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Volume
58
Issue 1

From within the Gem State comes news that Rocks!

Magic Valley Gem News



January 2019

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

The New Year is here. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. I'm looking forward to the fun times to be had in all the rock club activities in the coming year. I'm open to any suggestions that will help make the club meetings more interesting. If any club members have any ideas, let me know.

The rock club meeting will have an Executive Board meeting on January 10, 2019 at the American Legion Hall at 7 pm. The remaining 2018 EB members please plan on attending. The 2019 nominated EB club members are invited to attend. EB club members need to bring things and ideas to discuss about the club. The EB position of Field Marshal is still open for nomination. As I stated in the last club meeting, I'm looking for a person that would just coordinate field trips with other club members leading the field trips. I would like to also personally thank all past and present MVGC Executive Board members for serving the club.

With the new big screen TV now in use for the club meetings, I think that the club meetings and presentations will be a lot more interesting. The presentation for the January club meeting will be a slide show of past years annual shows. This slide show will hopefully start to get club members thinking about the annual show and the many things that have to happen to make the show a success.

Dick Morris has stated that he is on track for tumbling enough rocks for over 400 grab bags. Club members that can make these grab bags need to start making them as soon as possible. The grab bag pattern is available on the MVGC.org club website. I will look online for something that could work that is already made at a low cost.

If any club member want 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

December 20, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The Magic Valley Gem Club met on December 20, 2018. President Jon Cromer called the meeting to order at 8:05pm. Minutes were reviewed and Earl White made a motion that they be approved. Rebekah Yancey 2nd the motion and the membership voted in favor of the motion. There were no new membership readings. Visitors Dick and Sue Kern were introduced. Randy Grubbs was also visiting and talked about his father, Gene Grubbs. Gene was a member of the club for many years, acquiring a large collection of rocks.

Treasurer Rocky Metts discussed bills that need to be paid.

Federation Chairman Sandy Hansen said it was still possible to comment on the trail closures in the Challis National Forest.

Show co-chairman Shirley Metts stated that slides of previous shows would be shown next month. She also encouraged those working on the show to try to get clearance items this month to help with the costs associated with the show. She also reminded everyone they will need receipts for items purchased in order to get paid. Please talk to Shirley before buying items because they may already be available.

Everyone should think about Show things, such as any new ideas to update the show talk to Jon and share those ideas.

We were reminded of the need for rock bags. Double check on the web site, www.magicvalleygemclub.org (or .net) to look for a pattern and size for the bags. Dues of \$5.00 for each member need to be paid or talk to Rocky Metts if you are retired, over 65 and with an existing membership.

Jon Cromer called for an Executive Board Meeting for January 10 at 7pm. The Executive Board needs to review the nomination list, discuss open positions (field marshal, bulletin editor, and a mining claim manager). The Meeting was adjourned at 8:30. A Christmas meal and gift exchange were enjoyed by all.

Karen Quinton-
Secretary



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

Rockhounding in the US.....Kansas

Kansas does have many fossil-bearing rocks at the surface, mostly limestone, sandstone, and shale.

Calling all Crafters

The show is coming soon and we are in need of rock related craft items for the Wheel of Fortune.

Most limestone (in Kansas and elsewhere) was deposited in warm, shallow seas, such as the ones that covered Kansas intermittently during the Pennsylvanian, Permian, and Cretaceous periods. These warm, shallow seas were not only good for making limestone, but also for preserving the organisms that lived in these seas. The calcium carbonate ooze that collected on the sea floors made a perfect burial ground. Accordingly, Kansas's limestone contains many fossils.



Accordingly, Kansas's limestone contains many fossils.

STATE ROCKS, GEMSTONES, MINERALS, FOSSILS, & DINOSAURS

Kansas is the only state that has not designated any official rock, stone, gemstone, mineral, fossil, or dinosaur.

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.

<http://www.gatorgirlrocks.com/state-by-state/kansas.html>

Drilling Stones: For Beginners

When drilling stone or beach glass, you can use a regular Dremel high-speed hand-held drill. If you don't already have one, you can get one at a hardware store. Don't get a battery-operated one because it won't go fast enough. Get one with a cord. You want the model that goes up to 30,000 rpm. Once you have your high-speed drill, you need to obtain a chuck that will hold tiny drill bits. The next component that you would need to get is a diamond drill bit. It's best to use 1.2 to 1.5 mm bits, and buy at least three at a time because they are breakable. But they work the best and the fastest. If you need to make bigger holes, I would still suggest starting with the smaller bit, and then enlarging the hole with a bigger bit. It puts less pressure on the stone that way, and you're less likely to break the stone.

1. After you set up the drill and mark a tiny dot on the stone where you want the hole to go, put the glass or stone piece in a small plastic tray (like something from a frozen dinner) and pour enough warm water into the tray just to cover the piece. (If you're drilling glass, make the dot with a permanent marker, then rub a bit of clear solid deodorant over the dot to keep the water from washing it off).
2. Don't forget your PPE. Put on protective glasses and a face mask, and then put the tray at the base of the drill press. Get a comfortable, firm grip on the stone that keeps your fingers out of the way of the drill. While holding firmly on to the stone, bring the lever down until the diamond drill bit just touches the stone. The drill is not running now; just try to get the stone in exactly the right position. Always check by looking at the drill bit from the side, as well as from the front.

3. When you're satisfied that the drill and the stone are exactly aligned, then turn on the drill to a medium speed (for stone) or a medium-high speed (for glass). (The general rule of thumb is: the harder the material you're drilling, the faster the drill speed. Diamond bits usually work best at medium to high speeds. You'll soon get a sense of what works best for you).

4. Slowly bring the running drill bit down to the stone and apply very gentle pressure for maybe about five seconds. Then lift the drill bit up slightly so that the surrounding water can rinse off the diamond coating and cool the bit. A second or two later, bear gently down again, then lift up, then press gently but firmly down, slowly and gradually working my way through the stone. Depending on the hardness of the stone, it may take you about three minutes to get all the way through the stone, glass even longer. You Have To Be Patient. You might want to consider investing in earplugs or ear protectors because it's a very noisy process.

If you're drilling stone, there's no guarantee that it won't break even if you do this method, because some stones may contain internal fracture lines that will break the stone apart with the pressure of a drill. You should decide at the start whether you want to risk the stone or not. Practice on cheaper, throwaway stones at first. And, of course, stay away from drilling in "cracked" areas of the stone.



Upcoming Dates:

January 10th—Executive Board Meeting

January 17th—Club Meeting

Program Calendar for club meetings.

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

2018 Board of Directors

President: Jon Cromer

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

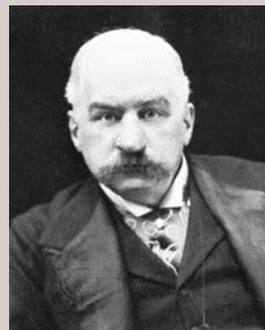
Youth President: open

2nd Asst. Show Chair: open

JP MORGAN

J.P. Morgan was one of the most famous financiers in America in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He was also a notable gemstone collector and was responsible for funding some of the world's greatest gemstone collections.

John Pierpont Morgan was born in Connecticut on 17 April, 1837. His father was a wealthy international banker, and sent his son to be educated in Switzerland followed by the University of Gottingen in Germany. This expensive education was not wasted; JP Morgan began work in his father's financial house in London in 1856 and eventually went on to dominate American finance.



finalthoughts...

Next MVGC meeting: *January 17, 7:00—9:00 pm*
American Legion Hall
447 Seastrom St., Twin Falls, ID 83301
(Take Eastland Drive South, take a left on Wright Ave, then
a right onto Seastrom)



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
66th Annual Gem Show

March 9 & 10, 2019

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



PO Box 725
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Magic Valley
Gem Club News

FIRST CLASS
TIME DATED
MATERIAL