

CONVAIR ROCKHOUND ASSOCIATION -- THE TEKTITE -- pg. 1

December 2003/ January 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nothing submitted this month. See you all at the Holiday Party.



Jerry Lohmann, President

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

The November 4th meeting of the Rockhounds was called to order by President Jerry Lohmann at 6:30pm.

Minutes of the previous meeting: were approved as written by Lynda Lohmann and distributed in the Tektite.

Hospitality Report: Emmeline Ellis was absent, but had already called Jerry to report that she had nothing to report ... other than she had sent Betty Schneider a card from the Club. Betty had fallen and broken several ribs. (She was here at the meeting and told us about it).

Membership: Phyllis Mahoney reported we had 27 members present, and one guest.

County Council: Jim Sugg reported that there was no County Council meeting in October. They have gone to meeting every other month so next meeting will be mid-November. He also said that the Gem Show had been canceled due to the fires.

CFMS Report: Chairman Ann Ludlam did not have anything to report. She had just gotten the brochure the day before and had not had time to read it yet.

Field Trips: Ann Ludlam said that she will be heading up the Quartzsite trip again. The Club will be camping at the same area as 2003 and will be there from January 15 to February 1. The Brynes are helping Ann. Franklin Wade says he has some signs at home and will check to see what he has. Ann reported that there

are some field trips being planned to look for Petrified Wood, Demorturite and Blue Banded Agate.

The Potluck will be Saturday January 31st. Be sure to bring water and wood. Give Ann a call if there are any questions. **[See map page 8.]**

Tektite: Betty Schneider said that the next Tektite will be a December/January one. Therefore, if you have any information that needs to get out before February get it to her now, before the 19th..

Old Business: None

Door Prizes: Al Thompson, Elaine Thompson, Dorothy Cooper, Bob Cadman, June Wade, Mary Jane Dunn, Bob Plunkett, Joan Miller, Betty Schneider, Jerry Lohmann, Phyllis Mahoney, Jim Schneider, Jim Claypool, Ed Keller, Bob Kreutzer, Linda Clark, Mary Otto, Ann Ludlam, Franklin Wade, Jim Sugg and Jean Kreutzer.

Raffle Prizes: Linda Clark, Ann Ludlam, Gary Clark, Ann Ludlam (again), Mary Jane Dunn, Elaine Thompson, Gary Clark (again), Jim Claypool and Mary Jane Dunn (again). Several people were lucky this month.

Refreshments and a program about Alaska (compliments of the Thompsons) was then held. Meeting adjourned at 7:50.

Lynda Lohmann, Secretary



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

No minutes submitted from the November 18, 2003 meeting.

Next meeting will be January 13, 2004 at the Kearney Mesa Rec Center.

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FIELD TRIPS

???????????? Chairperson

The following field trips are hosted by the CFMS. You are welcome to attend these as members of CRA. Please contact the leader of each for more information.

CFMS FIELD TRIPS - SOUTH

2nd Annual Thanksgiving Field Trip to Wiley's's Well.

November 26 - 30, 2003

by Bob Fitzpatrick - Leader Field Trip Chair - South - 2003

MATERIAL TO COLLECT - All types and colors of Agate & Jasper, crystal filled Geodes, Botryoidal Psilomelane, Fire Agate, Chalcedony Roses, Zeolite-filled Amygdules, Calcite Rhombs, Petrified Wood and much more. (Fresh air & blue sky.)

PROPOSED SCHEDULE - Each day we will break up into small groups, Where each group will be going to a different collecting area. This way everyone can collect at all collecting sites. on Thanksgiving Day we will have a potluck dinner around 5 p.m.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMPSITE - Exit Interstate 10 at Wiley's's Well Rd, approximately 13 miles west of Blythe and 31 miles east of Desert Center. Follow Wiley's's Well Rd. south for 12.5 miles to the campsite on the West side of road at the Riverside & Imperial Co. lines. Watch for club signs.

VEHICLE - The Road from the I -10 is dirt to the camping site, should be okay for 2 wheel drive cars, trailers & motor-homes. From the campsite to collecting areas 4 wheel drive and pickups only.

CAMP & FACILITIES - This is a dry camping area, no water, no services, no hookups, no toilets.

TOOLS - Collecting bags, rock hammer, eye gear, flashlights, spray water bottle, etc., (camp chair to sit in at night around the fire).

SAFETY CONCERNS - Do not lick the rocks, use sun screen, stay away from rattles snakes, use bug spray, be aware of flash floods, be extra careful and don't get lost.

CLIMATE & WEATHER - It can be hot during the day and cold at night, it could rain.

CLOTHING - Appropriate for this time of the year.

OTHER REMARKS - All club members and there guests are welcome to join us. Come for the day or camp out with us. Bring food, lots of water, a camera and lots of firewood for the campfire at night. If you need a motel or supplies they are available in Blythe. Don't forget we will have a potluck on Thanksgiving, so bring a dish to share and your own place setting. Each night after dark we will have a campfire where we can all join together and have a good time roasting marshmallows, telling jokes or just talking about the good OLD times. I should be arriving at the campsite around 11 a.m. on Wed. the 26th. Each day we will be leaving the camp around 8 a.m. and drive to the collecting areas. You must observe the AFMS code of ethics and sign a consent and assumption of risk waiver of liability form. Hope to see you there.

For additional information Email me at RUROCKY2@aol.com or call me at (909) 845-3051

Wiley's's Well District Field Trip

February 2 - 6, 2004

Hosted by Contra Costa M&G Soc.

by Dick Pankey, Field Trip Chair CFMS South

The Wiley's's Well District is southwest of Blythe and is one of the most popular collecting areas on the

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Colorado Desert. Although this has been a productive area for many years, it still offers an amazing variety of material. We will collect at 5 main sites; 1 site each day. This is my sixth field trip to this interesting and productive area. Besides the more noted collecting areas, we will also be exploring other areas.

Directions to campgrounds: Exit Interstate 10 at Wiley's Well Rd. which is approximately 10 miles west of Blythe and 31 miles east of Desert Center. Follow Wiley's Well Rd. south for 12.5 miles to campsite on west side of road at the Riverside/Imperial Co. line. Watch for **ORANGE PAPER PLATES** to camp. Roads to campgrounds and collecting sites are typical desert roads. OK for motorhomes and trailers to campgrounds. OK for cars to most collecting areas. This is a dry camping area: no services, no hook-ups. This is the Mule Mtn. LTVA.

Collecting Trips: All trips will leave at 8:00 AM, SHARP, from the campgrounds. Assemble at 7:45 for details and instructions for each day's trip.

Sunday, Feb. 1 Arrive at camp.

Monday, Feb. 2 AM-- Hauser Beds for geodes, sizes of lemons to cantaloupes. Digging tools -- shovels, picks, gads, etc. PM-- Explore the Corn Field for corn colored, crystal lined amygdules.

Tuesday, Feb. 3 AM-- Hidden Saddle beds and a "New" geode bed for geodes PM-- "New" agate area.

Wednesday, Feb. 4 AM-- Potato Patch for egg-size geodes. Digging tools -- shovels, picks, gads, etc. PM-- Explore the Big Windy for botryoidal psilomelane, geodes, agate and nodules.

Thursday, Feb. 5 AM -- Straw Bed for geodes, sizes of lemons to cantaloupes. Digging tools -- shovels, picks, gads, etc. PM -- South of Camp on Milpitas Wash Rd. for psilomelane.

Friday, Feb. 6 To be determined

Plan on several potluck dinners, the first on Monday evening, and daily

happy hours. Bring firewood for evening campfires. We plan on having a good time and collecting some good geodes and good material. Come join us for a great rockhound time of collecting, fun and fellowship.

Please notify me by 1/8/04 if you plan to attend. Call or email me if you have questions or need more information:

Dick Pankey
Field Trip Chairman
4310 Kingsly Dr.
Pittsburg, CA 94565
(925) 439-7509

General Information

- This trip will coordinate well with a trip to Quartzsite. **[Check map and info on page 8 for the CRA Quartzsite Trip]** The QIA Pow Wow is 1/28 to 2/1, Desert Garden is 1/1 to 2/28, Main Event is 1/16 to 2/28 and Tyson Wells is 1/2 to 11 and 1/16 to 1/25.
- There is a dump station at the Rest Stop at the Wiley's Well exit off of I-10; however, there is no potable water. Blythe has a free dump station and good water 2 blocks south of I-10 at the Lovkin Ave. exit. Blythe is a good place to get food, supplies, ice and gasoline. It is approximately 25 miles from Blythe to the campsite.
- There are numerous good motels in Blythe with a wide range of rates.
- The closest town to the campsite is Palo Verde, approximately 16 miles through Coon Hollow and over the Mule Mtns. There is a convenience store (food, etc.), gasoline, a couple of restaurants and a rock shop in Palo Verde. Road OK for trucks but not for cars.
- We will monitor CB channel 14 at camp for arrivals and other

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information and CB channel 4 when caravanning to collecting sites.

- We are planning for nice weather - warm sunny days; cool, clear, star filled nights. But remember it can rain this time of year so be prepared and plan ahead.
- Blythe is approximately 650 miles from San Francisco and 137 miles from Los Angeles.
- Opal Hill fire agate mine is about 3 miles from camp. This is a fee dig area for fire agate and micromount crystals including apatite, barite, calcite, fluorite and gypsum. Tools needed are hammers, gads, regular and star chisels, eye protection, stiff bristle brush, etc.
- Carry your lunch and water when going to collecting sites. We will not come back to camp during the day.
- Help with the entertainment at happy hours and campfires: bring along an instrument if you play one; bring a song, a story or joke to share.

Notes from our members --

Hi Phyllis,

Enclosed is my check for \$5.00 (best bargain in town) for the best bulletin in town! My best regards to you and the gang.

Jack Benedict



HOSPITALITY CORNER

Emmeline Ellis, Chairperson

Betty Schneider will be having surgery on November 21st at Pomerado Hospital in Poway. She will be in the hospital for 2-3 days. This surgery is NOT related to the fall she took last month when she broke some ribs. They have all healed quite well.

MEMBERSHIP

Phyllis Mahoney and Gary Draper,
Chairpersons



If you have not paid your 2004 dues than you will have a green dot on the outside of this Tektite. This dot means you will not be receiving this publication in your mailbox ever again unless you pay your dues and the penalty. *Adiós, au revoir, auf wiedersehen, arrivederci, adeus.*

PROGRAM

Bob Cadman,

The "Program" this month is our Annual Holiday Party. We will be setting up at 6:00 PM and the eating will commence promptly at 6:30 PM if everyone was there at 6:00 PM to help setup the room.

We will be entertained again this year by Kit the Harpist and his lovely wife. Maybe they should become honorary rockhounds?



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Dinner will be followed by the raffle, door prizes and whatever else we may want to do.

The Club will be providing two hams, beverages and the tableware. We are asking that you, the membership, provide a Potluck dish, quantity sufficient for eight persons.

- A to F brings Salads
 - G to L brings Desserts
 - M to O brings appetizers or Rolls with spreads (butter, margarine, etc.)
 - P to Z Hot vegetables
- There will be a \$5.00 per person charge for all non-members at the Holiday party.

Louise Robson
Bob Plunkett
Bobbie Plunkett

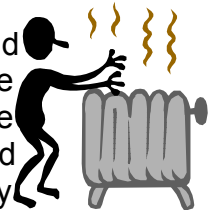
01/25
01/28
01/28

FROM CFMS

SAFETY - HOME HEATING

By Chuck McKie, CFMS Safety Chairman - 2003

Winter is coming and we need to take heed of the dangers this entail, because I want you all to be hale and hearty for the holiday season ahead of us and for you to be healthy and safe for our field trips next year. Here are some tips from the American Red Cross.



Inspect Fireplaces

Have your chimney inspected by a professional prior to the start of every heating season. Creosote, a chemical substance that forms when wood burns, builds up in chimneys and can cause a chimney fire if the chimney is not properly cleaned. Always protect your family and home by using a sturdy screen when burning fires. Remember to burn only wood - never burn paper or pine boughs, which can float out of the chimney and ignite a neighboring home. Never use flammable liquids in a fireplace. If you are purchasing a factory-built fireplace, select one listed by a testing laboratory, and have it installed according to local codes.

Watch Your Wood Stoves.

Be sure your wood or coal stove bears the label of a recognized testing laboratory and meets local fire codes. Follow the manufacturers' recommendations for proper use and maintenance. Chimney connections and chimney flues should be inspected at the

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR DECEMBER & JANUARY CELEBRANTS



Lynda Lohmann	12/04
Gary Clark	12/06
Josephine Vogt	12/20
Helen Steele	12/20
Ann Ludlam	12/21
Lynne Cadman	12/22
Larry Wolfe	12/23
Jo Wolfe	12/24
James Daily	12/26
Burt Rees	12/26
Roland Barnaby	12/29
Robert Bryne	12/29
Phyllis Mahoney	12/31
Gary Draper	01/04
Glenna Colbert	01/07
Basie Garcia	01/09
Lily Lintvedt	01/18
Reba Selby	01/18
Claire Draper	01/19
Jim Sugg	01/19
Jack Mahoney	01/20

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beginning of each heating season and cleaned if necessary.

Follow the same safety rules for wood stoves as you would for space heaters. Burn only wood, and be sure the wood stove is placed on an approved stove board to protect the floor from heat and hot coals. Be sure to check with your local fire department and check the local codes before having your wood stove installed.

Be Cautious With Portable and Space Heaters.

Place space heaters at least three feet away from anything combustible, including wallpaper, bedding, clothing, pets, and people. Never leave space heaters operating when you are not in the room or when you go to bed. Don't leave children or pets unattended with space heaters and be sure everyone knows that

drying wet mittens or other clothing over space heaters is a fire hazard.

Cook with Care.

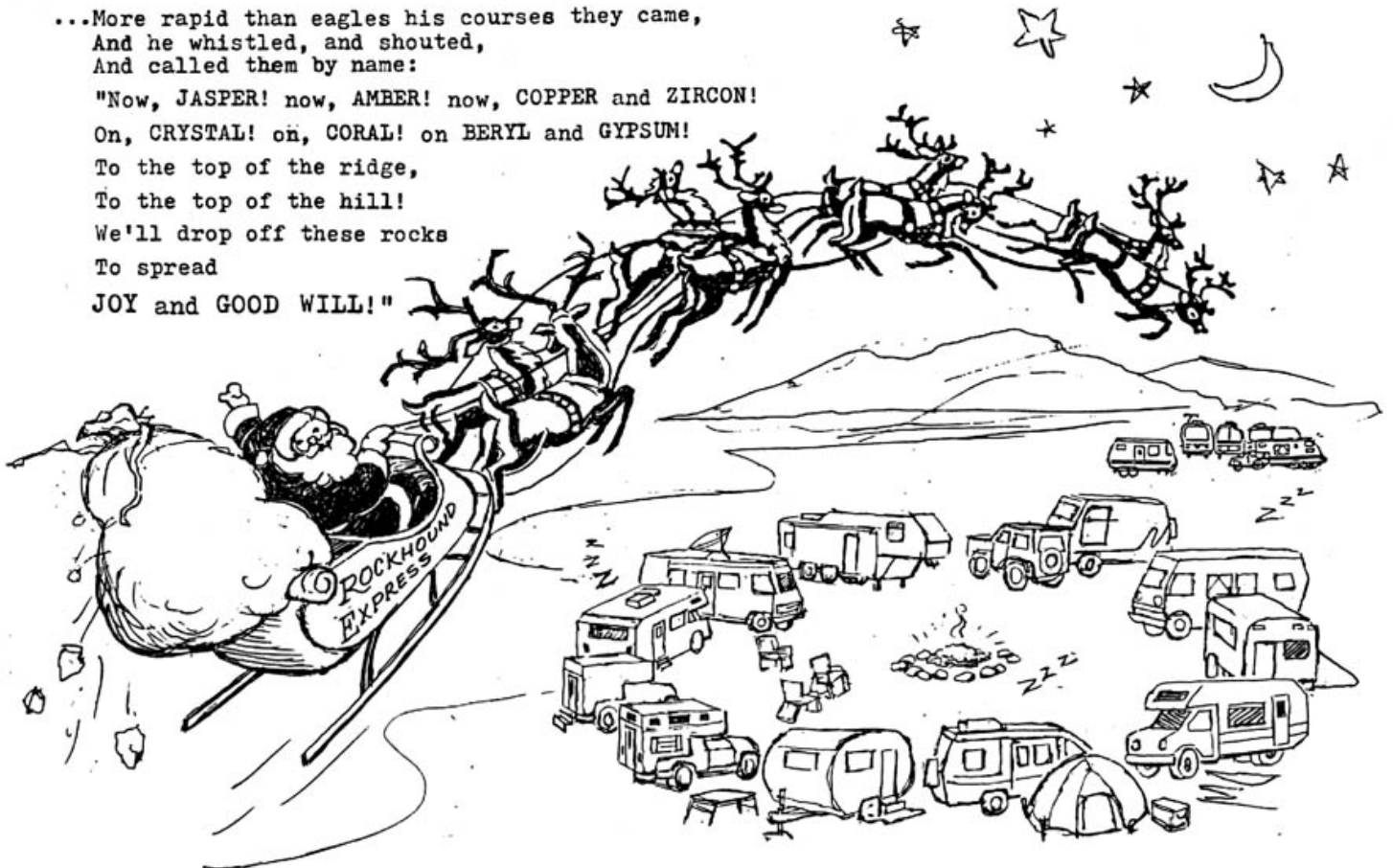
When cooking, do not wear loose fitting clothing, which can be ignited by hot burners. Always turn pot handles in. Don't store items on the stove top, they could catch fire. Keep kitchen appliances clean and in good condition, and turn them off after use. Don't overload electrical outlets and don't use appliances with frayed or cracked wires.

Prepare a Winter Storm Plan.

Have extra blankets on hand, and ensure that each member of your household has a warm coat, gloves or mittens, hat and water-resistant boots. Stay tuned for storm warnings by listening to NOAA Weather Radio and your local radio and television stations for up-dated storm information.

Dolores Wheeler you always Spread Joy

...More rapid than eagles his courses they came,
And he whistled, and shouted,
And called them by name:
"Now, JASPER! now, AMBER! now, COPPER and ZIRCON!
On, CRYSTAL! on, CORAL! on BERYL and GYPSUM!
To the top of the ridge,
To the top of the hill!
We'll drop off these rocks
To spread
JOY and GOOD WILL!"



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and Goodwill" with your monthly art contributions. Here's hoping that you and all our readers have a very Blessed Thanksgiving.

We are all planning to "Return to Quartzsite" again this year even if for some of us, it is only in our dreams.

Return to Quartzsite...

There's that same old bumper sticker
That I saw two years ago,
Saying, "Where the heck is Quartzsite?"
But it's out of date, I know.

'Cause each rockhound in existence
That is worthy of the name,
Has surely been to Quartzsite,
So great is Quartzsite's fame!

More than Mecca is to Moslems,
More than Moscow is to reds.
Most rockhounds think it's heaven,
But it's hell to some instead.

Each year I swear I'll never
Come back to sell, but then
I'm writing this in Quartzsite; —
I've reserved next year again!

Just what's this big attraction
That does cast so great a spell?
It's the WONDERFUL CRAZY PEOPLE
Who meet here to "Show and Tell"!

(by Jack Terwilliger 1982)



Quartzsite 2004

Wagonmistress: Our own Ann Ludlam with Bob and Virginia Bryne
as Assistants. She will be arriving at the campsite on Jan 15
(Watch out she's on the road again!)

Who: CRA members and friends

When: January 15 to February 1, 2004

Where: Same as last year (see map at bottom of page)

Why: Fun, friends, food and fabulous bargains

What to bring: WATER (dry camp)

WOOD (area has already been stripped)

DISH TO SHARE enough for 6-8 (for POTLUCK on
Saturday Jan 31st)

LOTS and LOTS OF MONEY

Questions???: Call Ann 858 278-0409 or alludlam@aol.com

