

DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter



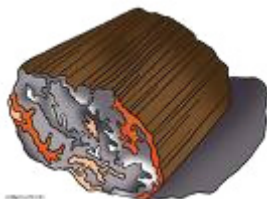
IN THIS ISSUE

Backyard Buzz	2
California Corner (State Theater)	3
Exhibitor Application	5
Field Features (Lavic).	2
Monthly Minutes	7
Show Scoop.	6
Trip Talk	3
Workshop Wrap	4



The October workshop is the same night as the Petrified Wood Seminar so the workshop is moved to October 24th!

PETRIFIED WOOD Identification Seminar



The Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society is sponsoring a Petrified Wood Identification seminar by renowned expert, **Walt Wright**.

The seminar will be October 17 (6:00 pm to 9:00 pm); October 18 (8:30 am to 9:00 pm); and October 19 (8:30 am to 5:00 pm). There will also be an overnight field trip to Sperry Wash, CA on October 20-21.

This is your opportunity to learn about the complex and beautiful world of Petrified Wood.

Cost is \$75.00 and space is limited! For more information contact **Tricia Sheppard** at (760) 252-5656.

The Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society (MDGMS) is a nonprofit organization. The objectives of this society are:

- To collect and study minerals and rocks.
- To disseminate a general knowledge of the science of mineralogy and allied subjects.
- To provide opportunity for the exhibition and exchange of specimens.

MDGMS Officers 2008

President	Nicolette Grill
Vice-President	Gene Haines
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Janet Wentz

Board of Directors

Gene Haines (Past President),
John Bird, Wayne Mallon, Kemp Root,
Rob Stapp

Meetings/Workshops

Meetings: 1st Friday (7:00 p.m.)
Workshops: 3rd Friday (6:30 p.m.)
Dark Months: July, August
Location: 25647 W. Main Street,
Barstow, CA 92311

October 3rd Meeting

Program: Sphere Making (Demo)
Hostess: Leslie Walker & Dian Hare
Door Prizes: Danny Watts

Annual Membership

Dues are PAYABLE IN JANUARY

Adults: \$20.00
Juniors: \$10.00 (10 to 18 years)



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FIELD FEATURES

by Tricia Sheppard



Lavic (September 20, 2008)

Trip Leader: Dian Hare

We were joined by new members **Scott and Morgan Stevenson and Avery Stevenson, Ruth and Wayne Mallon, Norm and Tricia Sheppard**, and drove to Hector off Ramp and met **Leslie Walker, Julia Begley, Mikaela Walker and Dian Hare**. **Leslie** led our adventure. What a delight it was to see **Morgan** discover her first piece of Hematite. I believe **Julia** was the leader in spotting the most Hematite. The passing trains blew their whistles each time they passed us. We heard a lot of "I found one" as we discovered a treasure or two.



We enjoyed our picnic lunches, chatted and got to know one another a little better. The **Sheppards** and **Mallons** hung around the longest and had a relaxing afternoon.

HALLOWEEN

BACKYARD BUZZ

by Tricia Sheppard



Many, many thanks go to **Janet Wentz** who has donated more gorgeous polished stones for the grab bags. Some were polished purple amethyst, which will really delight the owners of those grab bags. **Joan Bird** made 52 grab bags and **Therese Carlson** brought in an additional 11 to add to the 500 or more bags that she already has made.

Gloria Moore has given us beautifully handcrafted turtles made from flat stones and seed beads. They are absolutely adorable with their four feet and tail and will be a great drawing card on the *Wheel of Fortune*. Thank you, **Gloria!**

Beth Pinnell has donated over 500 blue calcite specimens for our grab bags.

Congratulations to **Danny Watts** for winning 1st and 2nd place in the Lancaster fair for his beautiful trivets.

October Birthdays

07 Oct - Scott Stevenson
13 Oct - Don Depue
20 Oct - Matthew Earnest
23 Oct - Dan Holub
25 Oct - Linda Goldsmith
30 Oct - Bob Menelly

Birthstone: Opal
Flower: Calendula



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CALIFORNIA CORNER



STATE THEATER

by Peggy Haines

The *Pasadena Playhouse* was designated as the California State Theater in 1937.

The *Playhouse* began in 1917 when actor/director Gilmore Brown began producing plays at an old burlesque house. In May 1924, Pasadena architect Elmer Grey laid the cornerstone to this Spanish style building in the heart of the city. It was originally known and for the first few decades as the *Pasadena Community Playhouse*.

It staged its first production just one year later in May 1925. The School of the Theatre officially opened with 24 students in 1928. In June 1969 the Playhouse was shutdown due to financial reasons and all assets were liquidated at public auction. They reopened in 1986 and located and brought home original furnishings and many of the Library's original books.

Today, the 680-seat theater is open daily and hosts 6 plays, with 306-322 performances annually. Jean Arthur, Eve Arden, Gene Hackman, Raymond Burr, and Tyrone Power are among some of the famous actors to have graced the *Pasadena Playhouse* stage.

The *Playhouse* is currently a nonprofit, LORT-B designated regional theatre. The theatre serves its community through partnerships with local schools and social service organizations, providing workshops and performances as a part of their regular curriculum.



TRIP TALK

October Field Trip

To be announced. The date has been changed to **October 24th**. If anyone would like a field trip to a specific site let your President know. We are open to any and all ideas.



SHOW AND TELL THEMES

by Gene and Peggy Haines

Themes for 2008:

- ✓ ~~January~~ Petrified Wood
- ✓ ~~February~~ Gemstones
- ✓ ~~March~~ Rock Crafts
- ✓ ~~April~~ Local Rocks
- ✓ ~~May~~ Carvings
- ✓ ~~September~~ Jewelry Art
- ✓ ~~October~~ - - Spheres
- ✓ ~~November~~ - - Mojave Desert

No show and tell for:

- ✓ ~~June~~ Barbecue/Auction
- ✓ ~~July~~ Dark No Meeting
- ✓ ~~August~~ Dark No Meeting
- ✓ ~~December~~ - - Christmas Party

Nature is an infinite **sphere** of which the center is everywhere and the circumference nowhere.

Blaise Pascal



Quotable Quotes

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WORKSHOP WRAP

by Peggy Haines



Workshop (Rock ID & Labeling) - September 19, 2008

The September "Rock Identification and Labeling" workshop had a good turnout with 20 club members and 1 guest hard at work. **Dian Hare, Norm Sheppard, Sandy Wagner,** and **Janet Wentz** bagged 600 calcite specimens along with a detailed write-up provided by **Tricia Sheppard. Julia Begley, Joan Bird, Peggy Haines, Ruth Mallon, Leslie Walker, Vivian Watts, Morgan Stevenson** and **Mikaela** labeled and bagged a variety of rock specimens. **Tricia** kept everyone on track supplying bags and assistance where needed.



On the equipment side, **Gloria Moore** carved a horse on the Wizard and then polished it on the Genie. **Danny Watts** shaped and polished cabochons from Azurite and Malachite and **Vivian Watts** worked on a Blue Tiger-eye cabochon. **Anastasio Elizalde** cut and polished a Nodule and **Adelina Elizalde** worked a large Rose Agate cabochon. **Kemp Root** kept a steady watch. **Wayne Mallon** broke in the 2 new Genies with an Agate. **Gene Haines**, with help from **Norm**, assisted **Anastasio** on the saw. New member, **Scott Stevenson** worked on the Genie.



New members **Scott & Morgan Stevenson** polish on the Genie



Wayne Mallon breaks in the two new Genies

Thanks to **Joan** and **Gloria** for the chocolate brownie and cookie delights! A warm thank you to **Norm** and **Tricia** for providing the necessary supplies.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
OCTOBER 24TH WORKSHOP
IDENTIFY AND LABEL SPECIMENS



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:



Scott Stevenson (Barstow, CA) - He is interested in carving, fossils, gems, gem trees, jewelry, minerals, lapidary arts, and rocks.

Morgan Stevenson (Barstow, CA) - She is the daughter of **Scott** and is our newest Junior member.

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EXHIBITOR APPLICATION

MOJAVE DESERT GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY
P.O.BOX 138, BARSTOW, CA 92312-0138

Dear Fellow Rockhound:

We invite you to enter a display at our Annual Gem and Mineral show this **December 6 and 7, 2008**. Our show will be held in the Community Center, 841 S. Barstow Road, Barstow, CA. If you can join us, please complete this application by **November 1, 2008** and return it to P.O. Box 138, Barstow, CA 92312-0138.

Display(s) may be set up from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, **December 5, 2008**. Tear down will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, **December 7, 2008**.

Our club will host a potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, **December 5, 2008** for all guest exhibitors, dealers, and our club members. We hope you will plan to attend.

I will **need** _____ display case(s), size 2' x 2' x 4' wide

I will **bring** _____ display case(s) of my own, size _____

Below is a brief description of my entry/entries:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME TAB INSIDE YOUR CASES

NAME	First	Last	M.I.
ADDRESS	Street		
	City	State	Zip
PHONE	Home	Work	Cell
	()	()	()

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAMES BELOW FOR EXHIBITOR BADGES:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

For more information, call Beth Pinnell at (760) 267-7331

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SHOW SCOOP - OCTOBER 2008



5 - FALLBROOK, CALIFORNIA: 51st annual show, "Fall Festival of Gems"; Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society; Sun. 10-4; free admission; contact Mary Fong-Walker, (760) 728-1130; e-mail: lkonMining@gmail.com

11-12 - TRONA, CALIFORNIA: 67th annual show, "Gem-O-Rama"; Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society; SLG&MS Lapidary and Show Bldg., 13337 Main St., at Trona Rd.; Sat. 7:30-5, Sun. 7:30-4; free admission; 20 dealers, wholesale pink halite, 50 exhibits, geode cutting and sales, demonstrations, gem dig, door prizes, field trips to Searles Dry Lake; contact Jim or Bonnie Fairchild, (760) 372-5356; Web site: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/

11-12 - VISTA, CALIFORNIA: Show; Vista Gem & Mineral Society; Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Santa Fe Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; 13 dealers, faceting and silversmithing supplies, minerals, gems, fossils, slabs, rough material, books, specimens, handmade beads, equipment, gold and silver jewelry, gem identification, country store, displays, wheel of fortune, raffle, five demonstrators; contact Cherie Wilson, (760) 726-6961, or Lois M. Harr, (760) 724-0395

18-19 - CAYUCOS, CALIFORNIA: 7th annual fall show, "Cayucos Gem & Mineral Show"; San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club; Cayucos Vet's Hall, Cayucos Vet's Hall at the Pier; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; free door prizes, gems, jewelry, beads, minerals, crystals, fossils, tools, findings, cutting rough, meteorites, moldavite, jade, cabochons, wire wrapping, gifts; contact Dianna Deem, (805) 909-2514, or Richard Sittinger; e-mail: Richard@Mineralofthemonthclub.org; Web site: www.mineralofthemonthclub.org

18-19 - WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA: Show, "The Beauty Within"; Whittier Gem & Mineral Society; Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; dealers, displays, silent auction, sand scoop, club sales table; contact Jay Valle, 1421 Latchford Ave., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745, (626) 934-9764; e-mail: res19pnb@verizon.net

25-26 - LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Peninsula Gem & Geology Society; Los Altos Youth Center, 1 San Antonio Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; adults \$3, Juniors (12-18) \$2, children under 12 free; dealers, lapidary, gems, minerals, fossils, exhibits; contact Stan Bogosian, (408) 568-2489; e-mail: sbogosian@aol.com; or Dave Muster, (408) 245-2180; e-mail: mustersgems@yahoo.com



Fall Back
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
NOVEMBER 2nd
SET CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR



MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 5, 2008

Meeting called to order by President **Nicolette Grill** at 7:10 p.m. We have one new member; **LoVanna Brown**. A very happy birthday to club members celebrating a birthday this month. **Danny Watts** is selling cabochons at 25c each for a lady in Rosamond; you can check them out at break.

PROGRAM: **Katie Boyd** gave a presentation on her recent trip to Alaska.

MINUTES: June 2008 minutes were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS: The club is hosting a petrified wood identification seminar October 17-19 with a trip to Sperry Wash, CA October 20-21. Cost is \$75.00; contact **Tricia Sheppard** for more information. **Nicolette Grill** handed out membership cards for the Cal State Mining Museum. Anyone wanting a club T-shirts needs to order by the October workshop to receive in time for the show.

NEW BUSINESS: The club can purchase 2 Genies for \$2,316.63 (50% off) for the workshop. **Janet Wentz** made a motioned to purchase the Genies, **John Bird** seconded, and the motion was carried. We will identify and label specimens at the September 19th workshop. The October 17th workshop is the same night as the petrified wood identification seminar so the workshop will be moved to October 24th and the field trip to October 25th.

FIELD TRIP: The September 20th trip to Lavic will be led by **Dian Hare**. Those interested will meet at Diamond Pacific at 8:00 a.m. or you can connect at the Daggett off ramp.

DOOR PRIZES: Door prizes were provided by **Kemp Root** and **Gary Grant**. Winners were **Danny Watts** (Agate slice), **Ruth Mallon** (Agate with Drusy), **Therese Carlson** (Agate Nodule), **Adelina Elizalde** (Marcasite slice), **Cliff Leslie** (Agate), **Julia Begley** (Marcasite slice), **Nicolette Grill** (Marcasite slice), and **Vivian Watts** (Marcasite slice).

HOSTESS: Provided by **Joan Bird** and **Nicolette Grill** were delicious refreshments of cake, cheese, fruit, nuts, vegetables, soda, coffee and punch.

CAB OF THE MONTH: None.

SHOW AND TELL: **Tricia Sheppard** shared jewelry made from Rhodonite, Amazonite, Moss Agate, etc. created by her mother **Rosamond Riggle** showing early gold wire work and faceting. **Dian Hare** had a variety of "Nasalrod green" pieces she made from silver and wire wrap. **Kemp Root** had a bolo of Petrified Wood, Blue Montana Agate, and Dinosaur Bone. **Danny Watts** showed a patriotic bracelet, beaded cabochon, and Turquoise bracelet for his "shy wife" **Vivian**. He also showed his beautiful trivets which he won 1st and 2nd in the Lancaster fair. **Janet Wentz** had a lovely wire wrapped necklace made by **Katie Boyd**. **Cliff Leslie** shared books "Glossary of Mineral Species" which comes out every 4 years. He explained that several mineral names have changed over the years.

Leslie Walker asked if we had every heard back from Red Rock Canyon regarding a club display. **Nicolette Grill** said she sent them an email but never heard back. **Dwight Sappington** had a heart attack and a 6-way bypass.

ATTENDANCE: There were 27 members in attendance. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectively submitted,



Peggy Haines,
Acting Secretary