Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

ROCK TALK

Volume 7 - Issue 5 May- June 2013

President's Page

The temperatures are starting to go up and with it we start seeing a decrease in the size of our meetings. The summer potlucks are right around the corner as is the next election. I want to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as the President of the Society. Due to family and work commitments I have decided that it is in the Society's and my interest to not seek re-election. I intend to run again once I have the time to devote to the office.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the office staff. Without the staff the Society would not function nearly as effectively as it does, and the Show would not be maintainable. Their efforts enrich all of our experiences within the Society, with most of their effort out of view. Please make the effort to thank them personally for all that they do.

I would also like to thank both the Board of Directors and the Show Committee. The Board takes care of the governing of the Society and keeps us moving forward and in compliance. The passion on the Show Committee is obvious. Each member brings a love for the Show and their area of expertise that allows us to set the standard for a gem and mineral show. They continue to adapt and develop new ideas to improve the Show for all of us.

The Field Trip Committee continues to generate trips that are interesting and available to the membership. I want to thank them, as I have done that job and understand the challenges and commitment it entails. The Field Trip Committee has been working to better define how field trips are organized and executed, and expect to hear more on this in the near future.

Thanks to all for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President.

stal ake

Mark Ascher President



Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. 2012 - 2013 Officers & Directors

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Page 2 ROCK TALK

TGMS General Meeting - March 4, 2013

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Mark Ascher at 7:40 p.m. Two new members were recognized and welcomed to the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: A new TV series, "Prospectors," will start Tuesday, March 5th at 9:00 p.m. on the Weather Channel. The program provides an inside look at mining at Crystal Peak, Mount Antero and the Tarryall Mountains of Colorado for amazonite, smoky quartz, aquamarine and topaz.

PROGRAM: Dr. Raymond Grant spoke about "The Mystical Crystal Room and the Search for Information about Arizona Minerals." Dr. Grant wrote 35 "Mystical Crystal Room" columns from February 1979 to January 1983 for the Mineralogical Society of Arizona dealing with stories about mineral finds that cannot be found or accessed. He wrote 155 columns from 1984 to present for Arizona Mineral Collector. Sources of information about Arizona minerals include: Arizona State Mineralogies; historical studies starting with Blake's 1909 Minerals of Arizona up to the 3rd edition of Mineralogy of Arizona by Anthony, Williams, Bideaux and Grant; mineralogical and geological literature; mineral collectors and catalogs of their collections; mineral symposiums and talks; and the RRUFF project at the University of Arizona. Dr. Grant received his doctoral degree in geology from Harvard University. In 1975 he became professor of geology at Mesa Community College in Mesa, Arizona, and retired from there in 2001. His published works include the Checklist of Arizona Minerals and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd editions of *Mineralogy of Arizona*. He is past and current president of the Mineralogical Society of Arizona, past chairman of the Flagg Mineral Foundation and a principal organizer of the Arizona Mineral Symposium.

BREAK: Thanks to Skip and Jean Barkley for providing refreshments including snack mix, vegetables with dip, grapes and cookies.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION: To approve the January and February minutes as published in the March-April edition of Rock Talk. Seconded and approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make this year's Show great.

Field Trips: Kerry Towe reported that 25 members went to the Silverbell Mine on Saturday, March 3rd. The material found was disappointing so Kerry is working with his

contact there to improve a future trip. There will be a trip to the Ruby area March 23^{rd} for geodes with quartz crystal, scepters and reverse scepters. Attendance is limited and no passenger vehicles will be allowed. Meet at 9:15 a.m. at the Arivaca Mercantile. The Field Trip Committee will meet at Diane Braswell's on March 16^{th} to work on a field trip policy and rules and to look at ideas for next year's field trips.

Community Outreach: Diane Braswell reported that Marty Zimmerman, from the Earth Sciences Museum in Phoenix, has kits and materials for schools for a range of ages. Volunteers are needed to visit the schools to talk to students and disseminate the materials. The committee is progressively trying to increase the outreach activities.

U of A Mineral Museum: Mark Candee encouraged everyone to visit the museum. The China exhibit is spectacular and a must see. The Robbie McCarty collection is excellent and will be leaving soon. Flagg Museum specimens are also on display. The museum is continuously improving.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill Shelton's class will be Tuesday, March 5th from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. The topic is "Show Topics: New Wurtzites, New Pyrites, Ilvaite Pseudos, Fluorite Overview, Brief Petalite Discussion."

Micromount meeting on Monday, March 11th at 7:30 p.m. is open to any member. There will be some microscopes available for those who do not have their own.

Summer Pot Lucks: Please consider hosting one of the pot lucks. A sign-up sheet will be available at the next meeting.

Jerry Glazman suggested that Society business cards containing information, including the website, be made for members to hand out to people they meet who have an interest in the Society.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: First choice went to Skip and Jean Barkley for hosting the meeting. Drawing winners were Bob Lind, Jerry Glazman, Wes Osborn and Phil Palm, a new member.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Reynolds, Recording Secretary Volume 7 - Issue 5 Page 3

TGMS Board Meeting - April 1, 2013

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Mark Ascher at 7:30 p.m. Visitors and new members were recognized and welcomed to the meeting.

PROGRAM: William Besse spoke on "The Grand Reef Mine" where he did research for his Master of Science degree in Geology at California State University. The Grand Reef Mine is located in Laurel Canyon, Grand Reef Mountain, Klondyke, Santa Teresa Mountains, Aravaipa District, Graham County, Arizona. It was discovered in 1890 by John Mackay and mined periodically until 1941 producing lead, copper, silver and gold. There are 57 minerals associated with the mine, including 7 type locality minerals: aravaipaite, artroeite, calcioaravaipaite, grandreefite, laurelite, pseudograndreefite, shannonite. Mr. Besse has been a mineral collector since 1971 and is still active in field collecting. He was a manager for 20 years at Jewel Tunnel Imports and is past president of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California. He has been the Associate Cartographer for Rocks & Minerals for the past 16 years and has done illustrations for Lithographie, Mineralogical Record and other publications. moved to the Tucson area in 2010 and works part time for Open Adit West.

BREAK: Many thanks to Carol Johnston for providing the refreshments which included grapes, cookies, cheese, ham and jelly beans.

OLD BUSINESS:

Field Trips: Kerry Towe reported that 18 members went to Nuevo Corral near Aravaipa and Ruby. Amethyst and opalite were found. Donn Cuson will lead a trip to St. David on Saturday, April 13th, for selenite. Diane Braswell will lead a trip May 25th to Dobell Ranch for petrified wood. Those interested may continue on to Alpine and into New Mexico for Luna blue agate and carnelian.

Mark Candee, from the UA Mineral Museum, reminded members that most of the Robbie McCarty collection will be leaving in two weeks. Some specimens will stay as rotating exhibits. Everyone was encouraged to visit the museum and see the outstanding mineral exhibits.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill Shelton's class will be Tuesday, April 2nd, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The topic will be "The

National Gem Collection."

Bill Ascarza, a local author, asked for historic photographs of mines in the Chiricahua Mountains for a book he is working on to be published this year. He also would like photos for another book on Arizona mining which is to be published next year. Any images are welcome.

Summer Potlucks: There is a sign-up sheet in the back room to host a summer potluck or call the TGMS office to volunteer. The potluck may be held at a home or at the TGMS building.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: Carol Johnston had the first choice as the meeting host. Drawing winners were Alrene Hibben, Karen Wenrich, Janelle Cortright, Bob O'Donnell and Mike Carducci.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Reynolds, Recording Secretary

2013 - 2014 Nominees for TGMS Officers & Directors

THE TGMS NOMINATING COMMITTEE HAS SUBMITTED THE FOLLOWING NAMES FOR 2013 - 2014 TGMS OFFICERS & DIRECTORS; VOTING TO BE DONE AT THE MAY GENERAL MEETING:

List of candidates for TGMS Officers:

President: Diane Braswell
Vice President: John Callahan
Treasurer: Ellen Alexander
Recording Secty.: Marilyn Reynolds
Membership Secty.: Alrene Hibben

List of candidates for TGMS Directors:

Bob O'Donnell Mark Marikos Madison Barkley



Page 4 ROCK TALK

TGMS Board Meeting - February 25, 2013

Present: Ellen Alexander, Mark Ascher, Diane Braswell, John Callahan, Mark Marikos, Bob O'Donnell and Marilyn Reynolds.

Absent: Anna Domitrovic and Alrene Hibben.

Staff: Pat McClain

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Mark Ascher at 6:20 p.m.

<u>Minutes Approval:</u> Minutes of the last meeting, June 16, 2012, were presented. **MOTION** was made to approve the minutes as written, seconded and carried by a majority of votes.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u> Financial report by Treasurer was presented. In response to a question, it was confirmed that a financial review was done last year and will be done again this year to meet the By Law requirements. President Mark Ascher will appoint a committee to do the review at the next meeting.

IV. Old Business:

- 1. Conflict of Interest forms have been received and reviewed. All involved parties have signed the documents. If a conflict issue should arise, the President will address it individually and recommend intervention to the Board if indicated.
- 2. Whistle Blower Policy from the attorney reviewed. After discussion, the recommendation was made to make two changes: First, in second paragraph, remove "the Executive Director". Second, in the last paragraph, change the wording to read Society Board rather than Society. **MOTION** was made to accept the amended policy, seconded and approved with a majority vote
- 3. The attorney suggestions for the Document Retention and Destruction Policy were presented to the Board for review and recommendations. More review to be done and details will follow concerning content of actual Policy. **MOTION** made to accept recommendations to policy with added details to follow and to contract with the attorney to have the final policy completed. Seconded and approved by a majority vote.
- 4. Duplicate Library Books. **MOTION** was made to sell duplicate books to interested individuals. **MOTION** was made, seconded and approved by a majority vote.
- 5. Business Cards. If anyone is interested in

business cards, contact TGMS Office to have them printed.

6. Community Outreach. Discussion on the impact of the information given to the public on the purpose and intent of the Show. Information presented on educational resources in Phoenix that we will pursue to expand our "footprint' in the community. A suggestion was made that we explore a informational Kiosk about the Society/Show.

V. New Business:

- 1. Discussion on progress of securing our Trade Mark/Trade Name rights. This is in the finishing stages.
- 2. Field Trip Reimbursement Policy. The committee has a meeting planned and will create a policy that will cover the requirements of field trips.
- 3. IRS Polices. As required by the IRS, a form 1099 must be given to all speakers or recipients of funds, from a nonprofit, in excess of \$600. If the recipient wants to donate the funds, they must do that themselves.
- 4. Show Cases. The Society has allocated \$120,000 to replace Show cases. Over \$20,000 has already been spent and we have no agreement on a particular case. A few minutes were taken to examine the cases in the front room and the cases on hand are not satisfactory. The subject of the cases needs to be revisited with the Show Committee. No more money will be spent on cases until the issue is resolved.

The Board went into Executive Session

The Board, on leaving Executive Session, discussed whether the Society should have additional insurance coverage. All contracts will be reviewed to make sure that we incur no liability. A discussion was held regarding cases rented by dealers from Tucson Store Fixtures. We have no contract with Tucson Show Fixtures and our insurance coverage does not apply because the contract is between the dealer and the business so the Society has no liability on the contract.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Diane Braswell Recording Secretary pro tem

2013 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show ™ - Competitive Awards

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1st and Best Junior Exhibit Clay Downs Tucson, Arizona Open Class Rylie Mizer Tucson, Arizona Open Class 1st Chloe Main Miniature Minerals Scottsdale, Arizona 2nd Kris Bolds Tucson, Arizona Miniature Minerals 1st Kaleigh Brown Tucson, Arizona Educational 1st Harris Kominski Phoenix, Arizona Arizona Minerals Brogan Smith Scottsdale, Arizona **Cabinet Specimens** 1st

Junior-Master

Gordie Downs Tucson, Arizona Open Class 1st and Best Junior-Master Exhibit 2nd Highest Scoring Junior Age Exhibitor

Novice

Jean-Luc des Rivieres Tucson, Arizona One Species – Fluorite 1st and Best Novice Exhibit Robert Whitmore Weare, New Hampshire New England Rough and Cut 1st

Erica Richardson Phoenix, Arizona Thumbnails – Arizona 1st and Highest Scoring Junior Age Exhibitor

<u>Advanced</u>

Alex Carrington Everett, Washington Open Class 1st and Best Advanced Exhibit

<u>Master</u>

Robert Morgan Savannah, Georgia Educational 1st and Best Master Exhibit

2nd Jack & Kaye Thompson Colorado Springs, Colorado Educational 1st **Brett Keller** Angels Camp, California Toe-nail Minerals Phil Richardson Thumbnails/Personally Collected 1st Phoenix, Arizona 3rd Phil Richardson Phoenix, Arizona Thumbnails/Single Crystals

Best of Theme

Thumbnail Paula Presmyk Gilbert, Arizona Toenail Sue Liebetrau Bend, Oregon Ostrander, Ohio Miniature John Medici **Small Cabinet** Beth and Barry Kitt Plano, Texas Houston, Texas Cabinet Robert Thacker Ostrander, Ohio Lapidary/Jewelry Jay Medici Arizona Les Presmyk Gilbert, Arizona

Special Trophies

DesautelsWendell WilsonTucson, ArizonaLidstromWendell WilsonTucson, ArizonaBideauxBill BesseTucson, ArizonaRomeroAl & Sue LiebetrauBend, Oregon

"THANK YOU!!" from Diane Braswell

Junior Education had a great turnout ... lots of kids and parents, wonderful supportive comments and helpful volunteers. The venue was set up a little different this year, more visitor friendly. The stations were in a wide circle that would accommodate the people coming in so there was no waiting at the entrance to get to the stations ... much better flow. Next year we plan to add to the attraction if we can get the support from ASARCO; they have been positive in our request. We are so grateful for our volunteers, Carole Lee, Graciola Rendon-Coke, my son Mike and Richard Nassi, who is always so faithful in making sure he covers what I forget. Also, thanks to the individuals and companies that donated mineral specimens to our cause; that is the real attraction that enhances everything else. Last, but not least, we really appreciate the year-long efforts of so many, especially Wayne Klement for donating thousands of egg cartons so the kids would have a proper place for their minerals. All in all, our Junior Education Area was a wonderful success!

Page 6 ROCK TALK

MARCHING INTO MARCH - By Anna Domitrovic

There are several things to anticipate with the coming of March every year. First is probably the relief that comes when another busy mineral show season winds down. There's also March Madness and the college basketball finals. The first day of spring arrives on the 21st. And then there's SARSEF, the Southern Arizona Regional



Science & Engineering Fair. With more projects entered this year than last, the TGMS judging team had their work cut out for them, even if we only had to judge K - 8 and focus on mineral-related projects. While the norm is to award

three K-5 projects and one middle school (6-8), we just couldn't narrow it down this year to four and gave awards to five projects.

The middle school winner was Kayla Delgado for her project "How To Grow The Best And Largest Crystals." She considered crystal size and clarity to determine how changing temperatures would affect them. Kayla goes to Coronado K - 8 School and her teacher was Lauren Marlatt.





Two 5th grade projects got the nod from us. "Minerals and Crystals Reactions" was the subject of Ximena Camacho's project. Pyrite, barite, calcite and selenite, along with sugar, were used in solutions of water, vinegar and alcohol (not the kind some drink, though) to elicit reactions. Ximena attends Acacia Elementary School. Her

teacher, Alexis Machado, was probably just as impressed as we were.

Ryan Pecha was our other 5th grade award winner with

his project "Does The Shape Of A Zircon Crystal Affect Its Age." Ryan visited three different analytical laboratories in Tucson to test his hypothesis. Ryan goes to Wilson Richard B. Jr Elementary School and his teacher was Vanessa Hicks. This is one to watch. His



project last year was also chosen for a TGMS award.



Calista Sarando, a 4th grader at SS Peter & Paul Catholic School gave SARSEF a project on crystals, "Crystal Cultivation Craze" and TGMS gave her an award for her efforts. Calista used a variety of liquids and solids to determine which crystals developed the quickest. Elaine Ailts was Calista's teacher.

Last, but not least, 3rd grader Alexander Nelson received the fifth of our awards at this year's science fair. "Stomp - Chomp - Comp" was the title of the project

asking the question are teeth as hard as rocks? Alexander compared the hardness and strength of granite, quartz, topaz and caliche. And what was the answer to his question? You'll have to wait till next year when his project is displayed at the 2014 Show.



Besides a generously stuffed bag of TGMS and SARSEF

mementos, each student's family gets a complimentary year's membership to TGMS and the students are invited to bring their projects to the next year's Show. All four of last year's winners displayed their projects at this year's Show. We look forward to having five projects next year.

The judging team this year consisted of the "old", the "new" and the "in-between." New to the process this year was Jim McGlasson. Dick Morris was convinced to come back for a second year. Rick Trapp is a 5-year veteran of SARSEF judging. I guess that makes me the

"ancient." I've had the privilege of judging for SARSEF for about 30 years. Judges are always welcome. With the rise in the number of



projects (1600 this year over 13 grades) and an increasing interest in mineral-related projects, there's plenty to do - from judging to presenting awards. Contact me at annamd84pa@aol.com, ph: 520-578-1173 or the TGMS Office at tgms.org or 520-322-5773, if you're interested in getting involved with next year's fair.

TGMS Selenite Collecting Trip to St. David, Arizona, Saturday, April 13, 2013 Site Geological Discussion and Photos by Karen Wenrich, Ph.D.

Donn Cuson ran a nicely organized trip out to St. David to collect selenites. It was a fun day - weather was perfect, although the wind got a bit obnoxious in the late afternoon. Other participants included Merrit Simmons, Bill Lawrence, Jaye Smith, Michael Hollonbeck, Bill Besse, Ted Rupp, Janet Rupp, and Karen Wenrich. It's a pleasant collecting site in that everyone can take home some selenites without back-breaking work, although Merrit managed to dig several very impressive pits. However, expectations should not include dreams of finding museum quality selenites.

Mostly the rewards were small selenites less than 3" in diameter. Michael found one large flat selenite (around 6") within the first hour, and commented that he could stay till dark and still maybe not find another one like that. Bill concentrated his efforts on the whiter selenites that came from the reduced zone above the red oxidized horizon. I groveled mostly in the red mud. Later, after I washed my specimens off, I realized that the whiter ones were indeed nicer specimens, and Bill had the right idea.



Michael Hollonbeck on the left carefully digging out his large flat selenite crystal, Merrit Simmons on the right into serious excavation, Bill Lawrence and Jave Smith involved in a team effort with Bill Besse in the center supervising.



Everyone collected around noon and then decided to leave except for Merrit and myself. Merrit had managed to score some reasonably large specimens, but the largest I had found was

about 2". I decided that, after getting up at 5:30 a.m. and driving 1.5 hours, I wasn't leaving without a more productive day. So, the two of us packed up what we had collected with everyone else, went back to our trucks, had some lunch, and then moved about 200 feet around the hillside.

As I started digging this time, after looking over the outcrop more carefully, I began to realize what the geochemical controls were for the selenite precipitation. Once tumbled to the realization that the selenite was forming along the oxidation/reduction boundary, locating nice specimens became much easier. Selenite (CaSO₄·2H₂O) probably formed when ground waters

within the green reduced lake beds, that undoubtedly contained fine disseminated pyrite (sulfides), came in

Note the greenish reduced clay sitting on top of the oxidized red clay directly in front of Ted and Janet

contact with the red oxidized lake bed layer. This interaction caused the sulfur to form sulfate, which would readily bound with the abundant calcium in the dry lake bed environment. As expected we found the largest of selenite crystals just below and above the interface of these two layers.

Stan Keith and Jan Rasmussen (Wilt) (1978) provide a good geological summary of the area: "Ahead are badlands in flatlying lake beds of the late Pliocene St. David Formation, which occupies a local basin within the complex San Pedro Valley graben system. Numerous age dates reported by Scarborough (1975) from tuffs interbedded with lake sediments below the fluvial member of the St. David Formation range from 2.5 m.y. to 3.2 m.y." The beds that we were collecting selenites from they referred to as "flat-lying gypsiferous lake beds of St. David Formation."

Once I found the large specimen (with reasonably nice crystals on it) shown in the two photos below. Merrit moved to the other side of where I was digging and we slowly advanced our two "pits" toward each other (Merrit's pit was more worthy of such a name than my small diggings).



About 4:30 p.m. decided we should probably quit, but then

one or the other of us would find another large specimen. We finally decided we weren't quitting until our two pits coalesced, which they did just before dark. The next big problem for me was that I hadn't brought enough boxes for all the treasures, so I had to just pile them on top of each other without any packing material. Amazingly they weren't as fragile as I thought -- I had no breakage Page 8 ROCK TALK

TGMS Selenite Collecting Trip to St. David, Arizona - CONTINUED

at all when I got home. I felt my pile of selenites was amazing, but Merrit's larger pit reaped him probably five times what I had collected.

We piled into our trucks with our headlights on, and headed back to Tucson feeling most proud of ourselves.

Reference cited: Keith S.B. and (Rasmussen) Wilt, J.C., 1978, Supplemental Road Log No. 3, Tucson to Lordsburg via Interstate 10, *in:* Callender, J.F. (Rasmussen) Wilt, J.C., Clemons, R.E., and James, H.L., Land of Cochise Southeastern Arizona, New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 29th Field Conf., Land of Cochise, pp. 115-116.

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT SCHOOL VISITS TO THE 2014 TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SHOW ™

As you know, one of the purposes of our Society is the education of the public in all manners mineralogical, gemological, crystallographic, etc., thereby inviting interest in, and possibly becoming members of, the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society. One of the ways we do so is by inviting school children (grades 3 – 6) to visit the Show Friday morning, so that they can learn from the exhibits and get their start in our hobby by spending time browsing through the offerings of the dealers who make special deals available to the kids that are both affordable and "cool."

Because of the poor economy (not to mention the cuts in state funding for the schools -- please don't get me started on this subject...) school attendance at our Show has dropped dramatically in the last few years. The reason for this is the lack of funding for school field trips. It costs about \$150 per bus for the school to schedule and transport the students from school to the Tucson Convention Center and, for several school districts, this is money they just do not have.

We have debated how we could help these schools, and the best idea is encouraging our membership to use their \$200-\$400 tax credits that the State of Arizona makes available for donations to education. These donations can be made by individuals who then take a direct reduction of the amount of tax that they owe to the state. This is not a state deduction. It is a direct credit against the state tax you owe -- you send in a check for this much less to the state. This means that whatever you donate, you get back from the state, and in addition, the federal government allows you to deduct this as a charitable deduction if you itemize your deductions. (I think this is the only time you can come ahead of the game at tax time!)

We are asking you, our membership, to take advantage of this by donating this money directly to the schools in our area. The biggest problem we had to solve was which schools should you donate to and how do you know that it is going to the right place. We wanted to ensure that the money would go to those schools most in need, and had to find a way to ensure that this would happen.

I contacted the State Department of Revenue, asking for help in this area. They said that the money had to be donated directly to the schools, personally by the taxpayer. However, they said that state regulations permitted donations directly to school districts for a specific educational purpose if you did not have an individual school in mind. I contacted the Pima County School Superintendent's office, and was told that they could not accept this money, but that it had to be donated to the individual school districts. They told me that three districts are most in need of financial help:

Flowing Wells Unified School District, Sunnyside Unified School District, Tucson Unified School District.

Each of these school districts has been contacted and their administrators have been delighted to, not only accept the donations, but would identify and allocate the funds to the schools most in need. This solved all our problems. Therefore, based on the number of schools involved (39 have been identified), it is urged that you make a donation to the three school districts, independently, in the following amounts:

School District	\$200 Donation	\$400 Donation
Flowing Well Sunnyside Tucson Unified	\$25 \$75 \$100	\$50 \$150 \$200
Total	\$200	\$400

These should each be specified for the purpose of transportation of the district's schools to the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show™ on February 14, 2014.

It has been mentioned that private schools can be given up to \$1000 per year (\$2,000 for joint returns). I checked this out with the State Department of Revenue. It turns out that this donation is for tuition aid only, and not for extracurricular activities such as field trips. It has also been mentioned that direct donations can be made by credit card to the school districts on their websites. This is correct, but the websites only allow this to individual schools named on their websites, not to the districts themselves.

Please note: these are not the only alternatives. There are 11 school districts plus charter and private schools in Pima County, comprising over 350 elementary schools. Donations of this type can be made to any other school district or specific school at your discretion. Those suggested above would give "the most bang for the buck".

It should also be noted that any donations are anonymous as far as the Society is concerned. We will have no way of knowing who has participated, so there is no pressure on anybody to donate. This is, however, a worthy cause and we urge you to support our schools in this manner.

If at all possible, please make these donations by October 1st of this year. That is when the invitations go out to all school principals in Pima County. If they are aware that money has been donated for this purpose, they will be better able to plan with their individual teachers. Regardless, the donations must be sent to the schools before December 31st to earn the tax credits for your 2013 tax returns.

If you have any questions, please call me at 520-584-0211 or call the TGMS Office at 520-322-5773 (tax forms available by emailing tgms@tgms.org or calling 520-322-5773).

Dick Gottfried School Visits Chairman

2013 SHOW DATES

May

4-5 - KINGMAN, ARIZONA: 43rd Annual Rock & Gem Show; Mohave County Gemstoners; Kingman Academy of Learning; 3420 N. Burbank; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; free admission; displays, dealers, fire agate, gems, fossils, minerals, rough, slabs, cabs, jewelry, raffle, door prizes, silent auction, children's activities; contact Mary Gann, PO Box 3992, Kingman, AZ 86402, (928) 757-8121; e-mail: guadpol@aol.com; Web site: www.gemstoners.org

25-26 - PINETOP, ARIZONA: Show and sale; White Mountain Gem & Mineral Club; Hon-Dah Resort/Conference Center; junction of Hwy. 260 and Hwy. 73, enter off Hwy. 73; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$2, children (16 and under) free; demonstrations, speakers, kids' activities, silent auction, raffles, fluorescents, jewelry, minerals, fossils; contact Rick Olson, 8276 Tahoe Pl., Show Low, AZ 85901, (928) 251-0949; e-mail: walkaround@earthlink.net; Web site: whitemtngmc@gmail.com

June

5-9 - FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONAAZ: Open Air Gem & Mineral Show presented by the Coconino Lapidary Club and Silver Saddle Outdoor Market. Contact: Becky Cox. Email: bcox@fusd1.org, 6666 North Snowflake Drive Flagstaff, AZ 86004.

July

12-13 - FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA: Annual show; Val Latham, Sharon Szymanski; Radisson Hotel Ballroom; 1175 W. Hwy. 66;

Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-4; adults \$3, children free with adult; gems, beads, rocks, jewelry, fossils, lapidary tools and supplies, gold and silver jewelry, rocks, agates, rock slabs, cabochons, rough rock, costume jewelry, wire wrapping on the premises; contact Val Latham, 840 W. Charleston Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85023, (602) 466-3060; e-mail: Val65@cox.net

August

2-4 - PRESCOTT VALLEY, ARIZONA: Annual show; Prescott Gem & Mineral Club; Tim's Toyota Center; Glassford Hill and Florentine Rd., 3201 N. Main St.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; adults \$4, seniors and students \$3, children (12 and under) free; rocks, gems, jewelry, minerals, fossils, beads, slabs, cabochons, equipment, findings, demonstrations, fluorescent display, member displays, kids' activities, raffles; contact Judy Sullins, 4550 Ramada Dr., Prescott, AZ 86301, (928) 445-1117; e-mail: sullinsjs@cableone.net; Web site: www.prescottgemmineral.org

31-2 - SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO: 30th Annual Gem & Mineral Show; Grant County Rolling Stones; Business & Conference Center; 3031 US Hwy. 180 E; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5, Mon. 10-4; free admission; daily field trips, local geology and mining history trips, mineral displays; contact Lee Stockman, 16 McKinley St., Silver City, NM 88061; e-mail: rollingstonesgmsshow@gmail.com; Web site: rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com

TGMS EVENT CALENDAR

TGMS General Meetings are open to the general public. All other meetings/events are for TGMS Members only.

TGMS Calendar			May 2013			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 TGMS General Meeting 7:30 p.m.	7 TGMS Educational Class 7:00 p.m.	8	9	10	11
12	13 TGMS Micromount Meeting 7:30 p.m.	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	TGMS Show Cmte. Meeting 6:30 p.m.	23	24	25 TGMS Field Trip Holbrook, Arizona Alpine, Arizona
26	27"Memorial Day"	28	29	30	31	

Unless otherwise stated ... all meetings are held at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society facility.

Located at: 3727 E. Blacklidge, Tucson, Arizona 85716

ROCK TALK

FROM:

T.G.M.S. P.O. BOX 42588 TUCSON, ARIZONA 85733





Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 42588 Tucson, Arizona 85733

Phone: 520.322.5773 Fax: 520.322.6031 E-mail:tgms@tgms.org

We're on the web www.tgms.org

PURPOSE: To encourage interest and study in geology, mineralogy, lapidary, and allied earth sciences.

Meetings: Usually the first Monday of the month, starting at 7:30 p.m., except February (on Monday, week of the Show), June-August (potlucks), and September (second Monday because of the Labor Day holiday). The TGMS facility address is: 3727 East Blacklidge Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85716

The Tucson Gem and Mineral Show™:

The second full weekend in February, starting with Thursday.

Affiliations: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (AFMS), Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS), International Federation of Micromount Societies (IFMS), Metropolitan Tucson Convention & Visitors Bureau (MTCVB), Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce (TMCC).