

ROCK TALK

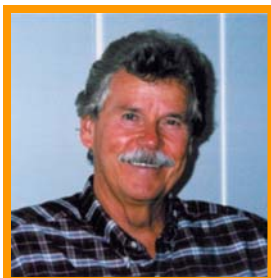
January - February 2010
Volume 4, Issue 3

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

President's Page CONTINUED

Wow! I can hardly believe that 2009 is almost history. But that may be good as we step into 2010 and hope for a happier world.



TGMS had a wonderful year. The 2009 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show™ was successful. At our monthly club meetings we enjoyed excellent speakers and programs. There were a number of good field trips. The month of December was really rocking with the monthly meeting, a one day mineral and jewelry show, and a swinging Christmas party with a band playing 50's and 60's music. This helped to work off some of the calories from the fine Mexican dinner served earlier.

Linda Oliver, from Arizona Cine Equipment, graciously donated the stage and sound equipment for the Christmas party band.

The dedication and hard work of Society members have coordinated above activities throughout the year, Tom Corson for field trips; and Carol Johnston, Bill Hodgson, Sue Feyrer, Donna Pugh, Wayne Klement, Bill Carmody, John and Nancy Howard for the food and party entertainment.

Gloria Quigg, Melinda Thompson, Terri Bibbens, Bob and Jeannette Barnes were volunteers who signed up to prepare snacks at the different monthly meetings.

Our office staff, Pat, Rose and Carolyne, continue to keep the i's dotted and the t's crossed for the proper functioning of TGMS throughout the year.

A warm and heartfelt thanks to all!

Now, let's step into February 2010 and be ready to enjoy one of the world's greatest mineral and gem shows organized by the volunteers, show committee and office staff of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society.

Be proud! 56 years of continuous great shows!

God Bless America,

Gene Schlepp

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gene Schlepp". The signature is written in a cursive style.



Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. Officers & Directors

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Director: John Cesar, ph. 520.546.4903
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Past President: Mark Candee, ph. 520.881.2202

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GENERAL MEETING

November 2, 2009

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Gene Schlepp at 7:35 p.m. Guests and visitors were asked to stand to be recognized. Appreciation was extended for their attendance and support.

Announcement: The 2005 - 2008 Show Posters will go on sale for members only for \$35.00.

PROGRAM:

Barbara Muntyan, Vice President, introduced our speaker for the evening, Mr. Evan Jones, University of Arizona graduate in geology, mineral dealer and collector. The program followed: "Bisbee Paramelaconite: A Detective Story." After a most informative and interesting talk we were given an opportunity to ask questions.

Announcement: Carole Johnston and Sue Feyrer discussed the yearly Christmas activities and charitable sponsorship.

(1) Donations may be made to "New Beginnings for Women & Children" through the TGMS office. It is \$20.00 to sponsor a child and give them a Christmas gift. Call Carole Johnston or the TGMS office for additional information.

(2) The 6th Annual TGMS Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry, Art & Craft Sale will be on December 5, 2009 at the TGMS facility from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be free refreshments for all and free gifts for the children.

(3) The Annual Christmas Party will be on December 16, 2009 at the TGMS facility. RSVP by December 1st. Social hour will start at 5:30 p.m.(BYOB), progress to dinner and entertainment. "The Arizona Trio" will be the entertainers for the evening. Carole Johnston is responsible for procuring the entertainment and Sue Feyrer is responsible for the dinner. A special 'thanks' to Linda Oliver of Arizona Cine for her very generous donation of the equipment needed by the entertainers. Without her help, this popular group would, very likely, not be performing at our Christmas Party.

BREAK:

The refreshments tonight were provided by Bob and Jeannette Barnes. Thanks so much!!

OLD BUSINESS:

One correction to last month's minutes: Terri Bibbens is the member responsible for the refreshments in October. Thank you very much, Terri. With this correction, the minutes stand approved as read.

MOTION made, seconded and passed.

Tom Corson discussed upcoming Field Trips:

- November 14, 2009: Silver Bell Mine trip full; waiting list.

General Meeting CONTINUED

- December 5, 2009: Rowley Mine: still spaces available.
- December 12, 2009 Flandrau Mineral Museum: spaces available (\$4.00 charge will be picked up by TGMS).

NEW BUSINESS:

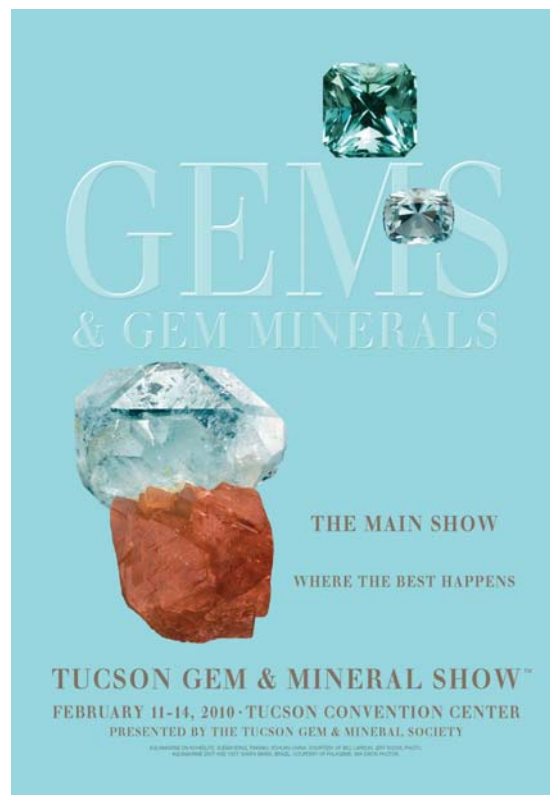
John Cesar gave an update on the Show progress. The TCC is undergoing extensive renovations. Should be finished by Show time.

We desperately need a volunteer to replace Richard Flagg who has been responsible for our Show cases for many years. He will be retiring next year. It was announced tonight that we had not one, but two volunteers to step up and agree to fill this very necessary job. Dave Arens and Wayne Klement both very graciously agreed to help with building cases and organizing their preparation for the Show.

Door Prize Drawing - winners were: Ted Rupp, Mark Ascher, Andy Herman, Marilyn Reynolds, Jerry Glazman, Bob Barnes and Ron Johnson

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Diane Braswell, Recording Secretary



GENERAL MEETING DECEMBER 7, 2009

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by President Gene Schlepp. He expressed appreciation to all members of the Armed Forces, both past and present, that have given so much in defense of our country.

President Schlepp announced that two of the mineral specimens in the case would be for auction next month and the proceeds would go to buy specimens for the next auction. This will be a regular feature of the General Meetings.

Visitors, guests and new members were recognized and given an opportunity to introduce themselves.

PROGRAM:

Barbara Munityan, Vice President, introduced our speaker for the night, Bill Williams. The topic of the presentation was: "Minerals of ASARCO's Mission Complex."

BREAK:

After an interesting and informative talk, we were invited to the back room for refreshments. Appreciation is extended to Bob and Jeanette Barnes for a wonderful selection of snacks.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tom Corson was introduced to give updates on Field Trips:

- Mineral Museum - December 12 - May have to divide into two groups. There will be no charge. Thanks to Bob Downs for the complementary admission for our members.
- Mission Mine - January 15 - Filled up but there is a waiting list to participate.
- No Field Trips scheduled at this time in February because of the Show.
- Look forward to a trip in the summer to the Fat Jack Mine...Information will follow.

Carole Johnston is still collecting contributions to "New Beginnings," our selected charity, to give a Christmas gift to deserving children that would not otherwise receive anything. Suggested contribution is \$20.00 but anything will be appreciated.

Sue Feyrer is in charge of organization and food for the Christmas Party. Members are free but guests will be charged \$5.00 for meal and entertainment. Social hour will start at 5:30 p.m. and meal will be at 6:30 p.m., followed by entertainment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Suggestion box has been set up for members to give ideas and recommendations to help improve our Society. All contributions are strongly encouraged.

Show Update: John Cesar reported that all was going well and as expected.

General Meeting CONTINUED

Drawing for door Prizes:

Winners: Bill Hodgson, Harry Henze, Stephen Koch and Diana Mueller.

Respectfully submitted by:

Diane Braswell, Recording Secretary

2009 TGMS Christmas Party

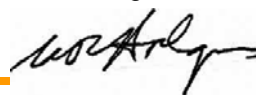
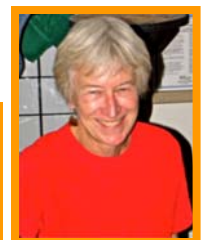
We had a good party this year. Here are some pictures of us eating, drinking, listening, and having fun. Sue Feyrer was in charge of preparing food and presented us with a fine Mexican dinner. She was assisted in food preparation by the following: Don Feyer (thanks for the wine, Don, which sped the preparation along), John and Nancy Howard, Dave and Barbara Witwer, Donna Pugh, Wayne Klement, Bill Carmody, Carol Johnston, and old what's-his-name.

Carol Johnston obtained the entertainment. We listened to a great concert provided by The Arizona Trio, a Kingston Trio sound-alike, who gave us a medley of Christmas, Western, and Folk songs. We even had one dance number (yes, I tried). We ended the evening in a traditional way, with Carol singing "Silent Night."

We must really, really thank Linda Oliver and Arizona Cine, who provided beautiful (and expensive) staging, lighting and audio for the trio. Many thanks, Linda.

Unfortunately, Sue and Carol say they aren't going to do the Christmas Party next year. Here is the reason: About 75 people signed up but only about 50 showed up. The result, of course, was a good deal of wasted food and effort.

William Hodgson

Photos by:
Bill Hodgson

Field Trips Update

We have had three successful trips since our last newsletter:

Silver Bell Mine

Diane Braswell led our trip to the Silver Bell on Saturday, November 14th. The trip was well attended.

See Diane's article in this issue for a full report.



Rowley Mine

I led our trip to the Rowley on Saturday, December 5th. 14 members attended. Our host was Jim Ricker, who arranged for the dumps to be turned just prior to our arrival. This gave everyone a chance to find new material and our efforts were rewarded with many nice specimens of wulfenite, mimetite, chrysocolla, as well as other species. One of our members, collected a specimen that was subsequently confirmed via Raman spectroscopy as leadhillite and linarite. The analysis was done by Marcus Origlieri at the U of A. The weather was great, everyone left with something worthwhile, and the trip was a success! If you missed this one, we will probably do another trip in the spring.

U of A Mineral Museum

On Saturday, December 12th, many of our members attended this specially arranged visit to the mineral museum at the Flandrau Science Center, arranged and hosted by Mark Candee. Bob Downs graciously waived the normal admission fee for our visit. Thanks to Bob and Mark for the opportunity to visit and support the museum.

The following trips are currently scheduled. Signup sheets will be available at the upcoming meeting.

Mission Mine

We have a trip scheduled to the Mission Mine on Friday, January 15, 2010. The trip is limited to 19 participants and is currently full. There is a waiting list available.

Fat Jack Mine

We have scheduled a trip to the Fat Jack Mine for Saturday and Sunday, June 26 and 27, 2010. This is an excellent locality for quartz scepters (both amethyst and smoky) and other minerals. Since this locality is well north of Phoenix, it will be planned as a two day trip. We will visit and collect at another quartz crystal locality nearby on the second day. The fee for this trip is \$20 and it is limited to 24 participants. A sign up sheet will be available at the February meeting.

We are working on several more trips, the details of which will be announced in the coming months:

Holbrook Petrified Wood

We are targeting a trip in March or April to a fee collecting site in Holbrook to collect petrified wood. More info will follow as soon as we can finalize the date.

International Trip

One of our goals as your Field Trip Committee is to offer one international trip a year, and for 2010 we have come

Field Trips Update CONTINUED

up with a truly world class one! Dr. Ray Grant has been working diligently on arranging and leading a two week trip to Tasmania! Can you say crocoite? It is being planned for two weeks in early November, 2010, and will be limited to 14 participants. Our goal is to have all of the details resolved, including exact dates and cost, by the next Rock Talk, so stay tuned!

Cancellations/Refunds

Please note that per club policy, field trip fees are to be paid at the time you sign up and are not refundable, unless the trip is cancelled by the club. Cancellation by the member does not entitle the member to a refund.

No Shows

On the subject of cancellations, we had a problem on the previous Ray Mine trip where three or four people signed up and never showed up or called to cancel. That trip had a waiting list of members wanting to go who were denied the opportunity to do so by the "no shows." I would ask all of you to exercise common sense and courtesy and contact either the office or the trip leader if you are not going to attend a field trip that you have signed up for. Another way to look at it is: the time that we have to spend deciding how to deal with "no shows" is time we could be spending arranging new collecting opportunities for all of you.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Feel free to send them to me at corson@infodyn.com

On behalf of your Field Trip Committee,

Tom Corson
Chairman

SILVER BELL MINE TRIP

On November 14, 2009 we were privileged to go back into the Silver Bell Mine, a working copper mine just North of Tucson. Mr. John Alden, Mining Engineer, was our host and guide. He gave us a short history and informational talk about the mine, then took us to the El Tiro Pit to explore the different areas for various mineral specimens. Collected were specimens of pyrite cubes, the always popular dendrites and copper minerals to include several pieces of brochantite. The weather was beautiful, the collecting was good and everyone left happy with a little piece of the Silver Bell Mine.

Unfortunately the herd of big horned sheep did not make an appearance on this trip but hopefully sometime soon we will have another opportunity to see them. The herd is quiet large now and very healthy. Mr. Alden was a very gracious host and, I'm sure, we will have the opportunity to go back in the near future. Watch Rock Talk for information about upcoming trips.

Diane Braswell,
Trip Leader

New Mexico Field Trip: Rain, Was It Friend Or Foe?

New Mexico Field Trip CONTINUED



Four adventurous TGMS members left in the early morning hours of Tuesday, 20 October, for an almost 500 mile drive to Roswell, New Mexico.

After enjoying beautiful weather and scenery all the way to Roswell, we were soon greeted by thunderstorms. Storm, after storm, after storm! We filled our stomachs with excellent BBQ but thoughts of a disastrous field trip filled our heads. The next morning we were informed that Roswell received 1 1/2 inches of rain the previous night - the most in many months. We met our host and he said that our primary collecting target, Bosque Draw, would not be a possibility. He did, however, have some other collecting sites that we might be able to try. This included



the second collecting target we traveled to Roswell for: Cottonwood Draw. We left the meeting place with hopes for the best. Arrival at the first site had us collecting small dolomite after aragonite pseudomorphs on one side of the road and beautiful, often blood red, Pecos diamonds on the other side of the road. The rain, as it turned out, exposed more crystals for us.

On to Cottonwood Draw at about noon. We hiked to the collecting area only to find water and mud blocking our path. Fortunately, an alternate way was found, and again, the rain exposed more crystals. We collected large dolomite after aragonite pseudomorphs, up to 5" in diameter, late into the afternoon. Thursday it was a 100 mile drive to our next site to collect goethite after pyrite pseudomorphs. The rain was our friend here also and we all did well. Friday took us to another Pecos diamond site near Artesia, New Mexico. I know this is getting old by now but, yes, again, the rain exposed more crystals for us. We all had a large selection of specimens when we left for Deming at 11:00 a.m.



After leaving Deming early Saturday morning, we arrived at the Baker Egg Mine. We were greeted by the leader of the crew working in the pit extracting nodules and geodes. He told us that after the rains

they found seven feet of water in the bottom of the pit. They pumped it out and started removing nodules and geodes again. Since the material was too muddy to sort through immediately, they dumped all that material on the dump to sort through later. He told us where this material was dumped and we spent our whole time collecting in that area. Wow, we found some exceptional agate nodules and geodes. The rain did it one last time and helped us. All in all, with the exception of Bosque Draw, the rain was very much our friend.

Dave Witwer
Trip Leader



Photos by:
Dave Witwer
And
Don Feyrer



2010 TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SHOW™

Seminar Schedule
“GEMS & GEM MINERALS”**CB:** [Crystal Ballroom](#) **TB:** [Turquoise Ballroom](#)**Thursday, February 11th**

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (TB)	Mineral Photography Seminar Jeff Scovil & Michael Bainbridge
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm (TB)	“Gemstones of Afghanistan” Gary W. Bowersox
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (CB)	Society of Mineral Museum Professionals Board Meeting
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (CB)	Society of Mineral Museum Professionals Membership Meeting
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm (CB)	Society of Mineral Museum Professionals Program “Gems of Vietnam” Dudley Blauwet “Gems of Burma” Bill Larson

Friday, February 12th

9:30 am - 6:00 pm (TB)	Arthur Roe Memorial Micromount Symposium
9:30 am - 10:00 am (TB)	Welcome and Scope Setup
10:00 am - 11:30 am (TB)	First Session Symposium Talks: “From Micro to Magnificent, A Tale of Two Passions” Ray Hill “Describing New Minerals: Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs” Dr. Anthony Kampf
11:30 am - 12:30 pm (TB)	Break and Socializing
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm (TB)	Second Session Symposium Talks: “The Robert’s Legacy – Black Hills Treasures Unearthed During Museum Relocation” Tom Loomis “Minerals from the Gold Hill Mine, Tooele County, Utah” Speaker To Be Announced
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm (TB)	“Freebie” Tables, Socializing, Specimen Trading Session

Friday, February 12th

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (CB)	“Lapidary Service in China” Jack Liu
3:30 pm – 6:00 pm (CB)	Geo-Literary Society Meeting “Emerald Knowledge; The Making of Emeralds, A Passionate Guide” Ron Ringsrud

Saturday, February 13th

10:00 am - ?? pm (CB)	31st Annual FM-TGMS-MSA Mineralogical Symposium “Gems & Gem Minerals”
11:00 am - 12 noon (TB)	“From The French Blue to the Hope Diamond, Politics, History and Revolution” Richard W. Wise

Seminar Schedule CONTINUED

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (TB)	“Visiting and Permanent Gem and Mineral Treasures of the GIA Museum” Robert Weldon
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm (TB)	“Stalking the Jade and Ruby Deposits of Myanmar” George E. Harlow, PhD.
<u>Sunday, February 14th</u>	
10:45 am – 11:45 am (CB)	“Japan Law Quartz Twins and Other Minerals of the PC Mine, Basin, Montana” Pete Knudsen, PhD.
1:15 pm – 2:25 pm (CB)	“Gem Grade Dinosaur Bone from the Atlantic” Courtland Lee
9:30 am – 10:30 am (TB)	“Creation of the American Woman, a 10,000lb Marble Sculpture” Francisco
12:00 noon – 1:00 pm (TB)	“Fine Minerals of Northern England, as Exemplified by the Greenbank Collection” Robert “Rob” Lavinsky, PhD.

TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SHOW™
2010 THEME
“GEMS AND GEM MINERALS”

The 2010 TGMS Show is coming upon us fast, and the “Gems and Gem Minerals” theme should bring out some of the flashiest exhibits we’ve had for a while. The theme needs little explanation, although it’s worth pointing out that Gem *Minerals* allows folks to exhibit non-gemmy examples of minerals that do make gems ... two of the best examples of this would be corundum and tourmaline both of which come as large, well-formed and colorful crystals that fall just short of true gem quality. There will be spectacular exhibits of both these species ... plus beryls, diamonds and quartz. And there will be some kickers too ... minerals that we don’t usually think of as gem makers ... like wulfenite ... that nonetheless occasionally are cut into gorgeous stones despite the fact that they are too fragile to be worn in jewelry. There are probably going to be 10-15 “Rough and Cut” exhibits featuring natural crystals and their resultant gems!

Some of the barn-burner exhibits in store include: the Natural History Museum, London ...who are bringing the “Hope Chrysoberyl”, sister stone to the Hope Diamond in size and history, although not color (it’s green) or composition; The Smithsonian and Carnegie Museums are bringing a series of exquisite gems, gem crystals and jewelry; Gene Meieran and Bill Larson are collaborating on a case that is guaranteed to knock your eyes out ... yes, Big Blue will be here; Bill Heierman is bringing a huge selection of worldwide corundum; and we just got word of a group-shoot case that will include 8-12 of the world’s best Tanzanite crystals and cut stones! We even have a couple of exhibits of Gemstone Fakes ... one we call “Fake Hope and Charity” because it will feature the Smithsonian’s stand-in for the real Hope Diamond. The other comes from Bonn, Germany and features a royal crown featuring fake diamonds ... created for those awkward times when the king just couldn’t trust himself in public with his subjects.

And we have a completely new, never been attempted before series of exhibits featuring Mineral Art ... paintings of crystals

Gems and Gem Minerals CONTINUED

and inspired by minerals from seven of the world’s top mineral artists. Co-sponsored by TGMS and Daniel Trinchillo (Fine Minerals) and Bryan Swoboda (Blue Cap Productions) who are bringing some of the artists from Europe. This should occupy 12-14 large cases ... and several will include both the paintings and the source specimens. The artists (but not their art) will participate in a special forum at the Westward Look Show on the Sunday night preceding our Show in case you want to learn more about mineral art and get to know the artists.

In addition to the “regular” theme cases, there are at least two group-shoot cases devoted to thumbnails, a wide range of jewelry and lapidary exhibits from local and national artists ... and “American Woman” will be back. She debuted at our Show a few years back and has become something of a celebrity ... partially because she draws crowds at shows nationwide, and partially because her creator, Francisco Sotomayor, has made her a transparent trailer that he deliberately takes into rush hour freeway traffic ... which tends to make the evening news wherever they go. Francisco will be headed up to Phoenix with her to rustle up some special publicity up there for our Show!

There’s still time to sign up to exhibit...either as a general exhibitor, or with Les Presmyk in competition. We especially enjoy showing off what our fellow Society members collect, and this year the extra set-up day takes away the “I have too much to do during set-up” excuse. So ask for an exhibit packet ... it has everything you need to know about case dimensions, lay-out, liners and risers ... and then build your exhibit mentally while filling out the forms! You’ll be surprised at how easy, fun and rewarding it can be!

Peter Megaw
Special/Guest Exhibits Chair



Arizona Mineral Collector

Number 124

By Raymond Grant

Reprinted from the Rockhound Record,
Mineralogical Society of Arizona, December 2009

Malcolm Alter of Flagstaff, Peter Williams of Sydney, Australia and I have been working on a project related to the minerals from the Grandview mine located in the Grand Canyon. The project started with the identification of a new mineral, grandviewite (see Arizona Mineral Collector Number 102). Malcolm and I recently went to visit the National Park Service at the Grand Canyon to see their collection of Grandview specimens. A Jolie Foster gave the collection of several hundred specimens to them. The collection was dropped off at the Park Services offices in Tucson and the information about it is vague because of fear that there would be a problem as collecting is prohibited in the Grand Canyon. The story that we were told was her grandmother in the 1960's or 70's collected the minerals. It is a wonderful collection and we would like to find out more about its history. Preserving the material by donating it was a great thing as it would have been easier to take it to the dump, especially with the fear that it involved illegal collecting. If anybody reading this has any idea about who collected this material please let me know.

The Park Service allowed us to take some samples of unknown minerals. The samples were sent to Peter Williams for identification. Most of the results were not very exciting. It turns out that brochantite is the most common mineral found in the mine and it varies from light green to dark green (almost black) and in radiating needles to blocky crystals. Several samples were parnaute that has been reported from the mine, but is rare. This collection has several flats of parnaute. There is also a lot of zeunerite in the collection another not very common mineral. The new mineral grandviewite is turquoise blue spheres, and in the collection are a number of samples of blue spheres that have a slightly different appearance. The ones that were checked turned out to be chrysocolla and aurichalcite, two relatively common minerals.

The most exciting result of this work was the identification of arthurite. This is a new mineral for the Arizona mineral list. There were only a couple of small specimens, they were crusts of a yellowish green color. Arthurite is a hydrated copper iron arsenate with sulfate and phosphate. There are a number of arsenic minerals at the Grandview mine including olivenite, copper arsenate, parnaute, copper arsenate with sulfate and phosphate, and zeunerite, copper uranyl arsenate.

We plan to continue to work on the Grandview mine minerals and need to spend more time with the Park Service collection, as it is so large we have only looked at part of it.

“Geology Rocks”

at the

Arizona Sonora Desert Museum

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum's permanent mineral collection represents the numerous places where beautiful and unique mineral specimens have been discovered and extracted from the ground under our region, including Arizona, U.S. and Sonora and Baja California, Mexico. It contains about 15,000 catalogued specimens, dozens of which are on display in a Mineral Gallery. This winter we will have two special events, as listed below. The Desert Museum's Art Institute is hosting a magnificent exhibit of intricate artwork made from gemstones. In addition, Mineral Madness (January 30 and 31) features geology activities for families all around the museum grounds, and a mineral sale to benefit both our collection and education programs. Check our website for special classes with Curator Emeritus, Anna Domitrovic (<http://www.desertmuseum.org/center/edu/classes.php>).

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Mineral Madness Preview Showcase and Sale!

TGMS Members are invited to the Mineral Madness Preview, Thursday, January 28, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm in the Baldwin Education Building. Get the first chance to see a unique selection of minerals at fabulous prices, participate in our silent auction and raffle, and catch up with friends. All proceeds benefit ASDM.

Mineral Madness Sale and Family Fun Saturday, January 30 and Sunday, January 31, 2010

The annual Mineral Madness event at the Desert Museum is a chance for everyone, from the novice to the serious collector, to learn something new about minerals and rocks, and to find new treasures for their collection. Highlights of the weekend include a mineral sale with thousands of specimens, an exhibition of artwork made with mineral fragments by Illya Schar and geology activity-stations on the Museum grounds. At each station, children can collect a free rock or mineral specimen in their own egg-carton collection box, learning something about the uses and properties of these rocks and minerals along the way. Children should bring their own egg-carton if possible.

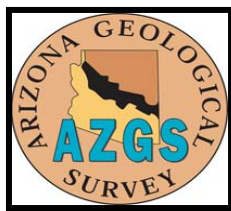
Mineral Sale: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days

Mineral Activity Stations: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days

Illya Schar Art Exhibit: January 9 - April 4, 2010

This remarkable artist presents his vibrant compositions called "GemPaintings." Without the use of paint, each of these pictures contains hundreds of different types of gems, ranging from the size of a bean to a grain of sand.

Debra Colodner, Ph.D.
Education Director



Visitors to the Arizona State Complex at 400 W. Congress in Tucson are usually engaged in some mundane task – picking up tax forms and permits, registering certifications, or applying for a business license.

But since February 2009, visitors have been treated to the sight of a Woolly Mammoth (complete with tusks and 11 ft high at the skull) and a Woolly Rhinoceros, courtesy of the Natural History Museum of Novosibirsk, Russia, and the Arizona Geological Survey. (The Mammoth was sold recently and now resides in Alaska, but the rhino remains.)

We can't take too much credit for the display. These Pleistocene mega-fauna fell in our laps after last year's Tucson Gem and Mineral Show™. But the success of this display – people are awestruck -- has caused us to reflect on how we can partner with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society and others in the future.

Because we are centrally located in downtown Tucson, just two blocks from the Tucson Convention Center, one possibility is to open the AZGS Geosciences library and conference room as meeting spaces for the geosciences community – the geologists, mineralogists, paleontologists, researchers and museum curators – who

AZ Geological Survey CONTINUED

each year flock to Tucson to seek world-class minerals, gems, or fossils to enhance their personal or professional collections. Our geosciences library is a permanent State facility and might be an ideal place to archive show publications.

With UA's Flandrau Mineral Museum suffering severe cutbacks in operations and with the Rio Nuevo Science Center on hold, Tucson is in danger of having no year-round and publicly accessible mineral displays. Maybe the time is right for stakeholders to explore a downtown mineral museum. After all, minerals have been the lifeblood of the Arizona economy since the 19th Century.

We are open to suggestions and we are ready to step forward as Arizona's Earth science agency to support the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society's efforts to ensure that the TGMS Show remains the gold standard of mineral exhibits.

Do you have some ideas for us?

Contact Information: Michael Conway, (520.209.4146), Geologic Extension Service, Arizona Geological Survey, 416 W. Congress, Tucson, AZ 85701, Michael.conway@azgs.az.gov.

CALENDAR

TGMS General Meetings, Micromount Meetings, Educational Classes are held at the TGMS facility; 3727 E. Blacklidge, Tucson, Arizona 85716.

Jan. 1 - GLOBE, ARIZONA: 53rd annual show; Gila County Gem & Mineral Society; Gila County Fair Grounds, 3 miles north of Junction US 60-70; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; adults \$3, students with ID and children with adults free; live demonstrations, door prizes, displays, minerals, jewelry; contact Jim Mills, P.O. Box 487, Miami, AZ 85539, (928) 701-1712; e-mail: oldulking57@hotmail.com.

Jan. 1-10 - QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA: Show, "Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show"; Tyson Wells Enterprises Inc.; Tyson Wells Show Grounds, 100 W. Kuehn St.; 9-5 all days; free admission; contact Kym Scott, P.O. Box 60, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6364; e-mail: tysonwells@tds.net; Web site: www.tysonwells.com.

Jan. 8-10 - MESA, ARIZONA: 38th annual show, "A.L. Flagg Gem & Mineral Show"; Mesa Community College, US Hwy. 60 and Dobson Rd.; free admission; Peralta Stones display, more than 100 dealers, local clubs and organizations, displays, free activities for children, kids' egg carton kits; contact Ray Grant, (480) 814-9086; e-mail: raycyn@cox.net; Web sites: www.azminfun.com and www.flagshow.info.

Jan. 1-28 - QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show, "Desert Gardens International Gem & Mineral Show"; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1064 Kuehn Rd., south side of I-10, along frontage road; 9-6 daily; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry; contact Sharon or Sandy, Desert Gardens RV Park, 1055 Kuhen St., P.O. Box 2818, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; e-mail: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Web site: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

Jan. 30 thru Feb.12--TUCSON, ARIZONA: Business to Business Gem Trade Show; Gem and Lapidary Wholesalers Inc.; The Gem Mall, 4475 S. Country Club Rd.; daily 10-6, last day 10-3; contact Gem and Lapidary Wholesalers Inc., P.O. Box 98, Flora, MS 39071-0098, (601) 879-8832; e-mail: info@glwshows.com; Web site: glwshows.com

Jan. 30 thru Feb.13--TUCSON, ARIZONA: Show, "Arizona Mineral and Fossil Show"; Martin Zinn Expositions LLC; The InnSuites Hotel (475 N. Granada), The Mineral & Fossil Marketplace (1333 N. Oracle Rd.), Quality Inn (1025 E. Benson Hwy.), and Ramada Ltd. (665 N. Freeway); 10-6 daily, final day 10-5; free admission; more than 400 dealers from all over the world, Artists' Gallery (InnSuites Hotel); contact Martin Zinn Expositions, P.O. Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665, fax (303) 223-3478; e-mail: mzexpos@aol.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

Feb. 5-8--TUCSON, ARIZONA: 9th annual show, "Westward Look Show 2010"; Fine Mineral Show; Westward Look Resort, 245 E. Ina Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6, Mon. 10-5; more than 25 of the world's top dealers, "Collector Day" Sat., featuring Will Larson's private collection, Sun. evening cocktail hour, mineral art gallery, and artist panel, including Eberhard Equit, Hildegard Konighofer, Susan Robinson and Wendell Wilson; contact Dave Waisman, P.O. Box 8543, Spokane, WA 99203; Web site: www.finemineralshow.com or www.westwardminerals.com

**January
TGMS Meetings**

**January 4, 2010
General Meeting
7:30 p.m.**

**January 11, 2010
Micromount Meeting
6:30 p.m.**

**February
TGMS Meetings**

**February 8, 2010
General Meeting
7:30 p.m.**

**February 12, 2010
Micromount
Symposium**

FROM:

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

ROCK TALK



TO:

Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

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 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show™:

The second full weekend in February.

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)