

July –
August 2012

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A Stone's Throw

The Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club

Let's hear from our President, Kathy Hollenback

Hi everyone,
 We had lot's of fun at the Gem and Mineral Show. Thank you to everyone who was able to work the show or attend and support the show in that way. Special thanks to Jerry Hancock, Sally Griffin, Christine Day, Ken Zahn, Bill Sampson, John Slay and everyone who helped set up, take down and work during the long hours of the show. It is definitely a group effort. Jerry stepped in for Dan Carter because Diane died during the week before the show. We are really glad that Dan was able to attend the show and he was instrumental in the preparations for the show as show chairman.

We now have a website— Please check it out at www.bozemangemandmineralclub.com This is another project in process. Is anyone interested in working on the website? Please give us suggestions and tell us how we can make it better. I am going to add photos of our show - as soon as I find out how to add them as a file. You will notice on the first page, upcoming activities and contact information. Plan to attend our July potluck, July 21 at Ken Zahn's house. The club will provide the chicken and rolls and Ken will provide the drinks. Please bring a dish to share and your own plates and utensils. We will have a silent auction and a short meeting. John Usher is bringing a special prize for a contest.

Thanks.
 Kathy Hollenback, Club President



Meeting Dates:

- July 21, 2012—Potluck at Ken's house
- August 21, 2012
- September 18, 2012
- October 16, 2012
- November 20, 2012

Upcoming Events and Rock Collecting

Bridger Petrified Wood and Calcite, east of Big Timber.

Claim #2

Private collection

Stay Tuned.



Unofficial Minutes of the June meeting—June 19th

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm. 34 members attended the meeting.

Ken Zahn shared highlights of a video on Minerals at the “What's New in Munich Mineral Show”.

Correspondence included letters from Jackie Edens and a thank you note from Dan Carter., a PLWA newsletter and a Helena newsletter.

Old Business: John Usher checked into Earl Stermetz' equipment. He sold the lapidary equipment. He has a large display unit still for sale for \$300. His brother also has grit for sale.

John also reported on the MT council meeting in Butte. There will be a summer newsletter that will discuss the showcases used for the Gem and Mineral shows. They will build 5 more display cases for next year. There are some LED lights missing. There will be a checklist for next year for all parts of the showcases so they are accounted for. There will be a fossil dig near Bynam, August 25-27. The council will help pay for the cost of the field trip. Stamps collected will only be the special stamps, not the Forever, everyday stamps. Officers were elected. Dick Wendell was elected president. The state council has \$8800 in their account. There was a also a report on legislative issues about access to public lands.

The Fairgrounds building was to be discussed at a meeting today. The County Attorney's office still has the application with no progress made as of yet.

New Business: We now have a web site. It is not finished, but an email will be sent to members with the link.

July meeting - we usually have a picnic for this meeting. Ken has volunteered to have the meeting at his house. We will have the meeting on July 21st at 4:30 pm. Bring lawn chairs if you can. Chicken and soft drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish or desert.

Field Trips: The web page will have field trips under the Calendar heading. We are looking for volunteers to lead a field trip. Ken will lead a trip up to Claim One on July 7. It requires a 4 wheel drive vehicle to drive to the site. It is a three hour drive. Bring digging and scraping tools, buckets, a rock hammer, screen, sunscreen, hat, lunch and water. Ken will see if the cabin is available for that weekend.

John will lead a trip to the Copper City mine on Sunday, July 22. Meet at Belgrade Albertson's at 9:00 am. No four wheel drive is required. Pick ax, shovel, buckets, scraping tools, rock hammer, safety glasses if you are using a rock hammer. Bring a lunch and water.

There were no Committee Reports.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:57.

Tickets were sold for this calcite at the Gem and Mineral Show. This specimen was donated by John Slay. This was First Prize.



"Our New Website"

- The address for our current website is:
- <http://bozemangemandmineralclub.com/>

You'll probably find it referenced on the 1st page of options (along with our earlier web-based page through Facebook) when you use Google's search engine through Safari, and on the 2nd page of options when using Google through Firefox. Take a look at the "click-on" topical tabs at the top and bottom of the page so you can make suggestions to Kathy Hollenback for text and additions. Recently added are some entries under the "FAQ" (Frequently Asked Questions) tab -- a pale tab/prompt at the bottom of the page -- as well as some entries under the prominent "Calendar" tab at the top of the page. At the FAQ tab, you'll now find info on what to consider to take on field trips, how to rent a US Forest Service cabin, where to go for directions to our clear quartz claim, reference material on Utah collecting sites, and directions to our picnic site at the Zahn's home next week. We'll change, delete, and add info at this tab as appropriate in the future.

Claim #1 Field Trip

- Eleven club members traveled to our clear quartz claim last Saturday (July 7th) and our newest members collected the best crystals of the day -- some on the south side of the trail and some on the north side.

Christine, Larry, and Alex Day; Kim and Alexander Talbot; and Ken Zahn spent the night in or near the Hells Canyon Forest Ranger cabin and most of the group collected again part of day on Sunday. Rain chased both the Saturday and Sunday groups off the mountain a bit earlier than we wished, but both days were successful.

Heard by the Grapevine

John Slay visited his brother last week in Prescott, AZ, and decided to try a few spots in Utah on the return trip. With some info and references on Utah collecting sites, and an introduction to an active collector in Salt Lake City, John drove to Delta UT and visited the 2 prominent "rock shops" there, purchasing a meteorite and some promising Dugway geodes and septarian nodules to cut and polish. He then decided to find the Topaz Cove area of the Thomas Range north of Delta, and spent a part-day there braving the blistering heat of the white rhyolite to pry out sherry-colored topaz crystals from the small vugs and seams of the "cove" area. Hope we'll see John at a near-future meeting with his new-found "goodies" and a report on conditions and "dos-and-don't's."

Programs

Ken Zahn, our Program Chairperson, arranges for presentations at our meetings.

I am trying to schedule speakers for future programs: Garnet Mining and Processing at the Alder plant, Collecting Sites in Wyoming and Discovery and Operation of the famous California Benitoite Gem Mine.

Stay tuned!!!
Ken



The Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Belgrade Valley Bank building at 7:00 pm. The meeting room is downstairs. We have a program at the beginning, a social time with “show and tell”, a silent auction of great mineral samples, and then our business meeting. We would like to start a Junior club if anyone has an interest or ideas to make this happen. We always encourage young people to attend meetings and rock outings.

Our club membership dues are \$10.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a family. They are due in October for the next year. Memberships are effective January to December. We need some basic information for memberships, so please include this with your check or cash: name, address, phone number, e-mail address, childrens’ names when applicable, and type of membership. We encourage e-mail addresses so we can send newsletters that way. Please check your e-mail and phone number on our membership list. Contact Linda Johnson if you find errors. Call 587-2117 or send changes to lindajohnson.montana@gmail.com .

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A Stone's Throw

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We're also on Facebook.
Bozeman Rock and Gem Club