



Smoke Signals

Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club, Inc. October 2014

Next Meeting: November 13, 2014

Officers		
President	Bill Jonas	406-890-8264 billjon63@yahoo.com
Vice President	David Webber	253-653-0104 david.d.webber@netzero.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 tdcopper54@outlook.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.

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President's Message

By Bill Jonas

Welcome to the 2014-15 winter season in Arizona. We have just completed our first General Membership Meeting of this season, which traditionally begins our time in the sun and cooler temperatures for the next six months. We have a very busy and fun season ahead of us. The events we all have available to look forward to are the sponsoring of our new fall rock and gem show at Apache Junction High School (November 22 & 23) and our spring show at Skyline High School (February 21 & 22). Preparations have been ongoing for these events and advertising will continue right up to the show dates. We will also have our very popular twice a week field trips to search for our favorite rock specimens. Field trip dates and schedules for the upcoming season have not yet been developed, but will be announced by Club e-mail when all the planning is completed. Please be patient, I know some of you are already asking for this information. Also, member use of our lapidary shop is a very popular ongoing program. Revised shop rules and orientation material has just been completed and will be available soon both on our website and by Club e-mail. Those of you who are interested in selling your handmade items will be able to do so again this year on our Club property on Superstition Blvd. Also, the Jewl Box Gathering will be back this year each Tuesday on the Club property. Planning for our annual Christmas party is also coming up. Expect notifications and announcements about all these events and probably more in the near future.

As many of you know, we decided earlier this year to keep our lapidary shop open for the summer on a set morning schedule. This was done on a trial basis to test potential shop usage during the summer. Well let me tell you, the response was more than satisfactory. I was very surprised at how many members (mostly local folks) who actually used the shop on a daily basis and sometimes braved the heat to do so. It was a very informative experience for me and the monitors as well. So, I got the message, it appears our local members have sent us the message through their actions and shop attendance this past summer. As a result of this experiment, we are making plans to keep the shop open during the summer of 2015 with longer hours than before, including Saturday openings for both summer and winter, and we are proposing to install cooling for the building. Expect to see this in our 2015 budget for your approval in January. Our Membership Chairman, Ron Ginn, has informed me that our Club is now composed of about 63% local area members and 37% non-local area residents (Snowbirds). Also, we had the opportunity and pleasure of welcoming 27 new members to our Club this past summer. The challenge to me and your Board of Directors is to manage this growth in a responsible manner and to satisfy the wants and desires of our general membership.

However, we cannot manage this growth and continue our existing services without volunteers to help staff our shop facilities and our two rock and gem shows. We cannot increase shop hours and daily use without additional volunteer monitors and/or equipment repair people and building maintenance people. Our immediate needs are for new shop monitors for both winter and summer schedules. We cannot and will not increase our shop schedules without increased volunteer staffing. Please contact me, any shop monitor, or other Club officers if you would like to assist with the growth of our Club in any of

our vacant and/or new positions. The end result of increased volunteer participation is more fun for everyone.

Shop Orientation attendance will again be mandatory by all shop users for this coming season regardless of your length of membership or your previous lapidary experience. There will be some changes and new procedures to get accustomed to, but not too unpleasant for most of us. In the future all Shop Orientations will be good for one year from October 1st to October 1st. Shop Orientations attended between those dates will only be valid until the next October 1st date. To get us on that schedule (and for this season only) we are requiring all shop users who want to use the shop after November 3, 2014 to attend a scheduled Shop Orientation class prior to using the shop facilities after that November 3rd date. There will be one Shop Orientation scheduled this month (October) to accommodate the current shop users. That date will be determined in the next couple of days. Thereafter, Shop Orientation will be scheduled once every two weeks. Member shop privileges will stay effective for new members and arriving Snowbirds as long as they attend the next scheduled Shop Orientation class after joining the Club or arriving in this area. Failure to attend a Shop Orientation meeting or making special arrangements will result in suspension of shop usage privileges.

For your information, there are a few other items currently in work to improve our Club building. These items have been approved by the Board of Directors. We are in the process of ordering and installing additional ventilation in the saw room. It has been determined that we need a small temporary building to house our saw oil and oil recycling equipment to be compliant with the Fire Department. Another item currently being investigated is the feasibility of recycling our water used with our rock grinding equipment.

Thanks,

Bill Jonas
President

Minutes of the October 2014 Meeting

By Barbara Bayer

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by the President, Mr. Jonas.

- President: A large number of members used the Lapidary Shop this spring and summer. By month, the participants were: 236 March, 211, April, 127 May, 132 June, 125 July, and 92 August to total 923. A cooling system is being investigated for spring 2015 installation. An oil storage unit is needed to remove the oil containers from the saw room and safely store oil. Additional shop storage was discussed. There will be a lost and found box for slabs and rocks which will be kept for a week to allow the owners to collect them. A revised shop orientation will be held twice a month. All members using the shop must attend the revised orientation sessions. If a new member wishes to use the shop, this is permitted until the next orientation

session is available. The shop monitors will meet on Saturday October 11th at 7:30 am. There is a need for more monitors for the shop during afternoons and on Saturday. A shop manager is also needed. Nancy has been most helpful in scheduling monitors and ordering shop supplies.

- Treasurer: Mrs. Perkins thanked Linn Mistrot for her valuable help with the treasurer's responsibilities. Ms. Mistrot was appointed as assistant treasurer by the Board Members. The club finances are: \$9,145.10 Show Account, \$3,981.90 General Account, Money Market \$5,245.01, and Mutual Funds \$25,000.00. Mr. Jonas, Mr. Iverson, and Mr. Bayer met with a non-profit financial advisor at Compass Bank to develop a plan to pay off our loan on the Lapidary Shop building. The advisor stated if we start with \$25,000 in Mutual Funds and add \$8000 per year for eight years, that the \$96,000 loan will be paid on time (which is 10 years). This plan has been approved by bank officials. We are still responsible for the interest on the loan which totals \$3,300 per year.
- Secretary: Sunshine activities for the summer consisted of 3 get well cards and 2 grief cards. Mr. Montague made the motion to accept the April 2014 minutes. Mr. Spencer seconded the motion and the motion was passed.
- Membership and Website: Mr. Ginn reported that new and renewal memberships can now be made over the Website. Renewal memberships are due in February of 2015. There are currently 296 members of the club, 27 joined over the summer, and 6 persons joined tonight. There is a need for a new Membership Chairman. Mr. Ginn will continue as Website Master.
- Publicity: Mr. Frlich is ill and remains in Ohio. Assistance is needed to publicize the November Rock Show. Suggestions included were spinners in front of the school, radio and TV announcements, newspaper advertisements, flyers, and information at the Chamber of Commerce.
- Hospitality: We thank Ms. Kimiel for her work in hospitality. Remember to plan for the Christmas dinner in December.
- Newsletter: Mrs. Jonas reported that the club newsletter contains classified advertisements, information on field trips, a calendar of club events, and the secretary's minutes.
- Rock Shows: Mr. Iverson stated that both the Apache Junction (Nov. 22-23) and Skyline High School (Feb. 21-22) shows have filled positions for vendors. Plans for rented tables, security, high school approval, and layout formats have been completed. The Apache Junction city offices have issued an event permit of which each vendor pays \$15.00. Foods available will be kettle corn and hot dogs by Gary's Desert Dogs for the November show.
- Nominating Committee: The nominating committee for 2015 consists of Laurie Jonas, Connie Sundling, and Con Higley. Other interested members are welcome to join this committee; please contact Mrs. Jonas at 406-890-1335 or jonas.laurie@yahoo.com. The offices to be elected in December for 2015 include President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and One Trustee. The responsibilities of these offices are on the Website under "Documents".
- Jewl Box and rock sales: Mrs. Koontz continues the jewelry craft sessions. Jewl Box meets every Tuesday at 10am at the shop. The rock sales will begin in front of the Lapidary Shop starting October 18-19th and continue through April 2015. The guidelines for rock sales are: 80% of items for sale must be made by vendors and equipment may be sold. Member-vendors must

have an Apache Junction resale license plus a Transaction Privilege Tax number from the state. A \$15 temporary license from the city is available for each weekend. Contact Cindy Koontz for more information (cjkoontzlorner51@yahoo.com or by phone 480-406-5367).

- Field Trips: Trips will be offered on Wednesdays and Saturdays. New locations are planned for once per month. Please check your email for announcements from the Vice President, Mr. Webber, as to when field trips will begin this season. Mr. De Wright announced that he can no longer lead field trips due to poor health. Mr. Wright was thanked by members for his contributions toward conducting many field trips.
- Five door prizes were given to members. Mike won the 50:50 raffle for the amount of \$27.00.
- New members and guests were introduced.
- Announcements:
 1. Two tables (for \$35.00) are still available for the Black Canyon City Rock Show. This show is to be held on Oct. 31st, Nov. 1st, and Nov. 2nd. Reservations for the tables are due today.
 2. There is a special field trip to the ASARCO Mission Mine at Tucson on October 24th. Members are to meet at the mine at 8:30 am. Wear long sleeve shirts, long pants, and sturdy shoes. We are allowed to collect a 5 gallon container of rocks and tools are permitted. The mining personnel allow for **only 20 participants**; therefore, interested members must be signed up this evening.
 3. The zebra agate collection site is closed until November 1st due to road repairs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Mr. Fermoyle wishes to thank all who contribute and participate in the silent auction.

Election of AJR&GC Officers for 2015

By Laurie Jonas

It is time to elect our new Club officers. In order to streamline this process, the Board of Directors has established a Nominating Committee consisting of Laurie Jonas, Connie Sundling, and Con Higley. For someone to run for a Club officer, they must meet the following criteria:

- Be a member of the Club in Good Standing
- Be willing to serve as a Club officer for one year (three years for Trustee)
- Be a member of the Club for a minimum of six (6) months

Nominations are open for the following:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Trustee (one open position at this time)

If you would like to nominate someone for one of these positions, or if you have questions regarding nominations, please contact Laurie Jonas at jonas.laurie@yahoo.com or 406-890-1335. The schedule for nominations, voting, and officer installation is as follows:

- Nominations are open from October 9 to December 11, 2014.
- Names of the individuals nominated by the November meeting will be read to the General Membership on November 13, 2014.
- Voting will be held at the December 11, 2014 meeting. All names of nominated individuals will be read to the General Membership. If more than one individual is running for an office, a secret ballot will be used. If only one person is running for an office, the General Membership will vote by a show of hands.
- Newly elected officers will be installed at the January 8, 2015 meeting.

AJR&G Club Fall 2014 Show

By Laurie Jonas

As you know, our Fall Show will be November 22 thru 23, 2014 at Apache Junction High School. Putting on a show takes a lot of volunteers. The following Club members are leads in the respective booths for the show. They will need volunteers to man these booths. If you would like to volunteer to help with the show, please contact the lead. You can find contact information in the Roster on the AJR&G Club website at <http://ajrockclub.com>:

- T-Shirt sales: Laurie Jonas
- Raffle ticket sales: Jeannie Sipes
- Ming trees: Oma Frlich
- Greeters: Cindy Koontz
- Admissions: Dorri Kapki
- Wheel: Cheryl Sterns
- Silent Auction: Tom Sundling and Paul Sterns
- Set Up and Tear Down: John Sipes
- Announcements: Julio
- Misc. Jobs: John Sipes
- Membership: Ron Ginn

Rock Shows

The following is a list of rock shows being held for the next few months. If you have a show you would like to add to this list, contact the Newsletter Editor at jonas.laurie@yahoo.com. You can find more information about these shows at <http://flaggmineralfoundation.org/home/about-the-fmf/shows/>.

- Sedona Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show, Sedona, AZ, October 18 thru 19, 2014
- Rock-A-Rama 38th Annual Gem & Mineral Show, Black Canyon City, AZ, October 31 thru November 2, 2014 (Note: We will have a AJR&G Club booth at this show to provide information about our Club)
- Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show, Lake Havasu, AZ, November 8 thru 9, 2014
- Payson Rimstones Rock Club Annual Show, Payson, AZ, November 15 thru 16, 2014
- AJR&G Club Fall Show, Apache Junction, AZ, November 22 thru 23, 2014

- Desert Gardens Rock, Gem and Mineral Show, Quartzite, AZ, January 1, 2015 thru February 10, 2015
- 2015 Flagg Gem and Mineral Show, Mesa, AZ, January 9 thru 11, 2015 (Note: We will have a AJR&G Club booth at this show to provide information about our Club)
- Quartzsite Pow Wow, Quartzite, AZ, January 21 thru 25, 2015
- Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, Tucson, AZ, January 31 thru February 15, 2015 (<http://www.visittucson.org/events/gem-show/>)
- AJR&G Club Spring Show, Mesa, AZ, February 21 thru 22, 2015

Classified Ads

Field Trip CDs

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.