

Magic Valley Gem News

Magic Valley Gem Club, Inc. P.O. Box 725 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303

Magic Valley Gem News — June, 2011

Volume 50 issue 6 — page 1

Next meeting will be

June 16, 2011

7:00 p.m

Location:

**Rosenau's Community
Room**
2826 Addison Ave. E.
Twin Falls.
(Just west of Kimberly
Nurseries and D&B Supply.)

Magic Valley Gem Club
61st Annual Gem Show

March 10 and 11, 2012

Sat 9—6

Sun 10—5

BIGGER
AND
BETTER
THAN
EVER.

JUNE



HAPPY FATHER'S
DAY!!

The Magic Valley Gem News is published monthly. The Editor is not responsible for the accuracy of the articles accepted, items for sale, nor are the opinions expressed therein necessarily those of the Officers, Members and/or the Editor of Magic Valley Gem Club, Inc.

Presidential Views from the Rockpile . . .

Fellow Club Members

The June meeting is going to be an important one, so please attend if possible. The objective of the time changes for the budget votes for the coming year 2012 is to authorize the needed spending for the Club Show held in March. Show expenditures are required to take place during the six months before the Show occurs. This process will allow the membership to know and VOTE on what is being spent and whether or not they wish to approve the spending of Club funds. This process has been combined with the general Club operations budget for 2012 to keep the financial operations portion of our meetings to a manageable level. You may call or email me and I will send you a copy of the proposed budget for 2012. During May's meeting we presented the proposed budgets for review. **Membership voting takes place during the June meeting.**

The Club nomination Chairman and committee will be meeting early this summer with the purpose of selecting the new Club officers for 2012. If you have a person you would like to nominate for a position please contact Bob Sellers at 829-5068. Officers include the following President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Federation Director, Bulletin Editor, Show Chairperson, and Field Marshal. Remember there are many other appointed chairpersons and Specialists which are the life blood of our Club. **IF YOU PRESENTLY DO NOT HOLD SUCH A POSITION; PLEASE VOLUNTEER BY CONTACTING YOUR PRESIDENT TODAY.**

Sometimes there are no win situations in which we find ourselves and **only communication** will resolve an unfavorable situation or appearance of such. Let's talk for a minute about our Club and how it is setup and ran. First have a Democratic representative type government in that you yearly elect officers to run the business of the Club with limitations and safeguards built into the Bylaws to prevent abuse and insure the wishes (BY VOTING) of the Club membership. The safeguards include a yearly approved budget which cannot be over spent unless by the approval of the membership at a regular meeting and Bylaws preventing anyone in the Club from any financial commitments not previously approved by the general membership. The drawback to such governance is that sometime members begin to feel isolated, left out, and not part of the process. This results in a feeling a select few are running everything, the dreaded "Click"..

I can personally guarantee that you that as long as I am your Club President this will never happen and be assured that the Club Bylaws address this issue in great detail, insuring that each Club member has a say as to how the Club is ran. There should be no use of the CLUB NAME for any sponsorship or association without express permission from the Club Official having jurisdiction over that area and then only with the consent of the Executive Board. Example: the Field Marshall's approval for a extra field trip or group outing, a tailgate rock swap, or something in which bartering or selling can take place. This is to insure all SAFETY rules are known and followed, proper TAX RULES are adhered to, and that the general Club membership is informed and invited to all Club activities. We are a fabulous Club with super great members so let's share and care for everyone.

Thank you, your president. Rocky Metts 423-4827 email rmetts@cableone.net

EXCHANGE NEWS-LETTERS

These will be set out on the side table for you to look at. Please look through them to see if anything is of interest to you. It's always interesting to read what other clubs are doing in the way of programs and workshops.

There are also many **excellent articles** that are too long to reprint in our newsletter.

Also, check out the websites of the other clubs. The Owyhee Gem Club site is www.owyheerocks.com

OFFICERS & CLUB INFORMATION

President: Rocky Metts 208-423-4827
550 Main St. South
Kimberly, ID 83341

Vice-Pres: Steve Barnes 208-944-2090
281 Caswell Ave. W. #C
Twin Falls, ID 83301

Secretary: Wilma Sellers 208-829-5068
1277 S 1845 E
Hazelton, ID 83335

Treasurer: Susan Lewis 208-420-7843
717 Cherokee Lane
Twin Falls, ID 83301

Field Marshall: Rebekah Yancey 670-4254
1259 Galena Drive
Twin Falls, ID 83301

Bulletin Editor: Shirley Metts 208-423-4827
550 Main St. South
Kimberly, ID 83341

Show Chairman: Shirley Metts, 208-423-4827
550 Main St. South
Kimberly, ID 83341

Fed. Director: Barbrah Livingston 208-731-1942
3338 N 3300 E
Kimberly, ID 83341

Club General Membership Meeting:

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at Rosenau's Community Room, 2826 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls. (Just west of Kimberly Nurseries and D&B Supply.)

Demonstrations/Programs and socializing at 7:00 p.m. Business Meeting at 8:00 pm Exceptions are July and August when we picnic and barbecue at the Kimberly City Park and November - our annual Thanksgiving dinner at a local restaurant..

VISITORS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!

Membership Dues:

Yearly membership dues for MVGC are \$10.00 for adult members (New members add \$2.00 for name tags) and \$5.00 for Junior members.

For more information or an application, contact Rocky Metts—423-4827 email: rmetts@cablone.net

Fees due by Oct. 31

General Objectives of the Club:

To promote interest, knowledge and understanding in the various earth sciences, as in Geology, mineralogy, Paleontology and lapidary and other related subjects. To sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons interested therein.

Helping Others:

The club participates in the NFMS stamp program, saving large commemoratives, airmail, pre-canceled, foreign and "ordinary" stamps of all values. Proceeds from stamp sales will be used to benefit any charity deemed worthy by the NFMS Endowment Fund. Club Stamp Specialist—Barbrah Livingston

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Committee Chairs

- Sunshine Lola Betty
- Show Publicity. Julie & Terry Folks
- Refreshments Sandy Hansen
- Historian Harold Waggoner
- Librarian Barbrah Livingston
- Safety Officer Mark Livingston
- Webmaster Jason Metts
- Programs Chairmen. Dave & Pat Ziegler
- Asst Field Marshall Sandy Hansen
- Asst Field Marshall Jim Glenn
- Asst Field Marshall Rex Borjas
- Service Mel Pingel
- Nominations Chmn Bob Sellers
- Education Dave Hughes

WELCOME to all our new members.

We have had many new members joining the Club and we want to take this opportunity to welcome you. We invite you to attend our monthly meetings and go on our field trips. Also, we would ask you to share your expectations of this club and invite you to participate by filling a position and sharing in the activities of the Club.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

THE NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is published 11 times a year.

Copies are sent to each member's household. The cost is included in your annual dues.

Two free copies of the **AFMS NEWSLETTER** are mailed to each member club.

Subscriptions are available at \$3.50 for 9 issues. Send payment to:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
PO Box 26523 Oklahoma City, OK 73126.

We are affiliated with

- Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Association
- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
- The American Lands Access Association

Visit Us At www.magicvalleygemclub.org or on Facebook at Magic Valley Gem Club
Please e-mail Shirley at rmetts@cablone.net to get on our email list.

Magic Valley Gem Club Field Trips for 2011

Call **Rebekah Yancey** if you have ideas of places you would like to go. Phone: 670-4254

Our Field Marshalls are planning many wonderful trips which will include a few overnights. These will be terrific times for rock hounding and fellowship. They have been asked to provide a **tentative list** of trips. If you have a place you wish to go with the club, please contact the Field Marshalls.

TENTATIVE

DATE	SITE	WHERE TO MEET
June 11-12, 2011	Mackay/Arco Area Host: Rebekah & (need someone who knows some spots in that area)	Horned Coral Fossils, other
July 2-3, 2011	Kemmerer, WY Host: Rebekah & Sandy (provided Wal-Mart stops hogging her time)	Blue Forest Petrified Wood, Fossils
August 13-14, 2011	Crystal Park, MT 13 th – Crystal Park Host: (Is there someone with some experience at this site? Hint, hint Mark) 14 th – Spencer Opals or Phillipsburg Sapphires are close by – your choice. Host: Seeking volunteers	Quartz Crystals, Opal, and/or Sapphires
September 17- 18, 2011	Succor Creek Host: Jon Cromer	Petrified Wood, Jasper, Agate
October ??, 2011	Dove Springs/Dead Horse Crossing Host: Chris Sutton	

***Check on www.magicvalleygemclub.org and/or on Face book at Magic Valley Gem Club to see if there are any changes before any trips..

- * * * * *
- * **June Birthdays** *
- * 4 Mark Livingston *
- * 22 Ardean Lang *
- * 25 Bob Jenkins *
- * 25 Bonnie Kessler *
- * 26 Ken Clements *
- * 27 Scott Pufahl *
- * * * * *

FIELD TRIP

Date: June 11th and 12th.

Time: meet at 9 am at the RV park in Arco both days

What: Hunting lots of different types of Agate - tube, lace, plume, dendrites, red, green, banded, Jasper, and Horned Corral fossils. I plan on camping there. There are also local motels if you don't want to camp.

Call Rebekah Yancey—670-4254 if going.

FIELD TRIP

- * * * * *
- * **June Anniversaries** *
- * 11 Mark & Barbrah Livingston *
- * * * * *

Thanks to the following people for making Johnny Horizon Day a success:

Mel Pingel, Mark Livingston, Gage Livingston, Harold Waggoner, Perry Waggoner, Rocky and Shirley Metts. We had a good route this year and were able to clean all seven miles in one evening. Thanks to all those who helped. Once again, by doing it earlier in the week we had beautiful weather and on Saturday it poured buckets of rain.

ENDOWMENT FUND DRAWING: AFMS
LAST CHANCE TO OBTAIN TICKETS BY MAIL. VERY NICE PRIZES.
CONTACT BARBRAH L. FOR MORE INFORMATION—731-1942.

**Magic Valley Gem Club Library—Master List
(continued from last month)**

- 41. Indian Silverwork of the Southwest by Henry P. Mera/1974
- 42. Utah Gem Trails by Bessie W. Simpson/1972
- 43. Gem Minerals of Idaho by John A. Beckwith/1972
- 44. Is It Ivory? By Harvey Shell/1983
- 45. The Mineralogist Magazine/1954
- 46. How to Know the Minerals & Rocks By Richard M. Pearl/1955
- 47. The Old Stone Age by Francois Border/1963
- 48. The Curious Lore of Precious Stones by George Frederick Kunz/1941
- 49. Ultraviolet Guide to Minerals by Sterling Gleason/1960
- 50. Gemstone Faceting by Demetrio Andrychuk/1977
- 51. Jewelry Making for Beginners/Scroll Wire Method by Edward J. Soukup/1973
- 52. Minerals of the World by Charles A. Sorrell/1973
- 53. Getting acquainted with Minerals by George Letchworth English/1934
- 54. Complete Book of Rocks, Minerals, Gems Fossils by Popular Mechanics/1978
- 55. The agates of North America by Lapidary Journal/1978
- 56. The Worlds Lost Mysteries by Readers Digest/1978
- 57. Creative Casting by Sharr Choate/ 1978
- 58. Indian & Eskimo Artifacts of North America by Charles Miles
- 59. The Fossil book by Fenton & Fenton/1958

CONTACT BARBRAH LIVINGSTON IN ORDER TO CHECK OUR ANY OF THESE BOOKS. SHE WILL BRING THE BOOK YOU WANT TO THE MEETING FOR YOU OR MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOU TO PICK IT UP. PHONE NUMBER: 731-1942.

BUY, SELL, OR TRADE

WANTED! 10” or 12” rock saw—in good working order. If you have one you want to sell, call Ralph Garrison at 733-2511

Jimmy Berkeley has some metal smithing and faceting equipment he would like to sell. Phone: 734-8015

CHECK IT OUT!

Magic Valley Gem Club Library. We have lots of interesting books, CDs, videos and magazines in the Library — Our Librarian, Barbrah Livingston—is working on a list which we will print a part of each month in the newsletter. The entire list will be published on the Web Site. All members are encouraged to check out items from the Library. Just contact the librarian to see what is available—until such time as we can begin printing the list. Check out time is one month.

CLUB LIBRARIAN is Barbrah Livingston—731-1942

The Door Prize drawing at the meeting is being changed due to some of the members not wanting to participate in the door prize.

At the beginning of each meeting, we will have a “Door Prize Can” with some 2-part tickets. If you want to participate in the door prize drawing, please take a ticket—keep the stub and put the ticket in the can. If you don’t want to participate, all you have to do is not take a ticket. We will draw at the end of the meeting—if you are not present at time of drawing you do not win. The winner must bring or send a rock related item to the next meeting—valued at \$5.00 +.

Everyone needs to sign the registration sheet that you were in attendance at the meeting.

Any time there is an activity or a field trip, please check the web page to see if there are any final instructions.

**magicvalleygemclub.org and/or
on Face book**

Just East of Sportsman’s Warehouse on the Canyon rim Trail sits a bench for weary hikers. It was placed on that site in memory of George Holmes. It has not yet been dedicated. The family has decided to dedicate it this year — on June 11 at 11:00 a.m. If you are interested in attending the dedication of George’s bench it will be:

WHAT: Dedication of George Holmes’s bench

WHEN: June 11, 2011

TIME: 11:00 a.m

PLACE: Just East of Sportsman’s Warehouse on the Canyon Rim Trail



GEORGE HOLMES’S DEDICATION



I know Memorial Day is in May, but you should have this newsletter by then and I thought this appropriate.

The GREEN THING

In the line at the store, the cashier told the older woman that plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologized to her and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day."

That's right, they didn't have "the green thing" in her day. Back then, they returned their milk bottles, Coke bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, using the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled.

But they didn't have the green thing back her day. In her day, they walked up stairs, because they didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. They walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time they had to go two blocks.

But she's right.

They didn't have the green thing in her day. Back then, they washed the baby's diapers because they didn't have the throw-away kind. They dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts — wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing.

But that old lady is right,

They didn't have the green thing back in her day. Back then, they had one TV, or radio, in the house — not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a pizza dish, not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen, they blended and stirred by hand because they didn't have electric machines to do everything for you.

When they packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, they used wadded up newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. No green things then..

Back then, they didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. They used a push mower that ran on human power. They exercised by working so they didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

But she's right...

They didn't have the green thing back then. They drank from a fountain when they were thirsty, instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time they had a drink of water. They refilled pens with ink, instead of buying a new pen, and they replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.

The Green Thing, (continued in next column)

Magic Valley Gem Club Executive Board meeting /Show meeting was held at the home of President Rocky Metts on May 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were President—Rocky Metts; Secretary - Wilma Sellers; Show Chairman and Bulletin Editor - Shirley Metts; Assistant Show Chairman - Jon Cromer; Show Advisor—Harold Waggoner; Federation Director—Barbrah Livingston. Secretarial records were presented—a motion to accept as presented was made by Shirley , second by Barbrah, approved. The lay-out for 2012 show was discussed. A new game—sand plate gem picking—discussed—no vote. Need more information. Shirley will ask other clubs. Ultra-violet display room enlarged to fill entire s/w corner of Building. Motion made by Shirley to improve cases to make them safer, second Jon Cromer. Approved. Harold Waggoner and Mark Livingston to make 4x3' sign to indicate new attraction. Black Light Room, motion made to Wilma for the club to provide lunch (pizza-possibly) for set-up crew. Second by Shirley, approved. Motion made by Barbrah for club to furnish snacks and drinks after 8:00 pm for take-down crew. Second by Wilma. Approved.

New hours for show Saturday 9—6 and Sunday 10 to 5. Grab bag purchases increased to four (4) per person. Members need to sign release of liability form before going on field trip. Field Marshall needs to have them in her possession on trips. Proposed Show and Club budgets were presented and discussed. Motion made by Jon Cromer to purchase a DVD course on Geology—not to exceed \$70.00. Second by Harold. Approved. Motion made by Harold to adjourn. Second by Barbrah. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Wilma Sellers, Secretary

The GREEN THING (continued)

But they didn't have the green thing back then. Back then, people took the bus, or walked, and kids rode their bikes to school or rode the school bus, instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service. They had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And they didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint. But that old lady is right.... They didn't have to talk about the green thing back in her day, it just came naturally!

(Submitted by Rocky Metts and Dave Hughes)

FACEBOOK PAGE

Find us on Face book.
Magic Valley Gem Club
Rebekah Yancey —
670-4254
Sandy Hansen —
736-3380
Administrators



Writing Letters by Dick Pankey, President ALAA

I have been asked :What good does it do for me to write my congressman/senator about a Wilderness Act (or other legislation) that is for another state,: Well, Tom Noe, an ALAA member from South Bend, IN sent me an article he wrote that is a good answer to the question.

After you read the following article by Tom I hope you will be inspired to join wit other ALAA members and rock hounds to write a letter to your congressman no matter where you u live. A good place to start is with the “Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act” (HR1581). The Bill provides for the release of over 6.72M acres of Wilderness Study Area the BLM deems are not suitable for a wilderness designation and should be returned to Multiple Use designation. ALAA supports this bill. To learn more about this Bill and get a sample letter to send to your congressman\an go to the ALAA web site—www.amlands.org. On the ALAA home page click on “”Active Legislation” in the left hand column, then check out the links under “Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act. “You will find a summary and full text of the Bill, a list of supporters and status of the Bill (which is currently in committee.) This is a prime time for us, for you to have an affect on legislation. You will also find a link to where “Your Elected House Member ca be found” and the sample letter for you to send.

It doesn’t get much easier than this to get involve with saving access to our public lands. Sending a letter, fax or e-mail to your congressman or senator is really an easy, important and affective way to be involved and to have an effect. Read Tom’s article then follow these simple steps and start participating in our future.

..... go to Column 2 of this page

Gemstone for June is the Pearl

Do you know the SIGNIFICANCE of June’s birthstone—the Pearl? And what power the ancients felt would be bestowed about you just by wearing it? Pearl is the official birthstone of the month of June. Also the anniversary gemstone for ht e 3rd and 30th years of marriage. Pearls come in a wide range of colors from delicate rose white to black. The higher the luster or “orient,” the more valuable it is. Greeks believed that pearls were the hardened tears of joys the Love Goddess shook from her eyes as she was born from the sea. Arab legend says pearls were formed when oysters were lured from the depths of the ocean by a beautiful moon and then swallowed moonlit dew-drops. Gems of unsurpassed beauty and elegance, pearls have been a passion and obsession throughout the ages. They have been ground up and used as cosmetics, as a medicine to treat heart and stomach conditions. Or as an aphrodisiac. The Pearl stands as a symbol of purity and are a suitable gift for all ages. Can be elegantly worn with everything from jeans to an evening gown.

New Jersey Legislators Vote on Wyoming’s Public Lands

That’s right, they do. And so do legislators from Rhode Island, Florida, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Kansas, South Carolina and 43 other states. The all vote on Wyoming's public lands. Every Senator and every representative of each and every US state casts a vote on public lands legislation. That’s the way Congress works. These are federal laws, not state laws. It doesn’t matter that nearly all public lands are located our West. Every legislator in the US Congress votes on public land bills.



Now, let’s ask ourselves: “Who gets more constituent letters about land-closing bills— NJ legislators or WY legislators?” Probably WY legislators. How many letters do the KY legislators get? Again, probably no as many as in WY, either pro or con. Public land issues are not as newsworthy in NJ and KY. But do those NJ and KY legislators vote? Yes, they do. And do their votes count just as much as the votes of the WY legislators? Yes, their votes count just as much, exactly. And the majority rules.

We know that legislators track the input they get from constituents. Let’s say the WY legislators get an extra 23 letters about some bill, but they have already received 5,000 letters on that bill. Will those 25 letters make a whole lot of difference in those WY legislators’ minds? Doubtful. But consider this: What if the NJ legislators (who have only received 15 letters about that same bill) receive an extra 25 letters? Those 25 letters can make a huge difference. Those 25 letters could be vote-changing letters. Those 25 letters could convince the NJ legislators that more NJ constituents want US public lands to stay open than want them to be closed off.

Your constituent letters and emails from AR and NJ and AL and MO and MI and KY *yes, even HI!) can have a lot more impact than the letters of our friends in WY do.

Think about it.

By Tom Noe

SHOW INFORMATION:

Dealer contracts will go out in July.
 Enlarged Black Light (Fluorescent Rocks display)
 Mark and Harold will work on large sign
 For the room.

New booth “Sand Dig for Gems” I am contacting other clubs right now to see how they run theirs—if they have one. As soon as I get enough information to make a semi-intelligent decision I will call the Show committee and discuss the options. In the meantime—we are waiting for replies.

Shirley Metts—Show Chairman

ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTER

If you send me articles that you would like to have printed in the newsletter, please state specifically that they are for the newsletter. I will be glad to include them, providing there is space available in that issue. I may need to modify them to fit into the space available.

Copyright laws prohibit the inclusion of any submissions which are not your own unless written permission is obtained and then credit is given to the author and source is stated.

WE NEED YOU AS A SCHOOL PRESENTER!!

If you are hesitant about going into the schools to do a presentation—don't be. The kids love it and you cannot imagine the fun. You will be given a tub containing rocks and gemstones and a script to follow until you become familiar with the presentation. And the rewards to yourself are unimaginable.

Contact Dave Hughes at 886-2014 or 316-6723

Subject: TWO MINUTES to STOP LOCKING UP Public Lands with Presidential Proclamations

Stop Locking Up Millions of Acres of Public

Dear Sandra,

As you may recall documents were exposed last year regarding the Obama administration's apparent intention to misuse the Monument Proclamation to designate millions of acres. **With the stroke of his pen Obama could lock up millions of acres of your public lands, or YOU CAN TAKE TWO MINUTES TO STOP HIM**

You may recall President Clinton misused the Monument Proclamation to designate numerous large Monument areas against the wishes of local residents and even Governors. **DO YOU WANT THAT TO HAPPEN AGAIN?**

Congressman Nunes (CA) has reintroducing his National Monument Transparency and Accountability Act (HR758). This much needed reform legislation will address a number of abuses possible in the current legislation, so President's will no longer be able to use the stroke of their pen to lock up millions of acres of your public lands. **BUT WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO URGE CONGRESS TO PASS HR758.**

This legislation would PREVENT THESE ABUSES FOREVER by reducing the amount of land that the President can designate as a National Monument, and require Congressional approval within 2 years of any Executive Order pursuant to the Antiquities Act

LOCKING UP (continued)

You can read the draft language as well as a section-by-section summary of the bill at:

SUMMARY OF BILL

<http://www.savethetrails.us/Docs/OnePager-NationalMonumentTransparency2011.pdf>

FINAL DRAFT OF BILL

<http://www.savethetrails.us/Docs/Legislation-112th-Final-MonumentTransparency2011.pdf>

BROCHURE OUTLINING BENEFITS OF THE BILL

<http://www.savethetrails.us/Docs/HR758-NationalMonumentTrifold.pdf>

Thanks for your help to keep the Proclamation of Monuments to what the law intended and not a loophole to allow public lands to be locked up without public support.

Many thanks to Congressman Devin Nunes for drafting and introducing this legislation.

Chris Horgan and your friends at Save the Trails

Received from Everett Headrick [elheadrick@live.com]

SPENCER OPAL MINES FIELD TRIP

Dear Fellow Rock Hounds. My name is Donna Barker and I am a member of the field trip committee for the Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society (IFG&MS) in Idaho Falls, ID. We would like to invite you to a joint club field trip to the Spencer Opal Mine in Spencer Idaho, on July 16th, 2011. I have attached the particulars of the trip and hope you will join us and pass this information along to whomever may also be interested. We look forward to meeting you and digging in the dirt with you. Call me @208-881-9306, email to donameche@cableone.net with any questions you may have. Thanks and see you soon. Donna

* * * * *

The Spencer Opal Mine is in Spencer, Idaho. The fee to dig as a group at the mine itself is \$50.00/5 lb. and \$10.00 for every pound over that. We need a minimum of 30 people for the mandatory group fee of \$1500.00 to dig. We would like to have \$50.00/person; check made out to the Spencer Opal Mine, from whoever wishes to join us by June 25, 2011. We will hold onto the check until we give it to the mine owners one week prior to our dig date of July 16, 2011. Let us know as soon as you can so we know what to plan for. CALL REBEKAH YANCEY IF INTERESTED AT 670-4254. (See the remainder of article in May, 2011 newsletter.)

Please Take TWO MINUTES To Send a Letter Supporting HR758

It has been pretty rare of late that Congress has produced reasonable bills-and this is one of those rare times. Sandra do not miss your opportunity to SUPPORT Legislation to STOP the ABUSE of this Presidential Proclamation loophole.

<http://www.savethetrails.us/Default.aspx?PetitionID=51>

Take Action NOW and support keeping your public lands open to all.

Please check the List of Co Sponsors to see if your Congressman is supporting this bill. If not then please contact them and urge their support

ALERT!!!

THIS IS IMPORTANT. A MUST READ!!!

Field Trip Updates by Doug True, Inter-Regional Field Trip Chair

WARNING- The Rules for fieldtrips and collecting are changing on public lands.

Actually these rules are for any organized group using our public lands. The rules are open for interpretation, but most districts are saying that if there is a planned trip by two or more people and the schedule of your trip is published or posted, you must apply for a recreation permit.

You must find the local district you are going to collect in, determine if it is run by the BLM or USFS and then request a recreation permit form 2930-1. In the application you will have to furnish maps (topographical, a written plan of your function, area you are camping and what you are collecting, and the estimated number of attendees. You will also be required to show a certificate of insurance naming the BLM or USFS as insured. In some cases they may require you to supply Porta Potties.

In your report you should indicate the specific areas where you plan on collecting and indicate if you will be digging or surface collecting. You have a much better chance of getting a permit if you plan on surface collecting. If you're digging, the selected area will be scrutinized by a number of different departments: Archeological, Paleontology, Endangered plants, etc, etc.

After a revue of your proposal, all or part of your request might be turned down. You need to work with the recreation officer and plan your trip together as this gives you a better chance of being successful. In talking with different BLM districts their numbers seem to vary as to what constitutes a group. There will also be a processing fee of around \$100 dollars. If you are planning a trip to public lands, **please check to see if your group trip is good to go.**

— FROM American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Newsletter, May 2011

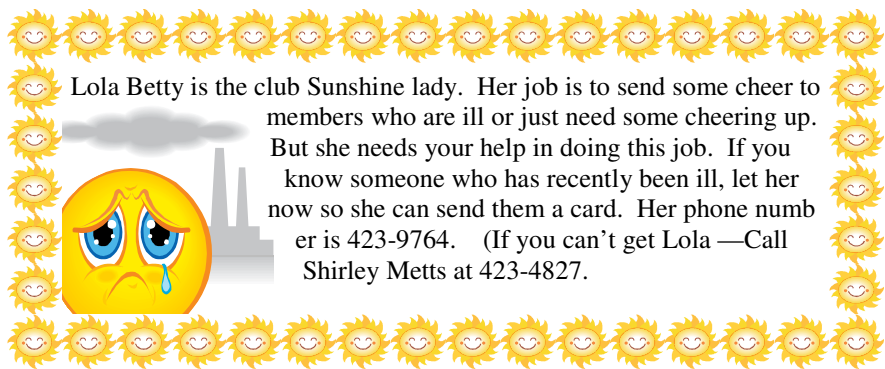
CODE OF ETHICS

- I will respect both private and public property and will do on collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found..
- I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material—matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rock hound project H.E.L.P (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or federation officers, the Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rock hounds everywhere.

CORRECTION!

My apologies to Betty and Terry. I said Terry's daughter had passed away—but it was Betty's daughter. We are so very sorry for your loss.— Our prayers are with you

(Shirley—Editor)



Lola Betty is the club Sunshine lady. Her job is to send some cheer to members who are ill or just need some cheering up. But she needs your help in doing this job. If you know someone who has recently been ill, let her now so she can send them a card. Her phone number is 423-9764. (If you can't get Lola — Call Shirley Metts at 423-4827.

Remember the tumbled rocks for the Show

We also need tiny stones for the sand table—smaller than the end of a pencil eraser.

Dave also needs thumbnail sized rocks for the educational kits he is putting together. Get with him to see what kinds he wants—or if he wants them tumbled or just small rocks and chips.

We are now able to send the Magic Valley Gem News via e-mail. If you are not already receiving the newsletter via email and are willing to, please email me at rmetts@cableone.net. Help us save some money on mailings. Thank you. Shirley

DO YOU REALIZE THAT OUR SHOW IS
ONLY 8-1/2 MONTHS AWAY?

We need items for the:

Wheel of Fortune-1
ROCKS—Wheel OF FORTUNE—2,
Silent Auction,
Grab Bags,
Door Prizes

Magic Valley Gem Show

March 10 and 11, 2012

Twin Falls County Fairgrounds — Filer,
Idaho

WE NEED ALL CLUB MEMBERS TO
HELP!!!

MAGIC VALLEY GEM NEWS
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JUNE 2011



FIRST CLASS
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