

DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE

Backyard Buzz	3
Exhibitor Application	5
Show and Tell (Artifacts & Knapping).	2
Show Scoop.	4
Trip Talk	2



Summer Meetings A Success!

It has been the clubs tradition for many years to be dark during the hot summer months and not hold regular meetings. This year the board voted to continue having regular meetings throughout the summer. There has been a lot of interest with 30 to 35 members attending each month.

We encourage experienced and new members alike to come to both the meetings and workshops to enhance your knowledge base of rocks and minerals.

There are mentors available with years of experience in field and shop techniques to assist with your projects.



We are still in need of volunteers for our regular monthly meeting "Hostess".

We also need volunteers to plan and decorate for our December Christmas Party.

If you are able and willing, please sign up!

Labor Day September 7th



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

September 4th Meeting

Program: To be announced
 Hostess: None
 Door Prizes: Danny Watts

Annual Membership Dues

Dues are PAYABLE IN JANUARY

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

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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 September is Artifacts and Knapping.

- ✓ 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)

"The law is not so much **carved in stone** as it is written in water, flowing in and out with the tide."

Jeff Melvoin



Quotable Quotes



TRIP TALK

September Field Trip

To be announced. If anyone would like a field trip to a specific site let your President know. We are open to any and all ideas.



September Birthdays

03 Sep – Janet Wentz
17 Sep – Steve Depue

Birthstone: Blue Sapphire
Flower: Morning Glory



IF WE MISSED YOUR BIRTHDAY
LET THE EDITOR KNOW
SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR RECORDS
AND ADD IT TO THE LIST

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BACKYARD BUZZ

by Tricia Sheppard



Gary Grant sends his "THANK YOUS" to the MDGMS Club for all the wonderful times he and **Shirley** have had learning their hobby and practicing it. **Gary** was a master craftsman with his spheres and **Shirley** with her wonderful, beautiful carvings. **Gary** was a former board member and one of our past-presidents. **Shirley** was in charge of the Wheel-of-Fortune for many years and held other offices with the club. **Gary** said they have really enjoyed their membership with the MDGMS.

Bill Depue whipped up homemade strawberry shortcake in honor of **Gary Grant's** club membership and his move to Huntington Beach, CA, to be with his daughter and family. **Bill** invited some of the "OLD TIMER'S" to share old times with **Gary** and, of course, the Strawberry Shortcake which was huge and delicious. We all shared old memories and had a lot of laughs. In addition to **Gary Grant** (the honoree), **Bill Depue**, **Beth Pinnell**, **Jim and Sherri Hare**, **Tricia and Norm Sheppard** and **Gene and Peggy Haines** were there. I should clarify that the **Haines** weren't part of the "Old Timer's" definition since they joined MDGMS in 2002 (**Beth** recruited them) but they have assisted **Gary** in so many wonderful ways. We discussed when we caught the "rock hound" bug. It seems that **Art and Rosamond Riggle** (**Tricia's** parents) began in 1960. **Gary** had a rock he wanted to cut and took it to the **Riggle's** to cut. When he saw the spheres of the **Riggle's** he was hooked and joined the club in 1964. **Jim Hare** joined in 1969. **Sherri Hare** wasn't pinned down on a date but she has loved rocks forever too. The **Sheppards** have enjoyed rock hounding since the 70's. **Bill Depue** says he was interested in rocks since the early thirties. (**Bill and Beth's** mother started the initial Diamond Pacific rock shop. **Beth Pinnell** likes "Beth Rocks" which are very unique, one of a kind things, and also has a passion for sagenite as does **Bill**. The **Haines** have also enjoyed their passion for beautiful and interesting rocks since visiting Diamond Pacific and it blossomed after seeing the **Riggle** collection of spheres as well.

Gary, we wish you comfort and peace with your family and if you need anything, please do not hesitate to call on us. We will continue to send you the bulletin so you can keep up with us.



Many thanks to **Therese Carlson** for the beautiful, finished grab bags that you have been making. We have our quota for Dec. 2009. **Joan Bird** has made some bags and **Katie Boyd** has given us some. Take some R & R and hopefully you can assist us some more next year. An extra THANK YOU goes to **THERESE**, who has sewn the bulk of our 624 bags for 2009.

Our junior members have made 12 wire trees for the Wheel-of-Fortune and have been helping with the labeling of materials for the 2009 show coming up. **Julia Begley**, **Mikaela Walker**, and **Morgan Stevenson** have been labeling up a storm this summer. **Sam Mallon** made a wire wrap for the Wheel-of-Fortune before returning to college.

Ruth Mallon, our spider creator, has been teaching and making spiders for the show. Certainly appreciated her efforts. **Gloria Moore** has made some of her unique turtles of tumbled stones that are so unique and were a big hit last year. Thank you, so much.

continued on page 4

DESERT DIGGINS

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter

Backyard Buzz

continued from page 3

Janet Wentz brought in approximately 275 gorgeous polished agates to the July workshop for the club grab bags and some unique large stones for the Wheel-of-Fortune. If you ever want a lesson on how to polish rocks, I'm sure **Janet** would be happy to share her technique. **THANK YOU SO MUCH JANET!**

Sherri Hare has donated a number of wire trees that she has made. They are for the Wheel-of-Fortune as well. Thank you!



Wayne Mallon has polished a number of flats of Butler Onyx for the Wheel-of-Fortune and the December auction. Thank you, **Wayne!**

WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS:



Wrayanne Huddleston (Yermo, CA) - She is interested in gems, jewelry, rocks, and wire wrap.

SHOW SCOOP - SEPTEMBER 2009



12-13 - VISTA, CALIFORNIA: Show; Vista Gem & Mineral Society; Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Santa Fe Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; free admission; 13 dealers, books, equipment, beads, jewelry, rough materials, demonstrators, cases, free gem identification; contact Fred Wilson, (760) 433-8446, Cherie Wilson, (760) 941-7073, or Lois M. Harr, (760) 724-0395

25-27 - SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA: Annual Tailgate; Orange Belt Mineralogical Society; Little League Baseball Park, Western Regional Headquarters, 6707 N. Little League Dr.; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; free admission; silent auction; contact Emma Couveau, P.O. Box 1545, Colton, CA 92324, (909) 288 6182; e-mail: ld4frog@aol.com

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

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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 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:

- _____
- _____
- _____

PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME TAB INSIDE YOUR CASES

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

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAMES BELOW FOR EXHIBITOR BADGES:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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