

# The Rockhound Record

Volume 74, issue 3 Newsletter for the Mineralogical Society of Arizona March 2008

## Next MSA Meeting at 7 p.m... Program for March 14, 2008

Jeff Scovil, internationally known mineral photographer, will give the presentation.

### MSA Contact Info:

**President & Field Trip Coordinator** (Club Trips)  
Ed Nichols (480) 636-1251

**Treasurer and Coalition Field Trip Coordinator:**  
Betty Deming (602) 242-1553  
Email address [bd\\_mac2003@yahoo.com](mailto:bd_mac2003@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter Editor, Secretary and Vice-President:**  
Positions vacant.  
Interested? Contact Ed Nichols.

**Mineral Curator:** John McLaughlin (623) 979-5246

**Librarian/Door Prizes/Hospitality**  
Bob Holm (623) 247-1325

**Refreshments:** Lynne Dyer (480) 396-2393



## Where to send MSA dues:

Please remit your dues to Treasurer Betty Deming at 2922 W. Claremont, Phoenix, AZ 85017.

**Dues:** Adults – Single Adults \$12.00,  
Juniors (18 yrs. and under) -\$2.50,  
Families & Couples - \$20.00

**MSA Board of Governors:**  
Lynne Dyer, Terry Dyer  
Bob Holm, K.J. Werner

## President's Message By Ed Nichols

I certainly haven't been watching paint dry since our Feb. meeting. Painting is next on my to do list! I definitely have been watching the weeds grow. Anybody else having the same fun?

I apologize for not awarding the copper crossword puzzle prize at the Feb. meeting. I emailed Gilbert Flores for the correct mine for all those copper minerals. I will award the prize at the March 14th meeting.

We had 13 people at the field trip on Feb 16th to Hull Road fluorescent agate location. 10 adults and 3 youngsters. The weather started out foggy but turned into ideal rockhounding weather. Everyone found agate material. Bring some to next meeting and we will check for fluorescents.

I will have maps and trip info available at the March 14th meeting for the Bullard Mine field trip on March 15th.

Our speaker and club member Jeff Scovil, internationally known mineral photographer will give our program at the March 14th meeting.

Come and enjoy an excellent program, prize minerals, great friends, and tasty snacks at our next meeting.

Ed Nichols  
President  
YeOlde Rockhound

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Club News as reported by Betty Deming and Ed Nichols:

Long time MSA member **Ben Benham** passed away on Feb. 15th 2008. He was 94 years old. A fine gentleman with careers in the air force, teaching and of course the MSA. He will be very much missed by all of us.

**William G. Trow** of Phoenix, Arizona, passed away Friday, February 22, 2008, at the age of 86. He was born in Curlew, Iowa, on June 29, 1921. He moved to Arizona 55 years ago in 1952. He attended Northwestern College in Minneapolis, received a Bachelor's degree from Grand Canyon University and a Master's degree from Arizona State University. He taught at Granada Elementary School for over 25 years.

Bill was ordained to the gospel ministry by the Jeffers (Minnesota) Baptist Church in 1944. He pastored churches in Minnesota, Kansas, Utah, and Arizona. He loved to travel and spent many summers seeing family, friends, and the country he loved. Bill was a life-time member of the Maricopa Lapidary Society as well as a member of the Mineralogical Society of Arizona. For many years he coordinated the mineralogical displays at the Arizona State Fair. Published in The Arizona Republic on 02/26/08

## Lapis Test

Hydrochloric acid is good for testing lapis lazuli. A drop of it on the blue stone (the backside) creates an odor of hydrogen sulphide (rotten eggs). On the white areas, it usually effervesces because the white is usually calcite. This test will distinguish lapis from sodalite or lazulite.

From Mineral Matter via Rockhound Rambling 2/08

## Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous - Reprise

By Richard Pankey, Inter – Regional Field Trips



picture of pink agate limb cast from Texas Springs

The Northwest, Rocky Mountain and California Federations will host a Rockhound Rendezvous to Texas Springs, NV over Memorial Day Weekend, 2008 and all AFMS members are invited to attend.

We had such a great time in 2003 we decided to do it again. The date is set – May 21 to 26, 2008. The place is picked – the Texas Springs area for spectacular pink agate limb casts, as well as, other agate and petrified wood.

Late spring is a beautiful time of year to be in northern Nevada's high desert. The days are warm and the evenings are cool. We will collect at 4 to 6 different sites: pink limb casts, small limb casts and bogwood, snakeskin agate, jasp/agate limb casts, geodes, and more. Our Rendezvous will include daily collecting trips, potluck dinners, daily Happy Hours, evening campfires, and tailgate displays.

This area has been popular with rockhounds for many years, and prized material can still be found for those who are willing to dig for it. Many were successful! In 2003 we had over 200 rockhounds from 14 western states representing 55 clubs of the three federations.

Come join us for a great Tri-Federation Rendezvous of collecting, fun and fellowship.

## MSA Field Trip Saturday, March 15th

This trip is to the Bullard Mine, northwest of Aguila. Meet in Wickenburg at 9am at Mc Donalds. We leave there at 9:15am. Go west on Hwy 60 to Aguila. Turn north on maintained road for 4.1 miles & around curve 3.1 miles to unmaintained road on right going northwest. Sign says Smith Peak. Go 2.8 miles to fork in road at large BLM sign. Take left fork and go 1.5 miles to Bullard Mine access road on right (north). Tailings from Bullard Mine are directly ahead on access road. Proceed about 100 ft turn right (east) go .2 mile & follow faint narrow track leading left (north).1 mile to low mine dump. Look for large pile of red dirt containing 2 to 6 inch rocks with gem quality chrysocolla & malachite. Look for dark brownish iron based host rock. This is highly silicated. Take rock hammer, sledge, water, and your preferred snacks. I suggest good boots as mine dumps are hard on softer shoes.

See you in Wickenburg-  
Ed Nichols - Field trip coordinator  
Cell phone # (480) 370-6716.

## The Friends of Mineralogy



**Dedicated to the advancement of serious interest  
in minerals and related activities**

We are collectors, professionals, and curators who share a love of mineral specimens and the desire to promote understanding and appreciation of mineralogy

The Friends of Mineralogy (FM), formed at Tucson, Arizona on February 13, 1970, and operates on a national level and also through regional chapters. It is open to membership by all. FM's objectives are to promote, support, protect and expand the collection of mineral specimens and to further the recognition of the scientific, economic and aesthetic value of minerals and collecting mineral specimens.

FM has a long association with The Mineralogical Record. It helps produce locality indexes for specimen mineral localities published in Rocks and Minerals, and is co-sponsor, with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society (TGMS) and the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA), of the annual Tucson Mineralogical Symposia. Among its activities it sponsors awards for best articles each calendar year in the Mineralogical Record, Rocks & Minerals and extraLapis English and gives special recognition at the February Tucson Gem and Mineral Show for exhibits which help explain an aspect of mineralogy.

The Friends of Mineralogy is affiliated with the American Geological Institute and the Mineralogical Society of America, as well as with Rocks and Minerals, and The Mineralogical Record. Both of these magazines provide FM space and publish news of its activities from time-to-time. FM in turn supports these magazines in various endeavors.

To download a membership application or find out more about the Friends of Mineralogy – check out their website :

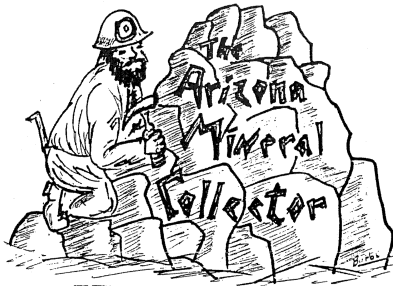
[www.friendsofmineralogy.org](http://www.friendsofmineralogy.org)

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## Arizona Mineral Collector

235901708



By Raymond Grant

I hope that many of you got to see the exhibits at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show that just ended. The theme was Minerals of the USA and as I stated in an earlier column, Arizona had the largest number of localities in the show. There will probably never be so many spectacular Red Cloud mine wulfenite specimens under one roof again. Collectors and museums were very generous in bringing their best pieces to make some truly spectacular displays.

There is a companion book to go with the show called American Mineral Treasures, which every collector should own. The chapters on Arizona include: Bisbee, Red Cloud mine, Ray Copper mine, Morenci mine, Old Yuma mine, and Mammoth-St. Anthony mine and all these were represented by wonderful cases. There was also a case of Glove mine wulfenites and specimens from Arizona in the various museum cases. The book is oversized, 354 pages long and has photographs of many of the specimens on exhibit. It sold for \$85 at the show and I am sure it will be available from many book dealers.

The Mammoth-St. Anthony mine exhibit was really good. It had great specimens of many of the rare minerals which were found there. Many of these are pictured in the book. A few

of the specimens belonging to the Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation and to the Museum were part of the exhibits.

There was also a series of talks about famous US localities. Les Presmyk did one on the Mammoth-St. Anthony mine which he will give at our symposium on Saturday March 15, so you will still have an opportunity to see it. Check elsewhere in this newsletter for information about the symposium or call the Mining and Mineral Museum.

## Southwest Paleontological Society

The [Southwest Paleontological Society](#) (SPS) is a non-profit corporation devoted to promoting the science of paleontology.

SPS was formed for the purpose of assisting the Arizona Museum of Natural History with collecting, documenting and preserving fossil material. Under the auspices of the Arizona Museum of Natural History, SPS strives to maintain the highest standards of conduct and proficiency in all its activities. It provides educational programs to its members as well as the community.

### Annual Dues/ Monthly meetings

\$20.00 (Family membership available). SPS meets the first Tuesday of each month for Lab Nights: education and hands-on activities with Bob McCord, MSM Curator, 7:00 PM at the Mesa W/W Museum Annex.

**Membership Benefits:** Paleontological digs, newsletter, monthly meetings with speakers, educational programs, specialized training, museum store discount

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## Minerals of Arizona

Fifteenth Annual Symposium  
Dedicated to the Memory of  
Sidney A. Williams

Program Saturday March 15  
8 AM. to 5 PM.

Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum  
15th Avenue and Washington

8:00 - 9:00 - Coffee Hour

9:00 - 9:10 - Welcoming Remarks and Introductions

### Arizona Localities

9:10 – 9:40– The Mammoth-St. Anthony mine,  
Tiger, Arizona - Les Presmyk

9:40 – 10:10 - Mines & Minerals - Pima Mining  
District, Pima County, AZ- Anna Domitrovic

10:10 – 10:50 - Break, Mineral Silent Auction

10:50 – 11:20 - Inclusions in Quartz Crystals  
from Crown King, Arizona – Kyle Eastman

11:20 – 11:50 - Uranium in Arizona - Frank  
Kimble

11:50 – 1:10 - Lunch, Mineral Silent Auction

### Other Localities

1:10 – 1:40 – Historical Mining, Minerals and  
Recent Collecting, Batopilas, Chihuahua,  
Mexico – Jim McGlasson

1:40 – 2:10 - Minerals from lessor mines, San  
Juan Mountains, Colorado - Barbara Muntyan

2:10 – 2:40 - How New Minerals are  
Determined – Marcus Origlieri

2:40 – 3:20 - Break, Mineral Silent Auction

3:20 – 3:50 - Vision for the Arizona Mining and  
Mineral Museum – Jan Rasmussen

3:50 – 4:20 -

4:20 - Closing Remarks

### **Registration Form:**

Detach and mail this form with the \$35.00  
registration fee before March 10, 2008  
(Foundation members pay \$30.00) so lunch and  
other food can be ordered.

### **To: Symposium:**

Arizona Mineral and Mining Museum Foundation  
P.O. Box 41834, Mesa, Arizona 85274  
Make checks payable to: Arizona Mineral and  
Mining Museum Foundation.

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
registrations.

Name(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored by the Arizona Mineral and  
Mining Museum Foundation, and  
The Arizona Department of Mines  
and Mineral Resources

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## What's Happening?

**March 14, 2008 MSA Club Meeting** at 7 p.m.  
At the Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum

**March 22-23, 2008 Cottonwood  
Verde Valley Gem and Mineral Show &  
Jewelry Show**, Mingus Union High School,  
1801 E. Fir St., Cottonwood, AZ 86326  
[www.mingusclub.org](http://www.mingusclub.org). Sponsored by: Mingus Gem  
and Mineral Club. Hours: Fri., Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4  
Admission: \$3:00, children free with adult

**May 3-4, 2008 Kingman, AZ  
Kingman Annual Show**  
Kingman Academy of Learning  
3419 Harrison St. Kingman, AZ  
Sponsored by: Mohave County Gemstoners  
Displays, silent auction, dealers, & door prizes.  
Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4 Admission: Free  
Contact: Dave or Pete at 928-692-3797 or  
928-565-4321, or write Mohave County  
Gemstoners Club, P.O. Box 3992, Kingman, AZ  
86402, or e-mail Dave : tpatt2ts@uneedspeed.net

**May 21-26 Texas Springs, Nevada  
Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous –  
Reprise** - See page 6 for trip details

**May 24-25, 2008 Pinetop-Lakeside  
White Mountain Gem & Mineral Show**  
Blue Ridge Jr. High (gym & Café)  
1200 W. White Blvd., Lakeside, AZ 85929  
Sponsored by: White Mt. Gem & Mineral Club  
Admission: \$2:00, students under 16 free  
Parking: Free Hours: Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4  
Show and Dealer Chairperson: Nanz Marshall,  
5011 Forest View Rd., Lakeside, AZ 85929,  
928-537-2524

**May 24-25, 2008 Bisbee**

### **Bisbee Mineral Show**

Queen Mine Tour 478 Dart Road, Bisbee, AZ  
Sponsored by: City of Bisbee, Bisbee Mining  
Historical Museum & Bisbee Chamber Commerce  
Admission: Free Parking: Free  
Hours: Sat. & Sun. 9-5  
Show and Dealer Chairperson: Douglas  
Graeme, 520-432-2071,  
dgraeme@cityofbisbee.com

**August 22 – Sept 1, 2008 Apache Creek, NM**  
Agate Rendevous 2008 – 10 days of rockhounding  
among the pines in New Mexico.  
See February's newsletter for more details



### **Say Hello to New MSA Members:**

Emil Stoyanov of Phoenix. His special  
interests are: calcite, agates & inclusions in  
minerals

Tammy Till--Patrick Zerr--Jessica Zerr  
Of Gilbert, Az

Joan & Garrett Torrey of Phoenix.  
Their special interests are. crystals, copper  
minerals & gold

Chris Whitney-Smith of Phoenix  
Special interests are Arizona minerals, faceted  
gems & rockhounding

Frank & Sam Burns of Scottsdale  
Special interests are: collecting large  
specimens

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## **University of Arizona Mineral Museum In Tucson, Arizona Hosts Hubert C. de Monmonier Collection From Feb. 9 to May 31, 2008**

The magnificence of the Hubert C. de Monmonier Collection is the focus of a new UA Mineral Museum special featured opening at Flandrau: The UA Science Center on February 9, 2008 coinciding with the 54th annual Tucson Gem & Mineral Show. The exhibit runs through May 31, 2008 and is the first time that a portion of the collection has been seen in public.

“This is a unique opportunity for the public to see a collection that is truly global, containing minerals from every continent, excluding Antarctica,” said Alexis R. Faust, executive director for Flandrau: The UA Science Center.

The collection comprises 871 mineral specimens representing 64 species from some of the most famous and classic locations around the world. The collection includes 350 quartz specimens, 146 tourmaline, 44 silver, 38 beryl and more than 70 gold specimens. One of the gold specimens, the size of a dinner plate, was found at the Jamestown mines, near the historic Mother Lode, responsible for starting the California Gold Rush in 1849. It is considered one of the largest known specimens from that location.

Also in the collection are more than 300 rare books on mineral-related topics by many classical mineralogists. The most noteworthy classics were the earliest texts on geology and mineralogy by Georgius Agricola, “De Ortu et Causis Subterraneorum” and “De Natura Fossilium,” published in 1558, and the translation of “De Re Metallica” by former President Herbert Hoover, a mining engineer, and his wife Lou Henry Hoover, a geologist, and published in 1912. The collection also includes many books by modern day authorities such as Peter Bancroft, George Kunz, John Sinkankas and John White.

“The collection has some truly beautiful and rare specimens that are highly prized by collectors,” said Spencer R. Titley, curator of the UA Mineral Museum and professor of geosciences. “The gwindel and faden specimens of quartz, along with the platinum, gold, beryl and tourmaline are wonderful examples of the quality of Hubert de Monmonier’s collection.”

The exhibit will begin with a perspective on de Monmonier as a collector; his lifelong fascination with minerals began when he discovered a box of minerals under the porch at his grandparent’s house in Pearce, Ariz. The exhibit will feature more than 300 specimens from around the world.

### Extended Hours

(Weeks of Feb. 11 and 18)

Monday-Friday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Thursday and Friday: 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Saturday: 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Sunday: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

For more information visit

[www.UAMineralMuseum.org](http://www.UAMineralMuseum.org) or call 520-621-STAR.



### Great Website

If you need a good explanation of the various optical phenomena that gemstones may exhibit, the below link does a fantastic job of both describing and displaying examples of most of the phenomena, such as chatoyance.

<http://www.bwsmigel.info/Lesson6/DE.Optical.Phenomena.html>

This page is part of a free course in gemology created by Barbara Smigel, PhD, GG, a professor at the College of Southern Nevada. You may view the entire course listing at:

<http://www.bwsmigel.info/>

From March 2008 newsletter/Rochester Lapidary Society

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[www.azminerals.com](http://www.azminerals.com)

Mineralogical Society  
of Arizona,  
A Non Profit  
Organization Founded  
1935

**Purpose:** To promote popular interest in the various Earth Sciences, and particularly the fields of Geology, Lapidary, Mineralogy, and related subjects. ID badges are available from the Treasurer.

**Meetings:** 7:00 p.m. at the Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum, 1502 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ, *on the second Friday of the month, September through June (except February, which is the third Friday).*

**Dues:** Adults – Single Adults \$12.00, Juniors (18 yrs. and under) -\$2.50, Families & Couples - \$20.00. **Mail dues to Betty Deming at 2922 W. Claremont, Phoenix, AZ 85017**

The Mineralogical Society of Arizona is a member of:



**American Federation of Mineral Societies,  
and the Rocky Mountain Federation of  
Mineral Societies**

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