



Smoke Signals

Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club, Inc. January 2014

Next Meeting: February 13, 2014

Officers		
President	Bill Jonas	406-890-8264 billjon63@yahoo.com
Vice President	David Webber	253-653-0104 david.d.webber@netzone.com
Secretary	Barbara Bayer	480-832-3561 babrillhart@msn.com
Treasurer	Lois Perkins	480-343-5617 lperkins18@cox.net
Trustee	Ken Perkins	480-343-5617 lperkins18@cox.net
Trustee	Ted Montague	480-982-1790 coolwater2k@yahoo.com
Trustee	Jack Pawlowski	480-288-2642 j6ac5k@calcon.net

The Club meets on the second Thursday of every month October thru April at 7:00 pm at the Lapidary Shop, at the corner of Superstition & Ocotillo, Apache Junction, AZ

Club Dues - \$24 a year per member prorated to first of month of joining. This may be paid at the general meeting or by mail to Ron Ginn, 691 N. Velero St., Chandler, AZ 5225

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Minutes of the January 2014 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by the President, Mr. Jonas. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President, Mr. Jonas, introduced the new and continuing 2014 Board Members. Katy Tunnicliff was thanked for all her contributions as three years of being club President. He requested that all cell phones be quieted for the meeting. An orientation for the Lapidary Shop will be offered on January 14th, Tuesday, from 1-3 pm at the shop. To date, 84 members have completed the orientation sessions. The President then requested that our 17 guests introduce themselves.

Mr. Jonas presented the idea of a second rock show to be held at the Apache Junction High School. This school has just donated a new 24" saw to our club.

Mr. Jonas listed the following goals for the club:

1. Review the By-Laws for revision as needed.
2. Update the financial structure of the club with the direction of a financial committee.
3. Board meetings in the future will be open to all club members. Questions for the Board should be submitted in writing. This is an opportunity to see how the Board operates, but it is not a general membership participation session.
4. Try to involve younger persons as from the High School or Boy Scouts who are interested in Lapidary arts.
5. Participate in the Lost Dutchman's Parade in Apache Junction, which will be held in February 2014.

A motion was made and approved to accept the secretary's minutes from the December 2013 general meeting with the following correction: for the 2013 rock show, there were 2600 coupons distributed not 5500.

The Secretary, Barbara Bayer, announced that Mr. Toner will again have a rock/mineral estate sale January 18-26, 2014. Directions to the sale will be circulated by email notice. Field Trip Manuals in disc format are available in the shop next to the cash register for \$10 (all proceedings go to the club).

The Treasurer, Lois Perkins, reported the following: General Checking account \$3901.28, General Savings, \$171.47, Show Checking \$12449.52, Show Savings \$1934.59, Wells Fargo CD \$6351.64, and Compass CD \$10451.49, for a total of \$33,325.70.

Martha Montague was thanked for her fine role as Treasurer for the last year.

Trustee Ted Montague reported that we donated 152 lbs. of food collected at the Christmas dinner for the Apache Junction Food Bank. The food drive continues and boxes are provided near the front door of the shop. He also recommends that the club purchase a defibrillator for field trips, which would cost around \$1300 to \$2400.

Trustee Ken Perkins requested volunteers for building and grounds maintenance. Mr. Perkins was thanked for the podium he made for the club.

Trustee Jack Pawlowski welcomed all new members to the club and encouraged the use of email for communication.

The former Lapidary Shop Manager, Mr. Jonas, reported that there will be a Monitors meeting at the shop, Monday, January 13th at 9:30 am. He thanked the Monitors who make it possible to keep our shop open from 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday. All saws are in good shape, including a new

trim saw. Margie LaVigne will be the new Acting Shop Manager. We are reminded to keep our shop fee paid receipts to use the shop.

Publicity, Membership, Field Trip, and Events Reports

The Publicity Chairman, Mr. Frlich, requested volunteers for the rock show on Feb. 22-23, 2014. We will have 23 vendors at the show this year. Volunteers will work two-hour shifts, except for greeters, who will work in one-hour shifts. Mr. Frlich described the tasks and added that members are needed to set up the show on Feb. 21st and take down the show on Feb. 23rd. Please contribute items for the silent auctions: rocks, minerals, cabochons, jewelry, and lapidary items. We have a volunteer to bring the trailer to and from the school. The announcer from last year volunteered to continue this year. Volunteers are also needed to put up signs and lay extension cords. Sign up sheets were passed in the meeting and will remain at the shop for volunteers to sign up for activities. The Ming Tree activity price will remain at \$2.00. Coupons and flyers are available to continue publicity for the show. One coupon will reduce the admission price 50 cents for all in the party. The Gila County Rock show flyers are also available.

The Membership Chairman, Ron Ginn, reported that there are 254 current members, 15 new members, and 116 renewed members. To date, 153 members have not renewed membership. Please place a **B** next to your name on the sign-in list if you need a badge. Also, please update your email addresses if needed. Mr. Ginn does try phone contact if the email mail address is not current. Mr. Ginn reported the results of the field trip survey. 93% of members stated they were interested in field trips, but only 37 members returned the survey. The focus of the survey was: days of preference for trips, vehicle difficulty, personal difficulty, distance, meeting preference, and site preference. Complete details of the survey will be in the newsletter.

Lynn Carlson volunteered to head the float committee. Mr. Jonas has a flatbed trailer and a truck that can be used in the parade. Please contact Mrs. Carlson at 602-421-5188 to volunteer to participate in this activity. The parade is held in Apache Junction on February 22nd. We can have walkers next to the float to hand out rock specimens/show coupons.

DeWitt Wright reported that the field trip to Table Mesa for jasper had 14 participants. The next field trip is to the Safford area for fire agates on January 10th. Please meet that morning at McDonalds in Globe at 8 am. A Collation trip will be held January 18th to Burro Creek for agates and Apache tears. Elephant Mountain is close to Burro Creek and contains garnet specimens.

Cindy Koontz reported that member-vendors can sell on the club lapidary shop grounds over most weekends. 80% of the items for sale must be made by the member-vendor. To sell, you must have an Arizona tax identification number (\$12/ one time price) and an Apache Junction resale license (\$50/year). Please contact Mrs. Koontz for details. The Jewel Box activity is held on Tuesdays at 10am at the lapidary shop. All members are welcome and a guest can attend one time. There is no fee for this activity.

The amount won in the 50:50 drawing was \$28.00. Three door prizes were drawn.

The silent auction was held following the meeting. Mr. Fermoye thanked all who donated and participated in this activity.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Flagg Show a Success!

By Wally Frlich

I want to thank all the club members who each worked at least one two-hour shift at the Flagg Show the weekend of January 3-5, 2014. These club members helped to sell \$437 in raffle tickets to benefit the club. We raffled off seven rocks and one book. These 24 club members also distributed about 1900 discount coupons for our February 2014 show at Skyline High School in Mesa.

Additionally, I also want to thank Con Higley and Rick and Carol Black for donating rocks that our club members passed out to kids who walked past our tent. If I have omitted anyone from the below list, please let me know. Thanks again for your help.

Special thanks to:

Barbara Bayer	David Bayer	Ray Bayless	Carol Black
Rick Black	Lynn Carlson	Tobia Eaks	Wall Frlich
Bill Jonas	Laurie Jonas	Natalie Kirmiel	Cindy Koontz
Claude Koontz	Martha Montague	Chuck Narveson	Norma Norwood
Ken Perkins	Lois Perkins	Jeanette Porrett	Richard Porrett
Jonathan Ruybal	Katy Tunnicliff	Pat Wallace	DeWitt Wright

Food Drive Successful, But People Are Still Hungry

By Ted Montague

Hi everybody, Ted Montague here. As you know from the last meeting we collected 152 lbs of food for the Apache Junction Food Bank. This is not just a Christmas time collection because, unfortunately, hunger will go on all year. For some, this is their only source of food. Helping to supply the food bank will give the club stronger visibility within our community, and I am sure we can afford to donate a few cans of food and/or non-food items, such as tooth brush/tooth paste, soap, and personal hygiene items. The food bank has asked me to relay their appreciation. They need our support. Thank you!

Rock Trip Survey Results

By Ron Ginn

A total of 37 people returned the completed rock trip survey.

1. Please select the days of the week you would go on a trip scheduled for that day.

The days of the week that members would go on a trip were evenly selected except for Sunday which was selected by less than half of the respondents.

2. Please indicate your preference for the day of the week to schedule rock trips.

Surprisingly Tuesday was selected as the preferred day of the week closely followed by Saturday. Sunday was selected as the last preference for scheduling a trip.

3. Vehicle difficulty. Based on the type of vehicle that you driver have access to which of the following types of trips are you most likely to participate in.

The results were easy 92%, intermediate 76%, difficult 62%, and very difficult to 43%.

4. Personal difficulty. Based on your physical condition, health, and our preferences which of the following types of trips are you most likely to participate in?

The results were intermediate 92%, easy 86%, difficult 57%, and very difficult only 30%.

5. Following is a list of easy rated rock trips and the types of material found at the site please select those trips that you would be most likely to participate.

The top four sites selected were Black Hills, pace and purple agate, Globe Onyx, and pace and zebra agate.

6. Following is a list of intermediate rated rock trips and the type of material found at the site. Please select those trips that you would most likely participate in.

The first choice for this type of trip was the round mountain trip followed by the burro Creek agate. The next three sites seven Springs Onyx, horseshoe Lake, and Phillips mine were all tied in their selection at 51%

7. The following is a list of difficult rated rock trips and the type of materials found at each site please select those that you would be most likely to participate in.

The Joseph city trip was selected by 15 respondents and the Brenda site was selected by only 13 respondents.

8. The following is a list of very difficult rated rock trips and the type of materials found at each site please select those trips that you would be most likely to participate in.

Less than half of the respondents indicated that they would participate in this type of trip. There was no clear preference for any of the trips listed.

9. Please indicate the distance you would be willing to travel for a rock trip. 50 miles one way, between 50 and 120 miles one way, more than 120 miles one way, or more than 200 miles one way.

The results indicated that most people would be willing to go on trips less than 120 miles one way. Only half of the respondents would go on a trip more than 120 miles one way. Only 35% of the respondents would make a trip more than 200 miles one way.

10. Would you prefer that all trips meet at the club prior to departure?

The response to this question was pretty much a tossup with 54% indicating they would not like to meet at the club prior to departure and 46% indicating that they would.

11. How often should the club to conduct field trips?

The choice of weekly or twice a month were tied at 41%, once a month was preferred by only four respondents which is 11% and twice a week was only preferred by three of the respondents which is 8%.

12. Do you have any questions or suggestions regarding rock trips?

- Since we work full time, we can only participate on the weekends. We enjoyed the trip to the Rowley mine last month, though the weather was still a bit warm. We would like to access some of the more difficult vehicle sites, but we don't have a high access clearance vehicle. However, we have done rock hunting at Seven Springs (jasper/onyx) in our Nissan Murano which is not high access and had no difficulty navigating the road, so we don't consider this to be "intermediate". Would love to do a rock trip around Globe/Miami to find azurite or anyplace with "easier" access this mineral can be found. When the rock hunting emails are sent out, please include information on: GPS coordinates of rock hunting area (in case attendee is late to meeting site) any facilities, i.e. rest room availability, type of tools to bring vehicle difficulty and terrain difficulty Trip lead cell phone number.
- I love going on the trips when I can; however, I do not have a vehicle to use. So far, I have been fortunate enough to ride with someone.
- Maybe there needs to be various trips of different difficulties planned each month. Even two trips in one week would be ok with an easy trip and a harder trip so those who do not want a hard trip can also participate that week and vice versa.
- I haven't been able to go on any trips this year because of prior commitments. Very frustrating! It would be nice if we either knew further in advance or had trips other than Saturday or Sunday have to add, the timing is my bad luck but it is nice so many trips have been offered so far. More please!
- I like meeting at Mc Donald's before rock trips whenever possible, but meeting at the club wouldn't stop me from going on any trips.
- For people that need rides for field trips sign-up sheet for vehicles willing to take riders and sign-up sheet for people needing rides. Bring up at meeting and get feedback.
- If we are carpooling meeting at the club would be a good thing.
- Trip to AZ/NM border for Luna Agate and trips to new locations for new and different material (maybe 1 per month).
- I would like to have access for rides to difficult roads.
- Please think of those who still work full time when scheduling trips. At least the more desirable ones.
- I would like to have the trips scheduled at least a week ahead of time so as to not have a conflict with other interests. This also works better for lining up rides &/or riders.
- The trips I have been on have been well organized.
- I am not really familiar with all the sites, minerals, and procedures, so my indications are, for the most part, just a guess. I also would prefer to carpool with someone familiar with the area.
- Include question - of rider or driver.
- Need to gather new sites from members.
- Wow! Thanks for the opportunity to solicit my opinion. I'm in great physical shape but don't have a 4-wheel drive vehicle (I have an all-wheel drive Hyundai). I know that someday I will have some 4-wheel drive vehicle. So - that kind of limits me - I am fairly embarrassed to ask for a ride to the harder to get to places! I think that may be the case for some other people too...Maybe having some type of car pool system that makes it easier for people to ask for rides (I'm certainly willing to help pay for gas!!). I arrive (as a snow bird) shortly after 1/1. I'm looking forward to participating more! I was not able to help with our rock show last year because it conflicted with a teaching gig I have - do we know yet when that will be? I would really like to be there to help (and do my part).I enjoyed the one trip I was able to make (Hewitt Canyon Marble) - but had lots of visitor

conflicts later! I'm excited to make more trips. Thanks so much for all the very hard work I know all of you do to put these trips (and the shop and the show) together!!

- I feel that we should have more instruction when arriving at a site. Indicate the terrain, problems and what to do about them. Team leader should have examples of material that we are looking for. Have people pair up, indicate if there are snakes or scorpions and other danger. Remind all about what to do if you get lost. Indicate a time to check in, if missing, honk horn and organize a search party. Have a training exercise on how to use a compass and suggest one for each club member. Find a retail outlet who will sell at a very reasonable price to club members. Team leader should know where nearest hospital or EMT's are and have phone numbers and map, and addresses to give to members. The waiver form should be collected from all members before leaving on a trip. We can't afford a law suit.

Classified Ads

For sale:

1 - LORTONE TS-10C TEN INCH STAINLESS STEEL TRIM SAW - \$575.00
(COST NEW \$ 785.00)

1 - INLAND SIX INCH TRIM SAW - \$150.00 (COST NEW 212.00)

1 - MINI SONIC DUAL 4LB VIBRATING TUMBLER - \$250.00 (COST NEW \$438.00)

1 - COVINGTON #754 GRINDER POLISHER - \$975.00 (COST \$1500.00 NEW)

For information, contact:

DENNIS EDWARDS

480-628-8899

DEDWARDS@CST-AZ.COM

For sale:

A computer disc format of the entire Apache Junction Rock Field Trip Manual is available for members only at the Lapidary shop for a fee of \$10.00. All proceeds of the manual sale go to the club. Also available in printed form are directions for using the disc.

The sections of the manual include: rules and regulations for BLM and National Forest sites, plus details of 25 sites to include locations and type of land, vehicle difficulty, personal difficulty, and a picture of a typical specimens at site. The final portion of the manual focuses on injury or illness situations one may find on a field trip. This includes description, first aid, and prevention tips.

For information, contact the Shop Manager or a Monitor.