERALS: Quartz Var. Chalcedony, Jasper, Agate
DRIVING: easy
SITE TERRAIN: hard
MINERAL EXTRACTION: easy - hard
NEAREST TOWN: Cave Creek AZ
PRECAUTIONS FOR AREA: desert wildlife, remoteness, sharp rocks
TOOLS TO BRING: small shovel, hammer, chisel
SPECIAL NOTES: bring spare tires

Colorful and botryoidal Agates from the last stop on Cave Creek trip; Joey Philpott Jr. photo.

Various material from last stop on Cave Creek trip; Joey Philpott Jr. photo.

Honey Onyx from 2nd stop on Cave Creek trip; Joey Philpott Jr. photo.

Quartz Var Jasper and Agate from first stop on Cave Creek trip; Joey Philpott Jr. photo.
MSA Juniors Program: “Crystallography”
November 13, 2014 at 6:45PM
Lead by Dr. Raymond Grant

The junior members are invited to come to the MSA meeting early, starting at 6:45PM we will have a juniors’ meeting.

In November juniors will start on a study of crystallography. There will be a brief discussion of the different crystal systems and there will be crystal models to make at home and some crystals for hands on study.

Source: http://webmineral.com/crystall.shtml
2015 TGMS Competitive Exhibits
By Milestone MSA Life Member & Past President Mr. Les Presmyk

Please join us at the 61ST Annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show®, February 12-15, 2015. The numerous mineral collectors and visitors who enjoy viewing beautiful exhibits will appreciate your participation in the Show. Your competitive exhibit(s) will greatly add to the show. The area for the competitive exhibits will be right at the center of the Exhibition Hall. This will really highlight your exhibit and the others who compete.

The Tucson Gem and Mineral Society and Show Committee are very interested in promoting interest in young exhibitors. Each junior age exhibitor, regardless of which exhibitor class they enter, will receive a $100 check from Dr. Rob Lavinsky of The Arkenstone. He wishes to help encourage young collectors to exhibit and compete and this is his way of honoring those adults who helped him when he was a junior-age collector. The high point score by a junior-age exhibitor will receive a $500 check and the second high point score will receive a $300 check, regardless of the exhibitor category.

Various applications are available for you to enter competitively. If you would like to have the forms, information or a competitive handbook sent to you, please contact TGMS Office. Applications must be received no later than December 1, 2014.

Due to increasing security concerns, ALL competitive entries, including those for the Special Trophies and Best of Theme competitions, shall require a signed Competitive Exhibitor Agreement. No Agreement, No Entry.

The Tucson Gem and Mineral Show® theme for 2015 is “Minerals Of Western Europe.” Trophies will be awarded for the best specimen in each of five size categories and lapidary/jewelry in the Best of Theme competition. An individual is eligible to enter a specimen in each category. This competition is open to all individuals and entries will be accepted up to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 (Best of Species/Bideaux Trophy entries 4:00 p.m.).

The Show Committee awards five special trophies to honor those who have contributed to mineralogy and the collecting hobby. The Desautels Trophy is for the “Best Case of Minerals in the Show,” with the emphasis on quality and aesthetics of the specimens. The Lidstrom Trophy is awarded to the best single specimen contained within a competitive exhibit. The Yedlin Trophy is awarded to the best case of Master micromounts. The Bideaux Trophy is awarded to the best single Arizona specimen entered in this competition. The Romero Trophy is awarded to the best Mexican specimen or case in the Show. Any case or specimen to be judged for these trophies, except the Romero, must have a signed Competitive Exhibitor Agreement submitted.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact me at (480) 892-0779 or email: presmyk@cox.net, or the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society office at 520-322-5773, or email: tgms@tgms.org.

We look forward to receiving your application.
Sincerely,
Les Presmyk

Membership Dues and Information

If you have not already mailed your dues to Membership chair, please bring it to the next meeting. You may also mail it to Dawn Boushelle at the following address:

Dawn Boushelle
Membership Chair
P.O. BOX 30031
Mesa, AZ 85275-0031

DUES/RATES:
Families & Couples - $20.00
Single Adults - $12.00
Junior (Under 18), Honorary and MSA Milestone Life members are FREE.

MSA Legacy Life members are Free after the initial payment.

MSA Name Badges Are Available, ask Dawn Boushelle.

For information about purchasing a Life Membership based on your age, please visit our website: MineralogicalSocietyArizona.org and click on “MSA Club” tab.
October 9, 2014 MSA Meeting

All photos courtesy of Mike Williams.

October 9, 2014 MSA Meeting - continued

Top Left: Doug Duffy, Bob Jones & Betty Deming. Top Center: Honorary Life Member John Houzenga with Silent Auction Malachite win. Top Right: Honorary Life Member John Weber chatting with guest. Center Right: Junior Raffle winner Dominic Diana. Bottom Left: FMF & MSA Member Chuck Kominski, FMF Chairman & Honorary Life Member Phil Richardson with FMF & MSA Life Member Bob Jones.
October 9, 2014 MSA Meeting - continued


Photos courtesy of Mike Williams
October 9, 2014 MSA Meeting - continued

November Coalition Field Trip - Jasper
Saturday, November 22, 2014

Rockhounds West will lead the coalition to find jasper – red, yellow and green.

Leave I-17 at Exit 236 and go west. At the end of the pavement continue about 1/8th mile to a large parking area on the left side of the road. This is a parking area and NOT the shoulder.

Meet at the parking area at 9:15 to sign in and be ready to leave by 9:30.

WATCH FOR TRAFFIC - GRAVEL TRUCKS and ATVs. Don’t block the road. Pull off the road to park.

Nancy Woods, Rockhounds West, Sun City West (623) 214-9045
If there is service, my cell number for the trip (623) 523-3422
Upcoming Shows and Events

November 8-9, 2014
LAKE HAVASU CITY, ARIZONA
Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show
- Lake Havasu Community Center; 100 Park Ave.
- Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4
- adults $2, children (under 12) free
- Contact: Sue Kirk, 1100 Pueblo Dr., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406
  (928) 302-1531
  email: macsuzy@mac.com
  Website: www.lakehavasugms.org

November 15-16, 2014
PAYSON, ARIZONA
Payson Rimstones Rock Club Annual Show
- Mazatzal Hotel & Casino Event Center - Hwy. 87 at Mile Marker 251
- Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4
- adults $2, children (under 12) free
- gems, minerals, specimen rocks, fossils, lapidary equipment, jewelry and findings, slabs or rough material, gold prospecting equipment, dealer displays, club displays, Educational Corner, fluorescent display sand painting, beading, Spinning Wheel, silent auction
- Contact: Margaret Jones, 1100 Pueblo Dr., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406
  (928) 970-0857
  email: margieaberry@gmail.com

November 29-30, 2014
WICKENBURG, ARIZONA
Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Society Show and Sale
- Wrangler Event Center; 251 S. Tegner St.
- Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4
- free admission
- more than 40 dealers, rocks, gems, beads, minerals, jewelry, fossils, lapidary tools, kids’ room, door prizes
- Contact: Beth Myerson
  (480) 540-2318
  email: myerbd@gmail.com

November 22-23, 2014
APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA
Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club Show and Sale
- Apache Junction High School; 2525 S. Ironwood Dr.
- Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4
- adults $3, students $1, children (12 and under) free;
- dealers, jewelry, gems, opals, beads, rocks, specimens, slabs, fossils, lapidary equipment and supplies, silent auction, hourly door prizes, grand raffle, gem-tree making for all ages, wheel-of-rocks, egg-carton rock collections
- Contact: Kelly Iverson
  (480) 325-2705
  Web site: www.ajrockclub.com

New Gem and Mineral Club - Pinal County

We are starting a new Gem and Mineral club for people living in Pinal County, places like San Tan Valley, Florence, Coolidge, and Casa Grande.

It will be the PINAL GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY and is formed under the Artisan Village of Coolidge. The first meeting will be Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at 7 PM.

The meeting will be at the Artisan Village at 351 N. Arizona Blvd. (Northern Ave. & Arizona Blvd.) Coolidge, AZ 85128.

The Meeting Program will be Collecting in Australia by Ray Grant and there will be some Australian minerals and lapidary as door prizes. For more information about the club go to www.pinalgemandmineralsociety.org or call Ray Grant 520-251-5419.
Greetings fellow Rockhounds, the weather’s cooling off and it’s a perfect time to be in the field. I’m sure some of you already have the pick swinging full force. I plan to do a lot of exploring to find new areas to go on field trips. If anyone knows of locations that would be good for a trip please let me know.

While you’re out in the field be sure to take notes documenting your trip. Jot down details for example, where you’re at. Where the minerals are, are they in dumps, veins or pockets? It helps to make a simple sketch what the rock looks like that the minerals are in. Is it plentiful or scarce? What did you find and what quality is the material? Details like this help when you return to or when sharing sites with others. Also take some time to search the area around the site. Sometimes you may find better material on the other side of a hill few people know about or you could stumble upon a new mineral for the area. Keep your eyes looking and your hammer ready.

We had 5 adult members, 2 junior members and 2 visitor juniors at our trip to the Queen Mine tour. If you plan on going in the future, I recommend you reserve your spot 2+ weeks ahead of time because they book up fast and it’s a long way to find out they’re booked for the day.

After the long drive and breakfast we gathered at the mine tour/visitor center. They have a nice selection of minerals and artifacts from the Copper Queen mine on display and some for purchase. Before we could get done looking through the cases of minerals we were all called up for our mine gear and lined up at the door.

When they opened the door we could all see the entrance to the mine and the train that would take us into the mountain. The train made two stops underground where our guide talked about the different aspects of underground mining and the dangers they faced. After the last stop we loaded back on the train and were brought back to the outside world. It was a great time and a wonderful learning experience of how hard it was to mine back then. While in Bisbee I recommend stopping at the Bisbee museum. Its small but what it lacks in size it makes up in content with history on the first level and a remarkable mineral collection upstairs. You may also find a collector or two selling minerals in the streets of Bisbee.
Hannah Wendler & Amanda Philpott getting ready to enter Queen mine; photo by Joey Philpott Jr.

MSA crew headed into Queen mine; Joey Philpott Jr. photo.
On Sunday, October 26th, Dawn and I lead our very first field trip to Diamond Point near Payson. The weather was fantastic for the 13 members that made the trek to the pines. The first and primary stop for the trip was the classic Diamond Point Rockhounding area. Diamond Point is so named for the double terminated Quartz Crystals some call "Payson Diamonds" that are found weathering out of the limestone in the area. Chris Whitney Smith and Sharon Brundige had particularly good luck on this day, finding many nice specimens while Nathan and Harrison Scholten found a few crystals still on matrix. All in all, everyone walked away with something from the spot before we moved on to the second stop of the day.

Our second stop was to an area that Dawn and I came across while Rockhounding on a previous trip. Agate and Jasper litter the ground in this area, and fossils are weathering out of the limestone along a ravine. Once again, I don't think anyone walked away empty handed, as there was more than enough material to go around. In spots, the Agate seams break the surface, and red chert replaced fossils fill the limestone. There were shells, gastropods, sponges, and horn corals to be found all over, though they were not always easy to remove from the limestone they inhabited.

We had a great time amongst the pines. The group was fantastic, and the mood was light and fun. This was the first trip Dawn and I were leaders on and I feel like it went well. Everyone seemed to have a great time and I don't think anyone left without a little something.
MSA Field Trip Report: Diamond Point Quartz and Fossil Sites - continued

Top Left: Sunset from Mogollon Rim.  Top Right: MSA Crew at Fossil site near Payson, AZ.  Bottom Right: Fall colors in full swing near Payson; photos by Chris Whitney-Smith.  Center & Bottom Left: Fossils from site near Payson, Dawn Boushelle photos.
Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Founded 1935
A Non Profit 501(c)(3) Organization

Purpose: To promote popular interest and education in Earth Science, and related fields (Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, and Lapidary arts). To foster a fellowship among individuals interested in Earth Science and enable our members to better identify materials we collect, and how to display or further process these materials. To teach all generations about rocks, minerals, fossils, and what can be done with them, and be collaborative in community of groups with similar interests to our Society.

Meetings: 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month, September through June. Please refer to MSA website www.MineralogicalSocietyArizona.org for meeting location, dates and times.

Dues / Rates
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www.mineralogicalsocietyarizona.org

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies
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