

Magic Valley Gem News

February 2019 Volume 58 Issue 2

In this issue: President's Message, Meeting Minutes, MVGC Objectives and misc info.



Question of the month: Do you know what the Idaho State Fossil is? Answer on page 4.

MVGC Objectives

The purpose of our club is to stimulate interest in the collection of rocks, minerals, gem materials and legal fossils. To discuss and impart our knowledge of the different phases of collecting, cutting, polishing and displaying them. Also to organize educational meetings, field trips and similar event while enjoying and protecting our natural resources. For more information go to www.magicvalleygemclub.org



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ludlamite>

President Message February 2019

The 69th annual MVGC Gem Show is just 6 weeks away. I hope all the rock club members are getting excited about the show. It takes a lot of planning and work to pull off a great Gem and Rock Show. Let's see if we can experience another great show this year. Rock club members need to start thinking how they can all make it happen. Please volunteer at the many show positions to help spread out the work load. Please pick up some show fliers and put up anywhere it is allowed around the town you live in.

This months club meeting is the last till meeting the show. There will be a lot of things to go over concerning the upcoming show. Please try to attend this coming monthly meeting. The club will also be voting on the 2019 Executive Board members.

I plan on doing the slide show after the club meeting of my trip of the Smithsonian Gem, Gold, and Meteorite Halls. If any club members have any small size rocks that they would want to donate to Drake Folks for his senior project, please bring them to the club meeting. Rebecca DeBoard has volunteered to put the monthly bulletin together. Rebekah Yancey will still do the proofing and distribution of the monthly bulletin. Rebekah has also created a new cloud based membership list that should greatly help with keeping track of the club member's information.

If any club member knows about any rock collecting places, please let me or Rocky Metts know and we'll see if the club can go check it out.

If any club member wants to talk to me about any aspect of the rock club, please let me know.

Jon Cromer - MVGC President Ph. (208)308-3364
Email: rokcutter@hotmail.com

January 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The Magic Valley Gem Club met at 7:15 pm on Jan 17, 2019 with a welcome by Jon Cromer. There were 22 members present and two visitors. . Guests included Anna Muse, sister of Randy Grubs, and a friend. President Jon Cromer called for a review and vote concerning last month's minutes. Jim Stanton made a motion to approve as written and Judy Morris seconded, it was approved by the membership. A first membership reading was presented for Randy Grubs. Shirley Metts made a motion to accept and Sandy Hansen seconded. The membership in attendance voted in favor.

Treasurer, Rocky Metts mentioned bills paid by the Club for 2018, including, to the P.O. Box, Safety Auto Insurance, trailer storage rental, etc.

Federation Director, Sandy Hansen stated that there was still time to e-mail your thoughts concerning the Salmon/Challis Nat'l Forest proposed closures.

Hospitality Chairman Sandy White will bring sign-up sheets for the March Show food donations next month. She also was requesting help with monthly meetings. Call her if you want to bring refreshments.

President Jon Cromer presented the list of proposed MVGC officers for 2019. He stated that the Executive Board voted in favor of the list at the Executive Board meeting on Jan 10, 2019. The Exec. Board also determined it might be best to create a Field Marshall Committee, rather than placing the responsibility on one individual. Rocky Metts volunteered to be the chairman, but not necessarily lead trips. He would assist a variety of different individuals to be in charge and coordinate different trips during the summer. If you have an idea or a trip you would be willing to lead, contact Rocky and he will help it happen for the club. He would like the members to help put together a Booklet of locations the Club has visited in the past, as well as, areas to visit and other activities the Club might do as a group. (List of local shows to look for rocks and collecting, trip to Idaho/Wyoming to collect fossils, etc.)

Show Adviser Shirley Metts reminded us the Annual Rock Club Show is only 8 weeks away. She had placed sign up forms for different activities on the back table for volunteers to cover the booths. She stated that the plastic table runners were still good and reminded that the cloth table covers need to be checked. Terry and Julie Folks will again bring their cabbing unit to demonstrate. Set up and tear-down, overnight security, rock painting and the 50cent wheel of fortune were also discussed.

Filer High School senior Drake Folks requested assistance from the Club, asking to borrow the pre-made kits used by the Club for school presentations. He also asked for the donation of rocks for him to give to students following presentations he will do this spring. He would also like to have a power-point presentation on a big screen, during the Rock Show in March.

The Club membership discussed the proposal and felt that borrowing the kits would be okay, but that he would need to ask for donations of rocks from individuals within the club, rather than from the kit. He will also be able to present during the March Show and discuss actual location of the TV with the Show Chairmen.

Show discussions concerning bags needed for rocks, distribution of fliers advertising the show and the presence of a food trailer outside the building during the two days of the show.

Harold Waggoner won the drawing. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Karen Quinton Secretary



Executive Board Meeting

Jan 10, 2019

President Jon Cromer called the meeting to order at 7pm. Sandy Hansen, Randall DeBoard, Rebekah Yancey, Rocky & Shirley Metts, Jim Stanton, Jon Cromer and Karen Quinton were present.

The Board reviewed the nominations for positions for 2019

President-Jon Cromer; **Vice-President**- Randall DeBoard; **Treasurer**- Rocky Metts; **Secretary**- Karen Quinton; **Show Chairman**- Christine Funk; **1st Assistant Show Chairman**- Wilma Sellers; **Show Advisor**- Shirley Metts; **Publicity**- Jim Stanton; **Federation Director**- Sandy Hansen; **Bulletin Editor**- Rebekah Yancey/Rebecca DeBoard; **Hospitality**- Sandy White; **Field Marshall Chairman**- Rocky Metts; **Mining Claims Manager**-

It was suggested we widen the field trip committee with Rocky Metts in charge. Rebekah Yancey made a motion to that effect-Karen Quinton seconded and the Board agreed.

Rocky Metts moved we accept the proposed list of names, Rebekah seconded and the Board voted in favor.

Jon Cromer said that Terry Folks wanted to know if the Club would be willing to give out several school presentation kits for Drake Folks Senior Project in Geology/Wildlife/Botany. Rocky Metts reviewed the four basic programs the Club has for presentations. After discussion it was suggested it go before the membership for discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm

Karen Quinton Secretary



Wheel of Fortune Craft Day

Come join us on February 16, 2019 for some fun on Wheel of Fortune Craft Day at Alice Clements house. The address is 386 Longbow Circle Twin Falls. Please call Alice for the time and to confirm you will be there. Her number is 733-4194



The Magic Valley Gem News is published monthly. The Editor is not responsible for the accuracy of the articles accepted, items for sales, nor are the opinions expressed therein necessarily those of the Officers, Members and /or the Editor of the Magic Valley Gem Club, Inc.

Question of the month: Do you know what the Idaho State Fossil is?

The Hagerman horse fossil was designated the official state fossil of Idaho in 1988. Did you know 3.5 million year old sediments at the Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument in Idaho contain the world's richest known fossil deposits from the late Pliocene epoch (200 horse skeletons have been recovered at the Hagerman Fossil Beds, 20 of which are complete).

The Hagerman horse (*Equus simplicidens*) is the oldest known representative of the modern horse genus *Equus* (which includes horses, donkeys, and zebras) and is believed to be more closely related to the living Grevy's zebra in Africa than our modern horse. Idaho also recognizes an official state horse.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hagerman_horse

MEMBERS

Here is something new and club members can let me know if you like it or not. It is called Member's Blog. You can let Rebekah Yancey or myself, Rebecca Deboard, know if you want to add anything in the newsletter and/or what is on your mind. Let's try it and see what happens. The Member's Blog starts on page 6.

Happy Reading!!!

BLOG

Rock of the month: Amethyst (SiO₂)



Amethyst is one of the most popular gems. It has a beautiful color and is fairly common, making it an inexpensive and widely used gem. Most Amethyst is faceted into jewelry cuts, and some are cut as cabochons. Large, massive chunks of Amethyst banded with Quartz is sometimes carved into ornaments.

Amethyst is also very popular among mineral collectors. Small geode sections and tumbled stones are sold to amateur collectors, while more serious collectors go for the rare prismatic crystals and giant geode sections. Thought to provide healing and calmness, amethyst amulets were often worn by medieval soldiers for protection. A type of quartz, February's vibrant purple birthstone was a favorite of both St. Valentine and Leonardo da Vinci.

There are many locations in Idaho where quartz crystals can be found. Crystals come in many varieties, most often clear. However some locations produce smoky quartz, rose quartz, and the highly desirable amethyst crystals.

Amethyst has been found at Pole Creek in Blaine County, Hog Creek in Washington County west of Weiser, along the North Fork of the Lost River, on the Yankee Fork near Stanley, and Challis Creek in near Custer. In Butte County, amethyst has been found at Antelope Creek and Road Creek. Amethyst has also been found on War Eagle Mountain in Owyhee County near the famous mining town of Silver City. Go get em !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Ref: <https://www.minerals.net/mineral/amethyst.aspx>

<https://www.mindat.org/>

Club members are requested to bring in specimens at the next club meeting for the enjoyment of its members.

Any club related photographs or articles are requested to enhance the Magic Valley Gem Newsletter and can be sent to the bulletin editor Rebekah Yancey or the assistant bulletin editor Rebecca Deboard

Member's blogs:

Mike Deboard - As a new member I'm excited and appreciate the opportunity to participate in the club. I'm an Idaho spud born, raised, and worked most of my life here. Retired from the INL in 2007 and done some traveling. The wealth of tribal knowledge of its members is impressive and I hope to cash in on some of this.

From a fresh set of eyes I have the following observations.

- A money saving proposal would be to have the gem news put on web site versus snail mail and email. I understand that this transition will take time if approved by members. Anyone with a smart phone would appreciate and could easily access the current letter and stay updated.

- The web site looks like it's in need of updating. This is in no way reflective of the web master. The web master needs the information from the club members to keep this a useful site to members as well to outsiders who are potential new recruits to the club. Giving members a password on the website for club proprietary information such as rock collecting sites, current budget etc... would be beneficial. I for one and assume that others would consider putting my personal rock collecting sites on such a page. I'm reluctant to give this information on the public accessible web site. A strong web site is crucial to the club's success in this day and age.

Please remember that I'm a new guy so go easy on me for these comments. Any rebuttal/thoughts can be posted on the next issue of the gem news. Tx

Upcoming Dates:

Wheel of Fortune Craft Day, February 16, 2019 at Alice Clements house.

386 Longbow Circle Twin Falls. Please call Alice for the time and to confirm you will be there. Her number is 733-4194

MVGC meeting, February 21, 2019

7pm-9pm at the American Legion Hall

447 Seastrom St. Twin Falls, ID 83301

Directions: Take Eastland Drive South, turn left on Wright Ave. then a right onto Seastrom.

MVGC 69th Annual Show, Saturday March 9th from 9am to 5pm & Sunday March 10th

from 10am to 4pm. For more information call Chris Funk, Show Chairman, at 208-539-5369

Anyone that would like to present a program at the club meeting please contact Jon Cromer for their ideas. Let's make the club meeting fun!

coming soon



Magic Valley Gem Club

69th Annual Show

Rocks, Gems, Minerals, Jewelry



Saturday March 9th - 9 am - 5 pm. & Sunday March 10th - 10 am - 4 pm, 2019

Place: Twin Falls County Fair Grounds just east of Filer, Idaho on U.S. Hi-way 30

Displays by Herrett's Museum, Hagerman Fossil Beds, Magic Valley Gold Panning Club.

Admission: \$ 2.00 Tax Inc. with Children under 12 years old free if accompanied by an adult.

11 Dealers

Silent Auction

Door Prizes

Grand Prize Drawing

Wheel of Fortune

Activities for the young and the young at heart.



Demonstrations

Displays Cases

Hands on Mineral Table

Educational Exhibits

Polished Rock Grab Bags

Geode Cracker

For more information call Chris Funk, Show Chairman, at 208-539-5369.

Email the Club at rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org or Mail: Magic Valley Gem Club PO Box 725 Twin Falls, ID, 83303





Final Thoughts



Membership Dues

Due October 1
 Adult Membership \$10
 Junior Membership \$5
 For more information or an application,
 contact Rocky Metts 423-4827
 metts@magicvalleygemclub.org or
 Jon Cromer 308-3364
 rokcutter@hotmail.com

The club participates in the NFMS stamp program, saving large commemorative, airmail, precanceled foreign and “ordinary” stamps of all values. Proceeds from stamp sales will be used to benefit any charity deemed worthy by the NFMS Endowment Fund.



Happy Valentines Day!!

2018 Board of Directors

President: Jon Comer
Vice-President: Open
Secretary: Karen Quinton
Treasurer: Rocky Metts
Federation Director: Sandy Hansen
Field Marshall: Open
Editor Gem News: Rebekah Yancey
PR Director: Open
Show Chair: Chris Funk
Show Advisor: Shirley Metts
Hospitality Chair: Sandy White
Mining Claims: Open
1st Asst. Show Chair: Wilma Sellers

Committee Chairs

Historian: Harold Waggoner
Librarian: Barbra Livingston
Safety Officer: Mark Livingston
Webmaster: Jason Metts
Programs Chair: Open
Nominations Chair: Open
Education: Open
Youth Leader: Sandy Hansen
Youth President: Open
2nd Asst. Show Chair: Open



www.magicvalleygemclub.org or on Facebook @ Magic Valley Gem Club