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President's Message

Minutes from the April 20th Meeting



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Issue 5

From within the Gem State comes news that Rocks!

Magic Valley Gem News

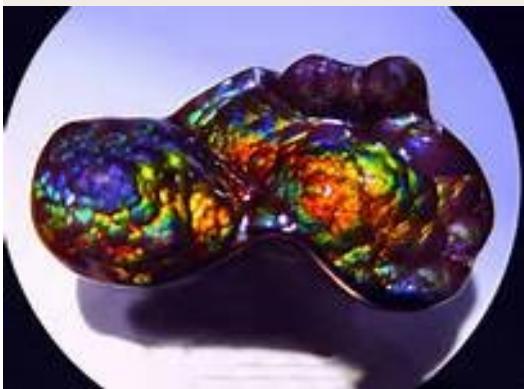


April 2017

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



President's Message

I am glad that the weather is warming up for spring. Looks and sounds like the club rock field trip to Graveyard Point went good from everyone's report, looking forward for the next one club field trip in May. It is really nice to have a Field Marshall again. It is always fun to look for rocks and sometimes camping as a club. So sad to hear about long time MVGC member Charlie Knapp's passing. I have a lot of good memories of past club shows and field trip times with Charlie, he will be truly missed.

With the warmer weather comes the urge to get outdoors and explore. Be sure to have your vehicle and tires in good shape and pack emergency supplies, you never know what could go wrong. Always tell someone where you plan on going and about how long you will be gone. A lot of places I go do not have cell phone service, so have a backup plan. If possible, find out road conditions in the area rockhounds are going or have other people take another vehicle. The extreme weather this last winter and spring there is going to be a lot of bad if not passible roads in the back country. I think the BLM and Forest Service is going to take a long time to get some roads back to driving condition.

Remember to be on the lookout this spring and summer for any good items, ideas, or rocks that would work for next year's MVGC annual show.

If any members want to talk about anything relating to the club, please contact me.

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

April 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Rocky Metts, Treasurer, called the April 20th, 2017, meeting of the MVGC Club to order at 8pm, due to the absence of the President Jon Cromer and Vice President Randy Perkins. There were 29 members and 4 guests present. He called for a 2nd reading for new member Carol Eklund, the members voted and approved.

The minutes for the March 23rd meeting were reviewed. Shirley Metts made the motion to approve, it was seconded by Tony Funk, the membership voted and approved.

Terry Folks, field marshal, announced the upcoming fieldtrip to Graveyard Point. It is to replace the proposed Texas Springs trip, due to very wet and muddy conditions. He also presented the list of proposed trips for the upcoming season: May 19, 20 and 21 to Crystal Mountain south of Park Valley, Utah.

June, date to be determined to Dismal Swamp.
July 21, 22, 23 to Challis to check out the Club claim and surrounding area.

August, no trip planned this month.

September 8, 9, 10th Little Wood River (Carey)

October ? A chance for some impromptu day trips to be discussed.

Sandy Hansen, Federation Directory, discussed letters to the BLM concerning new legislation. She announce the upcoming Hamilton Montana Show. (Refer to your Federation Newsletter)

Rocky Metts announced his willingness to demonstrate Rock Tumbling techniques at his home on the 1st Saturday in May. You will need to call him before going to his home.

The installation of Officers occurred: Jon Cromer, President; Randy Perkins, Vice President; Karen Quinton, Secretary; Rocky Metts, Treasurer; Chris Funk, Show

Chairman; Shirley Metts, Show Advisor; Trudy Hunt, Hospitality; Sandy Hansen, Federation Director; Terry Folks, Field Marshal; Julie Folks, Publicity.

Trudy Hunt asked for volunteers for June snacks.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm... Rob Smith won the door prize.



We are affiliated with the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Rockhounding in the US.....

Alabama

Alabama comprises two geological regions.

Famous Gemstones:

The Sancy Diamond



The **Sancy**, a pale yellow diamond of 55.23 carats (11.046 g), is likely of Indian origin owing to its cut. The shield-shaped stone comprises two back-to-back crowns but lacks any semblance to a pavilion. The Sancy's known history began circa 1570. Sources claim that the diamond was purchased in Constantinople by de Sancy.

Henry III of France suffered from premature baldness and tried to conceal this fact by wearing a cap. As diamonds were becoming increasingly fashionable at the time, Henry arranged to borrow de Sancy's diamond to decorate his cap. Henry IV also borrowed the stone, for the more practical purpose of using it as security for financing an army. Legend has it that a messenger carrying the jewel never reached his destination, but de Sancy was convinced that the man was loyal and had a search conducted until the site of the messenger's robbery and murder was found. When the body was disinterred, the jewel was found in the faithful man's stomach.

The Sancy was bought in 1906 by William Waldorf Astor, 1st Viscount Astor. The prominent Astor family possessed it for 72 years until the 4th Viscount Astor sold it to the Louvre for \$1 million in 1978. The Sancy now rests in the Apollo Gallery.

The northeast section is mountainous, constituting the southern end of the Cumberland Plateau and climaxing in 2,407 ft. Cheaha Mt. This crystalline or mineral region is composed primarily of metamorphosed Paleozoic rocks which are exposed and commercially mined in Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Randolph, Tallapoosa, and parts of Chilton, Elmore, and Lee counties. In this contorted, structurally complicated region of slates, phyllites, marbles, quartzites, and conglomerates; the series includes granites, schists (mica, garnet, graphite, quartz), and gneisses, as well as numerous granite pegmatites and ore-bearing veins. Prior to the California gold rush of 1849, this portion of Alabama experienced its own gold rush, largely unprofitable, although gold may still be panned in the regional streams. Most of the rest of the state, about 60%, is the gently rolling to flat Coastal Plain averaging about 500 ft. above sea level. From this predominantly farming region the wide-spreading Tuscaloosa formation disgorges chert that has gemmy qualities for cutting and polishing.



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

Graveyard Point—A Report

Saturday was a day that many of us had been waiting for. Spring had finally found its way to Southern Idaho and many of us had been saying that it was time to out get hounding.

Saturday morning found those of us that had agreed to go meeting each other at the Flying J. It was fun to see a group of old and new to be friends standing in a circle talking about what was to come that very day. It did not take long for the call to be given and we were all heading to our trucks to head to Graveyard Point. I even must admit that it did seem to take a bit to get there but the trip did give us time to talk about where to go and the hopes of what we might find was a general theme in the talk.

Our final gas stop was at the Gem Stop and that was also the area that we picked up some more hounders that joined our caravan. We topped off with gas a few supplies and off we went to answer the call of the rocks. At the Gem Stop I was certain that the whispers of the rocks could be heard.

Since Terry and I have joined the Rock Hounding hobby we have spent a lot of time roaming the surrounding states and meeting people from all over that have the same crazy addiction of looking and working with rocks. It is humbling to realize that our kids have grown up roaming the rocks in Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Oregon and Wyoming. How the heck did the time go so quickly??? It is very awesome to get a group together that have the same love. The enthusiasm was palatable.

Our group was diverse with 13 people of different ages. We had people come from our area of course, Ketchum and Boise. The ones that had been hounding before were available to tell the new ones what kind of rock they had in their hand. Some were even kind enough to share rock hammers with some little young ones that were keen to see what they could find digging!

Funny how you can never get the little ones to dig when you need them too in the yard. We had checked the weather beforehand and the surprise that we had that day was the wind. The blustery one did its hardest to

blow us into a different state. We even had a couple comment that maybe it would blow us into rock.

We have found that when you go out as a group you learn quickly about the people that have with you. One of our new club members braved the outing with her kids and a guest, she really has a good eye for looking for rock and it will be exciting to see her develop it. Our youth leader did some teaching with the younger ones and for a time it was like she was the pied piper with a trail of young ones following behind her. Terry and I was delighted that a couple we met at the rock and gem show took up our offer and joined us on this trip. They like rocks like the rest of us do and it was fun to be a part of their first time being out rocking. There is always that one person that hates to give up the look when it is time to leave and move to the next spot. (you know who you are) No names are ever give in the report. We did have one member get sick with the flu while out. He had a hearty soul and did his best to keep moving. You know what that old saying is about what happens in Vegas Stays in Vegas. If you did not come you missed out. Our next outing is in May. It is a camping trip to the Crystal Mountain area. We are going out the third weekend in May. There is enough in the area to support looking for rocks Saturday and part of Sunday. Plans are still in the planning phase but mark your calendars and be at the club meeting in May to get the final details. You can contact the Field Marshal as well with questions about this trip when the times gets closer and all the details are worked out. If the weather is not going to cooperate we will try to plan a trip closer for just a day outing on the third Saturday.

Thanks to all that came and joined us. You all made it fun and we could not have done it without you all. Come see us next time!

Terry and Julia Folks



Healing Properties: Apatite >>>

♥ Intellect ♥ Focus ♥ Learning ♥ Clarity of concentration ♥ Acceptance ♥ Unconditional Love ♥ Stimulates thoughts & ideas ♥ Communication ♥ Intellectual pursuits ♥ Peace and harmony ♥ Fights viruses

Zodiac - [Gemini](#) Element - Air Typical colours - Blue, grey, green, yellow (rare)

Apatite is a stone of manifestation. It is related to service and to humanitarian pursuits. Apatite is attuned to the future, yet connects to past lives. It stimulates the development of our psychic gifts and spiritual attunement, deepening meditation and aiding communication and self-expression on all levels. It balances the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual bodies, and the chakras, eliminating overactivity and stimulating underactivity.

<http://www.charmsflight.com/apatite-healing-properties.html>

Field Trips for 2017 (tentative)

May 19th, 20th and 21st. Crystal Mountain, south of Park Valley, Utah.

June (date to be determined) Dismal Swamp near Featherville to be led by Randy and Mark.

July 21st, 22nd and 23rd. Challis to check out the club claim and surrounding area.

August, no trip planned for this month.

September 16th and 17th. Little Wood River, (Carey), area to find agate, petrified wood, jasper and quartz crystal.

October?

*There could be some impromptu day trips happen in between the planned trips. Some areas that we could go to include Oakley (Idaho), Wendover (Nevada) or Hubbard Basin (Nevada). We would also be open to doing some trips tailored to junior members. Our kids would be willing to lead these trips. Be sure to sign up for the impromptu trips if you want to be contacted to go. These will likely be short notice and smaller groups so have your hounding gear ready to go!

2016 Board of Directors

President: Jon Cromer

Vice-President: Randy Perkins

Secretary: Karen Quinton

Treasurer: Rocky Metts

Federation Director: Sandy Hansen

Field Marshall: Terry Folks

Editor Gem News: Rebekah Yancey

PR Director: Julie Folks

Show Chair: Chris Funk

Show Advisor: Shirley Metts

Hospitality Chair: Trudy Hunt

Committee Chairs

Historian: Harold Waggoner

Librarian: Barbra Livingston

Safety Officer: Mark Livingston

Webmaster: Jason Metts

Programs Chairman: Rocky Metts

Nominations Chairman: Devone Bates

Education: open

Youth Leader: Sandy Hansen

Youth President: open

1st Asst. Show Chair: Wilma Sellers

2nd Asst. Show Chair Devone Bates

Mining Claims: open

finalthoughts...

Next MVGC meeting: May 18, 2017, 7—9 pm
Rosenau's Community Room
2826 Addison Ave East, Twin Falls
(Just west of D&B Supply. The community room is on the west end of the Rosenau Building.)



Membership Dues

Due October 1

Adult Membership \$10

Junior Membership \$5

For more information or an application,
contact Rocky Metts 423-4827

rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org OR

Jon Cromer 308-3364

rokcutter@hotmail.com

The club participates in the NFMS stamp program, saving large commemoratives, airmail, pre-canceled 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.

coming soon >>>

*Magic Valley Gem Club
64th Annual Gem Show*

March 10 & 11, 2018

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



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Magic Valley
Gem Club News

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