

DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE

Backyard Buzz	3
Become a Coordinator.	5
Elections Are Coming!	1
Exhibitor Application	7
Monthly Minutes	9
Show and Tell (Fossils & Dinosaurs)	4
Show Scoop.	8
Trip Talk (A Field Trip Wedding).	4
Why Be An Officer?.	2

ELECTIONS ARE COMING!



It is almost time to elect 2010 Officers and Board Members. Each year members either volunteer or are nominated (with their consent) to hold an office.

All of this takes place at our general meetings in:

- **October - Nominations**
- **November - Voting**
- **December - Swearing-in**

We also have "Coordinator" positions. These are necessary to keep the club running without putting the burden on a select few. You can find more details on pages 3, 5 and 6.

I hope you will consider getting more involved in your club by running for an office or filling a coordinator position. It can be both challenging and rewarding. Please take the time to read the articles in this issue:

- "Why Be An Officer?" page 2
- "Become a Coordinator" page 5



Don't be a pumpkin head

Take action
Get involved

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 2009

<i>President</i>	Nicolette Grill
<i>Vice-President</i>	Jeanne Laymance
<i>Secretary</i>	Sandy Wagner
<i>Treasurer</i>	Janet Wentz

Board of Directors

Dian Hare, Wayne Mallon, Kemp Root, Rob Stapp, Danny Watts

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 2nd Meeting

Program: To be announced
 Hostess: Ruth Mallon and Joan Bird
 Door Prizes: Kemp Root

Annual Membership Dues

Dues are PAYABLE IN JANUARY

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

Editor: Peggy Haines
 E-mail: email@mdgms.org
 Phone: (760) 256-0595
 Website: www.mdgms.org



DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter



WHY BE AN OFFICER?

by Norm and Lucille Hewe

Why be an officer? It can only mean meetings, rallies, dinners and lots of work. You'll sometimes get the blunt end of the stick and all complaints are headed in your direction. Are these your thoughts when approached by your nominating committee? If so, why not look at the other side of the card?

You attend an executive meeting. It isn't long and you discover what it takes to keep the club moving forward. Not only that, but now you are a part of the decision making team and your fellow officers are the people you park next to at the rallies or sit next to at the dinners. Together you generate new ideas for the year or maybe a single event to be presented to your members. It's business, fun and fellowship, and better yet, another night out.

At your rallies and dinners you discover how fortunate you are, as being involved you realize how many members you really begin to know. This is one of the greatest opportunities you will have. The friendships you will make within your clubs and other clubs will always be a very valuable memory of your duty as an officer.

Work! Yes, but because of the membership you would serve, it isn't as bad as one might think. There is always someone there to pitch in. They may not always volunteer, but are always there willingly when asked.

Serving your club as an officer is a privilege and a very rewarding experience. The joys are endless and the results gratifying because you were a part of it. Why be an officer? For all the right reasons: Friendships, involvement, decision making and most of all, enjoyment. It's a great experience-as we know.

I hope that everyone has now read the article and will bear this in mind when the need for officers in their unit is required.

Without dedicated officers our club would not function. We have many members with an abundance of talent, and I hope this may motive them to come forward and share in the rewards of participation.

From Metro-Detroit Club, via SCFMS Newsletter, Nov/Dec 1995

Extract from CFMS Newsletter September 2006

Submitted by *Janet Wentz*



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
NOVEMBER 1st
SET CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR



DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter

BACKYARD BUZZ

by Tricia Sheppard



MANY, MANY thanks are in order:

Gloria Moore made 31 more turtles for the Wheel of Fortune. **Adelina Elizalde** made 50 grab bags. **Wayne Mallon** donated 357 beautiful tumbled rock for the grab bags. They are especially shinny and smooth. **Kemp Root** donated 196 slices of rock that were all washed and prepared and ready for the grab bags. He also donated 28 packets of rock for the grab bags—such a huge help. **LaVon Rippetoe** has sent a "care package" of the cutest cut outs of animals, flowers, etc. for our resin pictures. **THANK YOU ALL!**



Dian Hare donated two specimens for our club display cases. One is Amazonite with Lepidolite. The other is Amazonite with Muscovite. Both are specimens from the New York Mountains in California. Thank you **Dian!**

October Birthdays

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

Birthstone: Opal
Flower: Calendula



ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

continued from page 1

OFFICERS - Officers are elected annually by ballot from among the Active members of the Society. The office is held for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified. Officers are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Board of Directors consist of the officers of the Society as members ex-officio, the immediate past president, and five Active members of the Society elected at large at the time of the regular election of officers. The President of the Society is the ex-officio chairperson and the Secretary is the ex-officio secretary of the Board of Directors.

COORDINATORS - Coordinators are held by Active members of the Society are on a voluntary basis. They are: Activities, Auction, Director, Editor, Field Trip, Historian/Librarian, Janitorial, Jr. Program, Membership, Photographer, Publicity/Public Affairs, Scholarship, Shop, Show, and Webmaster.

DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter



SHOW AND TELL THEMES 2009 by Gene and Peggy Haines

How it works: Members bring their favorite "themed" specimens that they have acquired through trade, purchase, or personal finds to the general meeting. Everyone has a turn to **show** what he or she brought and **tell** about it. The theme for October is Fossils and Dinosaurs.

- ✓ ~~January~~ — ~~Agates~~
- ✓ ~~February~~ — ~~Petrified Palm Wood~~
- ✓ ~~March~~ — ~~Broken Dish China~~
- ✓ ~~April~~ — ~~Tumbled Gemstones~~
- ✓ ~~May~~ — ~~Quartz Varieties~~

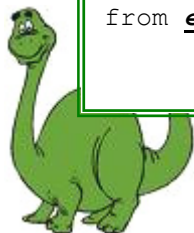
- ✓ ~~June~~ — ~~None (Barbecue)~~
- ✓ ~~July~~ — ~~None (No Meeting)~~
- ✓ ~~August~~ — ~~None (No Meeting)~~

- ✓ ~~September~~ — ~~Artifacts & Knapping~~
- ✓ ~~October~~ — ~~Fossils & Dinosaurs~~
- ✓ ~~November~~ — ~~Amber~~
- ✓ ~~December~~ — ~~None (Party)~~



"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction".

Ronald Reagan



Quotable Quotes



TRIP TALK

October Field Trip

To be announced. Want to go to a specific site? Let us know!

FIELD TRIPS-SOUTH A Field Trip Wedding

by Shep Koss & Adam Dean

Rockhounds are invited to come and celebrate a one-of-a-kind **Rockhound Wedding & Field Trip!** Adam Dean & Teresa Felix will be united in matrimony and invite rockhounds far and wide to come together and join us for a day of fun in the Cady Mountains on Nov. 7. The day will begin with a ceremony at 10:00 AM at the Afton Canyon Campground (directions below), followed by a potluck luncheon. At Noon, we will begin the field trip, led by the bride and groom and Shep to a favorite location, a little-known area with many kinds of rocks in float (agates, jaspers, and even a wonderful plume agate). Dress to rockhound! No gifts; if you so desire, there will be a money tree at the wedding.

Directions to Afton Canyon campground, if coming from the north (Las Vegas): South on I-15. Exit on Afton Cyn. Rd.; turn left. Cross over the freeway overpass. Follow the dirt road 2.5 miles to the top of a rise. The group campground is about 0.5 mile from the regular campground. If coming from the south (Barstow): North on I-15. Exit on Afton Cyn. Rd.; turn right. Follow the dirt road 2.5 miles to the top of a rise. The group campground is about 0.5 mile from the regular campground. GPS: enter your destination as Dunn, California. From the freeway to the campground there is a good dirt road, with no need for 4wd, but 4wd will be necessary to the collecting site. If you lack 4wd, come to the campground and join a collecting carpool!

From Shep, happy hunting, and from Adam, best wishes and better stones!

DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter

BECOME A COORDINATOR

by Gene Haines

You've all seen the old WWII Government Posters that said "Uncle Sam Wants YOU!" Well not much has changed. When I say we need Coordinators for the society to function "I mean YOU". Each and every one of you has unique experiences, talents, ideas, gifts, and knowledge that we can use. Your input is needed in many ways and in many areas within the society. If I can put it in perspective for you, I will try and use the analogy of making a sphere.

First you start off with a **rough specimen** that you are planning on making something beautiful out of. Something that everyone who sees it can sincerely admire and appreciate for its character. Some steps are taken to cut off the rough exterior of the specimen, just as life seems to take off some of our rough edges. Some people feel that they are simply a square in a round peg in life or on the job or in relationships. Well that simply isn't true. Given the right environment with approval and encouragement, they can become much more than they see themselves ever being. Some people hear their own 'self-talk' and all they hear is that they have no talents, they are not creative, they are fearful of new things, they are not adventurous, blah, blah, blah! None of those self defeating, closed loop repeated negative sayings is truth talking. The truth is; only someone's upbringing or lack of encouragement at various stages of their life can hold back your real inner person who has untapped potential and gifts you don't even know you may have.

The second phase is now you have to knock off the edges of the square cube that has been created from the rough material. This is accomplished by grinding under heat and pressure. Surely, you can relate to this just from daily living and working. We all have gone through periods where we feel this heat and pressure trying to grind us down, but this is not the end! To fulfill your true potential and use all of your capabilities, talents, experiences, and knowledge transfers you should try to recognize **your uniqueness!** It is all within you, all you have to do is recognize your latent abilities and let them out. It's normal for man to want to belong to part of a group and yet maintain some sense of individuality. Why do we join clubs, the military or gangs? One purpose of life is to actually try and discover who we are. **How do you know unless and until you try** to be more and do more than you ever thought you could?

The third phase requires and allows you to take off more rough edges, (getting rid of old habits, fears, doubts, etc.) but these are much smaller and thus they seem to come off much faster than the original longer edges of the cube. Get it? **You can do it**, once you realize what you want to do and are encouraged to try it. You may discover your own creativity can blossom from dormancy. Never being challenged to try and do more, you may not think you can - **but you always can if you TRY!** Your multi-edged rough (**personality**) actually begins to resemble a sphere (a well-rounded person)!

Lastly when you push past the self-imposed boundaries, you can feel more confident and assured that you can contribute to the society and the rest of the world you live in. You may not run through walls (because they are only in your mind to begin with!) but you can figure out how to go over them, dig under them, go around the ends, or in some way make it through those seemingly impossible issues that come into your life.

continued on page 6

DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter

BECOME A COORDINATOR

continued from page 5

Once you're past those phases you may now discover your inner creativity and decisiveness will allow you to frolic in unknown or new environments. We know there are common traits exhibited in common people, some successful and others not as much. You have a drive, an interest or a desire to exceed some boundaries in your life. Your level of competence is open ended at the top, not capped at any one level. Hopefully you are motivated by the task at hand that you're interested in. The 'Fear of Failure' is only words and only in your mind. To develop into all you can be, you need to move past any self-imposed mental barriers (instead of mental blocks you may have placed on yourself mental locks!) which have held you back from exploring your active and creative side of life. If you hear that small voice in your head that tells you all the reasons why you can't do something or all the reasons why something won't work - ignore it, it's not true. Only you have the key (desire) to attempt something greater than yourself. I challenge you in choosing to turn the key to those 'mental locks' and use the knowledge and wisdom gained from your personal life experiences (we need them in this society) in helping us. Look at the list of Coordinators that we need to continue to be a better and great society - choose one for yourself - it will challenge you, it will stretch you, it will give you confidence, self reliance, self assurance and determination to improve things within you and outside of yourself. It can provide you with more conviction that you CAN DO things you never thought you could. I even challenge you to try several over a few years. You could start with an easy position and move up to more adventuresome ones later as your confidence grows.

So there is your role as a participating member; step up, sign up and get started in 2010. If you're looking for a good **New Years resolution**, might I suggest this would be one for you to choose from. It can only make you stronger and *allow you to grow as a person*. You will have others to assist, support and mentor you, so what are you waiting for? See your President and tell her what position you are interested in for the New Year! Thanks ahead of time for taking one for the team!

COORDINATOR'S NEEDED TO ASSIST WITH THE FUNCTIONING OF OUR SOCIETY

We need members to step up and assume positions as posted below. The jobs are not hard but are necessary to keep the club running smoothly. Having a person in each of the coordinators' positions allows members, who have a job, not to be overwhelmed with duties when volunteering their time.

Activities (workshops, parties)

Auction

Director (annual meeting)

Editor

Field Trips (rotate per trip)

Historian/Librarian

Janitorial (rotate monthly)

Jr. Program

Membership

Photographer

Publicity/Public Affairs

Scholarship

Shop Steward

Show/Displays

Webmaster (www.mdgms.org)



DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter

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 5 and 6, 2009**. 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 2, 2009** 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 4, 2009**. Tear down will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, **December 6, 2009**.

Our club will host a potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, **December 4, 2009** 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

DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter



SHOW SCOOP - OCTOBER 2009



30-4 JOSHUA TREE, CALIFORNIA: 34th annual show, "Gem, Mineral, and Handicraft Jamboree"; Sportsman Club of Joshua Tree; 6225 Sunburst Ave.; Wed. 8-5, Thu. 8-5, Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-5, Sun. 8-3; free admission; minerals, fossils, crystals, gems, meteorites, jewelry, beads, geology supplies, raffles; contact Boo or Chad Barker, Sportsman Club of Joshua Tree Gem Show, 6225 Sunburst Ave., Joshua Tree, CA 92252, (760) 368-7859 or (760) 368-7327; e-mail: jtsportsmans1@verizon.net; Web site: jtsportmansclub.com

4 FALLBROOK, CALIFORNIA: Show, "Fall Festival Of Gems"; Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society; Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society & Museum, 123 W. Alvarado St.; Sun. 10-4; free admission; vendors, raffle, silent auction, wheel of fortune, gem ID, gold panning, geode cracking, museum and gift shop open; contact Mary Fong-Walker, 123 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA 92028, (760) 728-1130; e-mail: ikonmining@gmail.com; Web site: www.FGMS.org

10-11 GRASS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA: Show, "Earth's Treasures"; Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society; Nevada County Fairgrounds, 11228 McCourtney Rd.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$2, children under 12 free; special shark jaws and fossil exhibit, lapidary and jewelry-making demonstrations, dealers, club member displays, kids' activities, silent auction, door prizes, grand prizes; contact Kim Moore, 16045 Banner Quaker Hill Rd., Nevada City, CA 95959-8816, (530) 470-0388; e-mail: kmoore160@comcast.net; Web site: www.ncgms.org

10-11 TRONA, CALIFORNIA: Show, "Gem-O-Rama"; Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society; SLGM Show Bldg., 13337 Main St.; Sat. 7:30-5, Sun. 7:30-4; free admission; three field trips to Searles Lake to collect saline minerals, mineral dealers, exhibits, tour of Searles Valley Minerals manufacturing plants, geode cutting and sales, sphere-making demonstration, hourly prizes, grand prize drawing; contact Jim & Bonnie Fairchild, 84830 12th St., Trona, CA 93562, (760) 372-5356; e-mail: slgms@iwvisp.com; Web site: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/

17 WEST HILLS, CALIFORNIA: 11th annual show; Woodland Hills Rock Chippers; First United Methodist Church, 22700 Sherman Way; Sun. 10-5; free admission; gold panning, crafts, gems, minerals, rocks, fossils, jewelry, dealers, displays, demonstrations, silent auctions, hourly door prizes, raffle, hands-on activities; contact Mary Beth Pio, P.O. Box 205, Woodland Hills, CA 91365, (818) 341-9645; e-mail: show@rockchippers.org; Web site: www.rockchippers.org

17-18 LAKESIDE, CALIFORNIA: Show, "Rockhound Roundup"; El Cajon Valley Gems & Mineral Society; Lakeside Rodeo Grounds, 12684 Mapleview Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; demonstrators, jewelry, beads, findings, rough and faceted gemstones, arts and crafts, kids' games, equipment; contact Carolyn Boland, 10950 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040, (619) 561-7498; e-mail: bobpeggyb99@aol.com; Web site: www.ecvgms.com

MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 4, 2009

Vice President Jeanne Laymance called the meeting to order at 7:16pm, the club saluted the flag, and welcomed guest Gayland Graves, we have a new member who was not in attendance, welcome to Wrayanne Huddleston.

September Birthday Greetings went to: Steve Depue and Janet Wentz.

Beth Pinnell spoke about Artifacts and laws affecting Federal Land.

We were informed that the Benitoite mine at Coalinga, Calif. is open to the public every weekend. For information call 559-935-5909.

Trish said we need donations of polished rock.

Thanks to Danny and Vivian Watts for providing the following door prizes: Nick Beall won petrified wood, Peggy Haines won brown jasper, Robbie Stapp won petrified palm, Joan Beall won milky quartz, Gloria won jap agate, her hubby won jasper, Gene Haines won plume agate. Gayland Graves won jasper, and Barbara Minard won whale bone

Carrie Schwartz's crazy lace cab was the winner this month.

Cliff Leslie shared stamps of mineral specimens, and first day covers.

Katy suggested a field trip to Cady Mtns, as they will be off limits soon.

Workshop is Sep 18 @ 6:30 pm. Next meeting is Oct 2, 2009 @ 7:00 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Wagner, Secretary MDGMS