



The Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club, Inc.

# SMOKE SIGNALS

Oct 2009

## Officers of the Apache Junction Rock & Gem Club, Inc.

President:	Gene Christiansen	480-474-0484 gchris1033@yahoo.com
Vice-President:	Sharon Louros	480-983-5585 anthonysharon9@msn.com
Secretary:	Barbara Bayer	480-832-3561 babrillhart@msn.com
Treasurer:	Kelly Iverson	480-325-2705 steameng@cox.net
Trustee:	Pat Wallace	480-598-8709 rosebud116@aol.com
Trustee:	Brent Staker	480-298-1359 gbstaker@yahoo.com
Trustee:	Vacant	

The Club meets on the second Thursday of every month October thru April at 7:00 pm at the Desert Chapel United Methodist Church, 462 N. Palo Verde, Apache Junction, AZ

**Club Dues** - \$10 per new member with a \$10 one time fee for a badge. Renewals are \$10 per member. This may be paid at the general meeting or by mail to Ron Ginn, 691 N. Velero St., Chandler, AZ 85225.

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## Pictures from the Past

Sorry, none this month

## President's Message

A few of you know that my wife and I are relocating to Greeley, CO. This will put us closer to our sons and my wife's remaining family. Because of this, it is necessary that I resign as President of the AJ Rock and Gem Club, effective immediately. We are simply too busy getting ready for our move for me to continue in this office.

We have a Park Model in Show Low for sale, and will put our home in Apache Junction up for sale in late November. Also, we will have a

huge patio sale November 14th and 15th. I will include rocks and equipment. More information will be on craigslist.com.

Our address is: 3500 So. Tomahawk Rd., #169, Apache Junction, AZ 85219. Our phone no. is: 480-474-0484. I'd appreciate your coming to the sale and welcome any calls on our homes.

I want to thank you for all your help and support this year. You and the other members of the club have been most supportive. A lot of changes are coming because they are needed or desired by the membership.

You have helped me immeasurably and thanks for your many hours and input you have devoted to improving the club. I hope you will keep up the momentum we started last Spring.

With my very best regards,  
Gene Christiansen

## Next Meeting – November 12, 2009

Major topic yet to be decided.

## Sad News

Richard (Butch) Brooker passed away on Sat. Oct. 17, 2009

A card has been sent to his wife, Veronica.

# Meeting Minutes October 8 2009

Submitted by Barbara Bayer, secretary

- The meeting was called to order by the President at 7 pm.
- Harry Warren led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Harry Warren then distributed rock samples. He summarized the October Field trips as follows: 10-10 join the Payson Club for fossils, 10-17 Sedona Gem and Mineral Show which focuses on agates, 10-24 Coalition trip for peach agate, 10-28 Payson trip for fossils, and 10-31 Jerome trip for agate and hematite, Please contact Harry by email [rockharry@netscape.com](mailto:rockharry@netscape.com) or Les Anderson [lessher@yahoo.com](mailto:lessher@yahoo.com) by email for further details.
- The minutes of the General Meeting of April 2009 were approved.
- The treasurer's report follows: as of 10-01-09 the Show checking account was \$4775.11, General checking account \$1813.86, Show savings account \$1853.13.  
The report was approved as presented.
- Butch Brooker has resigned as Chair of the Shop Committee. Problems presented concerning the shop were missing equipment and dirty oil in a container near the shop. The President called for volunteers to be a new chairperson for this important club activity.
- A nomination for temporary club trustee was made for Bill Jonas. He would complete Dale Clark's term of office. Mr. Jonas could be eligible for full trustee term of office if approved by the nominating committee and the club members. Mr. Jonas was approved by present members for this position.
- Wally Frlich's announcements were there is a Rock Orama Rock and Mineral Show on Nov. 6, 7, & 8<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the Braggin Rock Club in Black Canyon, Az. Tailgaters are welcome. Also Lapcraft, Inc. will offer 20% discount for diamond tools for lapidary. Just mention you are a club member to receive

this discount. Orders can be placed by phone 800-432-4748, fax 614-764-1860 or email

[Lapcraft@aol.com](mailto:Lapcraft@aol.com).

\* Mr. Wright reported a space is available in a school in Mesa appropriate for the shops, but not the general meetings with the price of \$850.00 per month.

Some charges could be reduced if we involved students. The property under consideration with the trailer present has been sold. Other properties with adequate space cost approximately \$100,000. We have limited income from dues and shop fees. He suggested increasing dues.

\* Refreshments are a concern as a limited number of people volunteer to bring refreshments to the meetings.

- Mrs. Jones expressed concern that a long term member was denied Life Time Membership. This person met the membership time requirement, but not the active member requirement for Life Time Membership. These requirements are stated in our current By Laws. This person was contacted by formal letter but did not reply.

\* The meeting was adjourned by the President at 8 pm.

## Article of the Month

A Treatise on the different types of Quartz, our most common mineral

### **VARIETIES**

#### CRYSTALLINE

Rock crystal – distinct crystals and colorless

Amethyst – violet to purple from iron

Rose – pink or rose red from titanium

Smokey ( Cairngorm Stone ) – smoky dark yellow, brown, or almost black; exposed to radioactive material

Citrine – light yellow

Milky – due to fluid inclusions ( water, salt water )

Cat's eye – opalescent on cutting and polishing  
Tiger's eye – red ( Aus. ) to yellow ( S. Africa )  
fibrous ( after the mineral Crocidolite )  
Included – usually clear with rutile – “rutilated”  
Aventurine – included with scales of  
mica or hematite

#### FIBROUS – The Chalcedony Group

Note: requires microscopic examination

Carnelian – red

Sard – brown

Chrysoprase – apple green from nickel oxide

Agate – all varieties with many names, (some local), colors, and inclusions

Heliotrope or Bloodstone – green with red spots

Onyx – layered chalcedony

Sardonyx – alternating black and white layers

#### GRANULAR

Flint – dull and dark colored

Chert – dull and light colored, common in limestone

Jasper – red and yellow from hematite

Prase – dull green

Tridymite & Cristobalite – high temperature orthorhombic or tetragonal varieties

#### OPAL OR AMORPHOUS VARIETIES

Precious – various colors

Common – milky

Hyalite – clear or colorless

Geyselite or Siliceous Sinter – deposited from hot springs or geysers

Wood Opal – fossilized wood

Diatomite – resembles chalk, from the shells of diatoms, a small sea creature

### **Field Trips in October**

10-10 join the Payson Club for fossils.

10-17 Sedona Gem and Mineral Show which focuses on agates.

10-24 Coalition trip for peach agate .

10-28 Payson trip for fossils .

10-31 Jerome trip for agate and hematite.

Please contact Harry by email

[rockharry@netscape.com](mailto:rockharry@netscape.com) or Les

Anderson [lessher@yahoo.com](mailto:lessher@yahoo.com) by email for further details.

## **Rock Shows in November**

### **November 6 - 8, 2009 Black Canyon City, AZ**

Braggin Rock Club's Rock-A-Rama, Albin Civic Center, K-Mine Rd., Black Canyon City.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission and Parking: Free. Show Contact: Don Ingels, 623-374-0202

### **November 7, 2009 Tucson, AZ**

Old Pueblo Lapidary Club Silent Auction, 3118 N.

Dale, Tucson, AZ 85712. Website:

[www.lapidaryclub.org](http://www.lapidaryclub.org). Hours: Sat. 9-2.

Admission/parking free. Show Chairperson: Danny

Harmsen 520-721-8452. Nine tables will be randomly called & replenished every 15 minutes

and equipment will go in the last hour.

### **November, 7-8, 2009 Lake Havasu City**

Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society's 40th Annual Gem & Mineral Roundup at the Community

(Aquatic) Center, Relics & Rods Hall, 100 Park Ave., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404. Website:

[www.lakehavasugms.org](http://www.lakehavasugms.org)

Hours: Sat/Sun 9-5 Admission & parking: Free

For more info : [showchair@lakehavasugms.org](mailto:showchair@lakehavasugms.org)

## **Lapidary Shop**

Location: 5130 E. Superstition, Apache Junction, AZ

Manager: Vacant

MONITORS:

Monday: Walt Gasiorek 862-266-7349

Tuesday: Richard Porrett 248-760-9150

Wednesday: Vacant

Thursday: Scott Stevens 219-308-7965

Friday: Brent Staker 480-298-1359

Fill-in Monitors: Wally Frlich 480-982-7760

Gerry Gervais

## **PS**

I am sorry that this newsletter is so late. I just got home from my first summer away.

Kelly Iverson