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President's Message

Minutes from the February 16th Meeting

Storing your Rock Collection

Diamonds in the USA



Volume
56
Issue 3

From within the Gem State comes news that Rocks!

Magic Valley Gem News



March 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

The annual Magic Valley Gem Show is just a week away. I hope everybody is getting everything ready for the big weekend. If you have any questions please contact Shirley Metts or me. If any club member hasn't signed up to help somewhere in the show, please consider where you could help out at. There are still open positions to be filled to make for a successful show. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and not be snowing, cold or windy. But like the saying goes in Idaho, if you don't like the spring weather, wait 30 minutes. I have been in Idaho for 27 years now and it seems this winter has to be one of the snowiest winter in a long while.

The show set up will start at 9 am on Friday the 10th of March. The rock club needs all willing hands to help with set up. If any club member knows of any volunteers that could help, please contact Shirley Metts or me. With the 3 or 4 temps, the show set up is still an all-day long thing. Remember that all dealers or any show case set up is not allowed till after 5 pm on Friday, no exceptions unless cleared by show chairperson. The after show tear down and packing away needs all willing hands to get done at a decent hour, again if any club member knows of anybody that could help, please let me know.

I plan on presenting a more correct official list of Executive members at the next meeting to get a new vote on them. After the new vote, the new EB will be sworn in for the upcoming year.

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

February 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes

President Jon Cromer opened the meeting at 8 pm, asking for news of current and former members.

Presentation of the minutes as in the January News Letter for approval. A motion was made by Dick Morris and seconded by Judy Morris and the membership approved.

Dana Covington was presented and a first reading for membership was given. Approved by the membership. Dana also introduced her friend Halli Graham.

Board Chairmen were given a chance to present information:

Vice Pres. Randy Perkins: volunteers were needed for show security during the day, evening and overnight.

Treasurer Rocky Metts: Had attended a inter-departmental meeting for the BLM/Forest Service and learned that there would be more roads than usual closed to traffic this year due to the major runoffs from the weather this winter.

Hospitality Chair Trudy Hunt: Volunteers for refreshments for the March, April and May meeting are needed.

Federation Director Sandy Hansen: Asked how many members wrote letters about the upcoming legislation concerning fossil collection. She encouraged us to let our congressmen know our interest. She had more stamps available to those who desire to do so. She also reminded the members about the collection of used stamps for Cancer research.

Safety Officer Mark Livingston: Be careful when out collecting, the roads and hills will be a concern. He mentioned the 'Sand Dig' ...he believes it is great for the kids to find rocks in the sand... it is an opportunity to instill excitement about rocks and collecting.

President Jon Cromer presented the Nominations for the Executive Board for the coming year of 2017 and they were voted on:

President: Jon Cromer; Vice President: Randy Perkins; Secretary: Karen Quinton; Treasurer: Rocky Metts; Editor Gem News: Rebekah Yancey; Publicity: Julie Folks; Hospitality Chair: Trudy Hunt; Show Chair: Chris Funk; Show Advisor: Shirley Metts; Field Marshal: Terry Folks; Federation Director: Sandy Hansen. A motion was made to accept by Mark Livingston, seconded by Trudy Hunt and passed by the membership.

Shirley Metts gave a review of the Show schedule. Friday March 10: need help at 9 am to 5pm. Set up of individual cases begins at 5pm. Rebecca Yancey is working to get help for the heavy lifting in the morning. Be sure you have filled out Tax Forms and completed sign-up sheets. At present there are 10- 12 cases still empty. Contact Shirley if you want to display your collection in a case. Still need volunteers for Silver Smithing and Rock Tumbling. Dick Morris stated rocks and bags are good as of tonight. Be there to work from 10am to 5pm on Saturday, and 10am to 4pm on Sunday. Be sure to sign up to work in the booths. Check the work schedule sheets to see where help is needed. Be sure to bring food for potluck for workers on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Friday, Sandwiches or Pizza will be provided.

Shirley Metts reminded everyone: This is your show... we need your help!

There were 27 members present and 2 visitors. Meeting adjourned 8:45pm .



Rockhounding in the US.....

Diamonds in Arkansas

Ever thought about going to look for diamonds? You can—in Arkansas.

THE ONLY PLACE in the World where anyone can come, pay a small fee per day, and hunt on a documented authentic diamond-bearing pipe is located just 2.5 miles south southeast of Murfreesboro in Pike County. Diamonds were discovered here in 1906 by a local farmer-pro prospector. The pipe was mined from 1910 through 1929 and was a private tourist attraction from the 1950s to 1972, when it was sold to the state and converted into a state park. It has been estimated that over 100,000 diamonds have been recovered from the 35 acre plowed field. This site holds the record for the two largest diamonds found in North America - the Uncle Sam (40.23 carats rough) and the Star of Murfreesboro (34.25 carats rough). Since it became a state park in 1972 over

20,000 stones have been recovered by tourists and local diggers.



We are affiliated with the Northwest Federation

Famous Gemstones: Hooker Emerald

The "Hooker Emerald Brooch" gets its name from the one time owner of the famous piece of jewelry Janet Annenberg Hooker, the renowned philanthropist and principal benefactor of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, who donated the 75-carat, half-million-dollar emerald brooch set with diamonds, to the Smithsonian Institution, in 1977. The donation of \$5 million to the National Museum of Natural History, by the late Mrs. Janet Annenberg Hooker, the publishing heiress, enabled the construction of their modern gem and mineral gallery, which was named the Janet Annenberg Hooker Hall of Geology, Gems and Minerals in her honor, and opened on September 20th, 1997, just three months before her passing away on December 13, 1997, at the ripe old age of 93 years.



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.

Ideas for displaying your rocks!

Instead of keeping your rock collection stashed away in shoe boxes, display your finds around the home or in one dedicated area to share their beauty with others. From dedicated collection cases to random items you have around the house, housing your favorite finds organizes your collection while adding a bit of nature to your living space.

Dedicated Display Cases

Cases made specifically to house collections such as rocks and minerals provide a safe and potentially elegant way to display your favorite finds. A large wall-mounted wooden case with a glass front, similar to a shadowbox with separate compartments, keeps your finds free from dust while leaving them within view. Clear acrylic cases are ideal for small finds, while clear "floating" frames hold flat stones such as slabs of agate so they may be viewed from either side, allowing light to shine through as well. Craft stores, some frame shops and specialty retailers carry collection-display cases.

Shelf Science

Create a science or geology lab vibe by painting one wall with chalkboard paint, then adding shelves to display your favorite large rocks. Write the name of each stone specimen above it in chalk, such as malachite, granite or marble. Swap the stones out regularly to give the area a different look, or group them on shelves by types of stones. For instance, you could dedicate one shelf to igneous rocks, one to metamorphic and one to sedimentary stones. Display minerals or crystals on their own shelf as well. Secure the shelves to wall studs or wall anchors to ensure safety. If you can't add new

shelves to a wall, display the collection on a bookcase instead, dedicating one shelf per type of stone. Even one or two stones on a shelf, atop a bookcase or on a piece of furniture adds a natural element to the room's decor.

Fab Fluorescence

Some rocks and minerals light up in fluorescent colors when viewed under black light for a funky, unexpected display sure to please unsuspecting visitors. Place your fluorescent stones in a clear case, in a tray or atop a table, keeping a black-light source nearby. Turn off the lights and turn on the black light for a special surprise. To add to the look, mix in a few pieces of sea glass that also have fluorescent traits, or add in a few synthetic glow-in-the-dark stones that stay lit up even after the black light is off.

Vases, Trays and Jars

Use items you may already have on hand to display your favorite stones as decor. Set similar stones in a tray on a dresser, for instance, or arrange stones by size or color in apothecary jars or Mason jars for display on a table or wide windowsill. Place a small vase inside a larger one, filling the space between them with small collected rocks. Fill the inner vase with water and add your favorite cut flowers for a double dose of nature.



2016 Board of Directors

President: Jon Cromer
Vice-President: Randy Perkins
Secretary: Karen Quinton
Treasurer: Rocky Metts
Federation Director: Sandy Hansen
Field Marshall: vacant
Editor Gem News: Rebekah Yancey
PR Director: Sandy White
Show Chair: Shirley Metts
Show Advisor: Harold Waggoner
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

March Birthstone: Aquamarine >>>

The name aquamarine is derived from the Latin word aqua, meaning water, and marina, meaning the sea. This gemstone was believed to protect sailors, as well as to guarantee a safe voyage. The serene color of aquamarine is said to cool the temper, allowing the wearer to remain calm and levelheaded. Its pale, cool color beautifully complements spring and summer wardrobes. Aquamarine is most often light in tone and ranges from greenish blue to blue-green; the color usually is more intense in larger stones. This gemstone is mined mainly in Brazil, but also is found in Nigeria, Madagascar, Zambia, Pakistan, and Mozambique.



finalthoughts...

Next MVGC meeting: March 16, 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 11 & 12, 2017

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



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Magic Valley
Gem Club News

**FIRST CLASS
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