

# Little Gems

The moment when the light is magic. Coming from Bullhead sun illuminating the Black Mountains In January 2009

Volume 2 Issue 2

February 2009

## Message from the President

Hi "**GEMSTONERS**" :

Since Nan and I became members of the Gemstoners, just a few short years ago, the membership, through the enthusiasm of the members has doubled. For the Club this is great! For the officers and the newsletter editor, along with the committee chairpersons it means a little extra work on their part to keep activities fun and interesting. One thing I have found through the years is that the best way to get to know the people in the club when you first join, is to get involved in the operation of the club. The committee heads always need people and of course the annual gem show takes a lot of members to make it run smooth. Having said all that. I have to remind everyone that we need a secretary. It's not that hard, but some computer skill would be helpful.

If you missed the January meeting, you missed a really great program. This month will be another great program. The Arizona Mines and Mineral Museum will be presenting a program that promotes the museum and its activities. As of now we are having programming scheduled through April.

Our Field Trip Committee has been working overtime finding and setting up field trips. We have been doing at least two trips a month. As the weather warms up, and hopefully the gas prices stay some what level we will be adding more trips.

The Geology Series will continue at the library every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the next general meeting.

President "C" Russell

## February 2009

Board Meeting - February 3rd  
Kingman Library 6:00 PM

Regular Meeting  
February 10th  
Katherine Heindenreich Senior Center  
1776 Airway Ave., Kingman, AZ  
6:30 CATCH UP AND CHAT  
7:00 PM Meeting

### Special Guest Speaker

Dave Zimmerman  
Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum



### Welcome New Members

*Fred & Dorothy Bunge*

*Les Nelson*

*Bob Pedersen*

*Ed, Aleta, Harmony-Marie Huskinson*

*Ed Smith*

*Cheri Hommel*

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## 🌀 Club Information 🌀

The Mohave County Gemstoners' Club is a member of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) and associated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

The purpose of the Mohave County Gemstoners is to:

1. Stimulate interest in Mineralogy and Lapidary Arts
2. Stimulate individual's interest in cutting and displaying of minerals, fossils and gemstones.
3. Stimulate interest in Stonecutting, carving and setting of fine gems and jewelry.
4. Stimulate interest in other areas, such as faceting, jewelry design, jewelry fabrication and metalsmithing of jewelry.

The Gemstoners meet the second Tuesday of each month at Kathryn Heidenreich Senior Center, 1776 Airway Ave., Kingman, AZ at 7:00 PM. In March, June, September and December there is a potluck dinner that starts at 6:30 PM.

Fiscal year for memberships runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> thru December 31<sup>st</sup>. Dues are \$15.00 per person, \$20.00 per couple and \$25.00 for family (residing in the same home). Family sponsored Junior Membership cost is \$8.00. Annual dues are payable on January 1 and are delinquent after the February meeting. Remit payment to Membership Chairman.

Name badges will be required for all members at a cost of \$8.00 for pin type and \$9.00 for the magnetic type each.

*Little Gems* is published monthly. It is available online at [www.gemstoners.org](http://www.gemstoners.org) Submissions are requested to be to the editors by the 15th of each month, preferably by email :

Donna @ [brisnoon@hotmail.com](mailto:brisnoon@hotmail.com) or @928-263-1480. *Little Gems* is also published via email - if you have internet, please share your address with the editors. This saves the club money (just under \$1.00 per issue per membership) and you will have the newsletter immediately and be able to view it in color. The Newsletter is in PDF format so it will be necessary to download AdobeReader (free program) in order to view the newsletter.

## 🌀 2009 Club Leadership 🌀

Elected Officers:

President - "C" Russell (928) 846-0927  
 Vice President - Pete Hansen (928) 565-4321  
 Secretary - Open  
 Treasurer - Dave Sims (928) 692-3797  
 Sergeant At Arms - John Smith  
 Board of Directors:  
 One-Year Position: George Tirpak  
 Two-Year Position: Leonard Deutsch  
 Three-Year Position: Laraine Smith

Club Committee Chairpersons

Academic Advisor - Rick Vromen  
 By-Laws - Nan Russell  
 Newsletter Editor - Donna Robinson  
 Education - Open  
 Field Trips - Gary Gann  
 Greeters/Hostess - Open  
 Historian - BJ Johnson  
 Jr. Leader - Laurel Nelson  
 Membership - Nan Russell  
 Program Director - Open  
 Publicity - Open  
 Photographer - Open  
 Refreshments - Mary Gann  
 Show Chairman 2009 - Nan Russell  
 Scholarship / Donations - Open  
 Social Director/Special Events - Suzie Green  
 Sunshine - Open  
 50/50 - Open  
 Ways and Means - Open  
 Telephone - John and Laraine Smith  
 Webmaster - Leonard Deutsch



Stay up to date, check often

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

Mailing Address:

Mohave County Gemstoners  
 P.O. Box 3992  
 Kingman, AZ 86402



## Minutes of the Mohave County Gemstoners' Meeting

January 13, 2009

2008 President Pete Hansen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Treasurer, Dave Sims was unable to attend this evening and Secretary, Glenda Erwin, has found it necessary to resign due to family needs.

Pete introduced the remaining 2009 Officers and Board Members and a brief swearing in ceremony was performed by Laurel Nelson. Each officer and member was read a description of their position from the Bylaws and asked if they would accept the responsibility of that position.

The new, 2009 President, "C" Russell read a story to the Board Members. The moral of the story was letting them know they are working on behalf of the membership and they don't have to accept the sole opinion of the officers. Just do what works best for the club.

The next item, that was very much anticipated, was the introduction of Marty Colbaugh from Kingman's own and the world's largest producer of turquoise. His presentation was informative and enjoyable. Marty contributed 3 large specimens of turquoise for a drawing later in the evening. Telling family stories, bits of history and a look into the future, everyone appreciated his visit.

Nan Russell, Show Chairman, requested volunteers for the upcoming show in April. Most important at this time is for someone to volunteer to go out and get businesses in the area to contribute

raffle prizes, advertising needs to be done, and floor people are needed at the show involving security. Setup and tear down volunteers are also needed.

In February, a Power Point presentation will be about the Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum by Dave Zimmerman.

March will be Ed Huskinson, a well known area geologist, has agreed to give a talk.

FW Mooney gave a brief talk about the importance of supporting P. L. P. , Public Lands for the People, Inc., and an upcoming raffle that will help fund the fight to protect our rights on public land.

The turquoise specimens and they were good sized chunks were won by Jim Jewett, Shirley Darga, and George Matcham. The 50/50 raffle was won by Bill Darga, \$36.00 and Laraine Smith, \$25.00. The other 50% goes into the club kitty.

The meeting was adjourned @8:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted  
Acting Secretary  
Donna Robinson



### Life Members

Ben and Eiko Bosserman  
Betty Bush  
Mildred Page  
Lucilla Thompson

# The Art of Collecting

By Donna Robinson & Leonard Deutsch

Some collectors are purist. I envy their ability to scientifically identify, categorize and display in a very orderly manner. I will never have their talent but I can't let that stop me from enjoying samples of this good earth's beauty. No matter how chaotic my display might seem to be. I am happy and enjoy!

Definitions from: <http://www.mineralauctions.com/sizes.html>

**YARD ROCK**– Is a sample that may take 1 or 2 men or crane to load into the truck.



**For the more serious collector below is the definition for correctly categorized specimens**

**THUMBNAIL: 1 ¼ in., 3.1 cm: (TN)** fits in a 1 ¼ inch square "Perky box" (invented by Willard Perkins to hold small rocks)

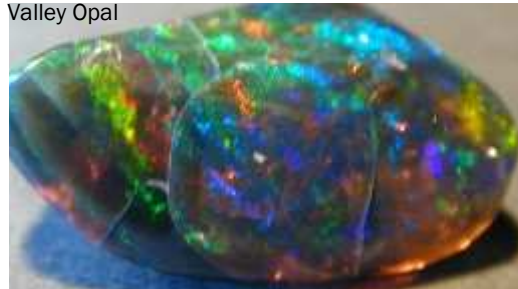


Emerald  
Plateau State, Nigeria



**SMALL CABINET: 3 ¾ inches,** in between Miniature and Cabinet...you can hold it in your palm

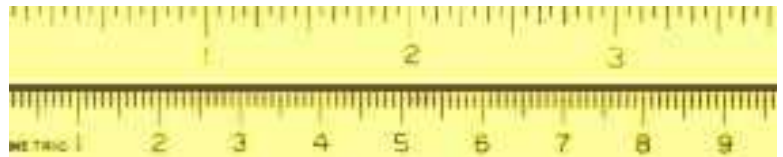
Virgin Valley Opal



**TOENAIL: 1 ½ in., 4.0 cm :** (TOE) a new division in Tucson show judging - basically they are just barely too big to squeeze in a thumbnail box



Monazite-Madagascar

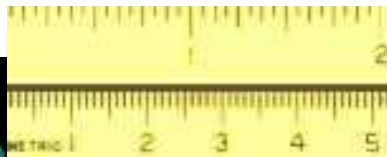


Wulfenite - Mapimi, Mexico



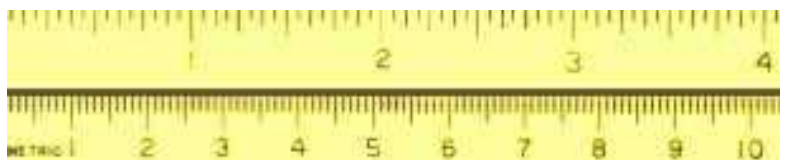
**MINIATURE:**

**2 in., 5.0 cm: (Min)** simply a rock that can be squeezed into a 2-inch square box



Chrysocolla ps Azurite -  
Live Oak, Miami, Arizona

**CABINET: A hand-sized specimen larger than 4 inches (10 cm ) in a dimension**



## Tucson Gem Show History

The Show That Started It All Back in 1955.

The legendary Tucson Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase has grown from a "club show" to a major show for collectors and enthusiasts from around the country and the world. Showcased here are the best gems, minerals, jewelry, lapidary and publication dealers from across the US. Also displayed are items from private collections and renowned museums worldwide, including the Smithsonian Institution and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History.



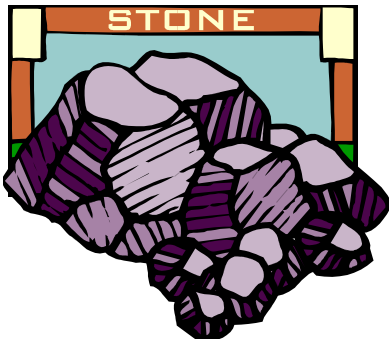
It all started in 1955 when a group of mineral collectors and rock hounds from the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society held a free exhibition at a local elementary school, open to the public. This show was an immediate hit, prompting organizers to make it an annual event. The following year, the show was moved to a Quonset hut at the Pima County Fair and Rodeo Grounds on South Sixth Avenue, where it stayed until 1972. The show eventually moved to the Tucson Convention Center Arena, where it is still hosted by Tucson Gem & Mineral Society volunteers.



The most important factors in building the show's early reputation were the variety and quality of the specimens on display. The show is known for bringing in prominent gem, mineral and fossil displays from major museums. Each year, a mineral or group of minerals is designated as the show's theme mineral. In the recent past, the show has highlighted minerals from Asia, Africa and China.



As a result of the interest generated by the original show, satellite shows have proliferated all over the city. These shows cater to the interests of the growing number of people coming to town. Today, one of the fastest-growing segments of the Tucson shows is beads - first-time visitors to a bead show will be dazzled by the array available here. Together, the original show and the satellite shows make up the Showcase - one of the largest and most popular events in the gem and mineral world, attracting an estimated 55,000 people to Tucson in a two-week period. This crowd fills hotel rooms, rental cars and airline seats many months in advance.



## A Stone for Every Profession

For laundresses, the Soapstone.

For architects, the Cornerstone.

For cooks, the Puddingstone.

For politicians, the Blarney stone.

For borrowers, the Touchstone.

For policemen, the Paving stone.

For stockholders, the Curbstone.

For burglars, the Keystone.

For tourists, the Yellowstone.

For beauties, the Peachstone.

For motorists, the Milestone.

For editors, the Grindstone.

For seamstresses, the Ironstone.

For surgeons, the Gallstone.

For miners, the Lodestone.

For icemen, the Hailstone

Via San Diego G&M, Slabs & Cabs 2/95, and The Southwest Gem 5/95



Hellgate Breezes, 8/00  
via Beehive Buzzer 5/01 & others

## The other Leaverite

By Jack Hommel

We've all had those moments when a particular stone caused us consternation about "dare I or daren't I" take it home.

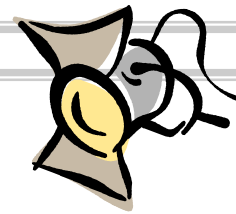
What about those magnificent stones that are many orders of magnitude too big? Then the rock-hounding becomes sightseeing and the storing away of cherished, awe struck memories. It's tough to admit you can't possibly take it home with you, so it must be relegated to the leaverite category. You can take photos, or stare at it until it's burned into your memory, but it has to stay put.

One of those occasions happened to us in Arizona's high east side. I was walking ditches, looking for petrified wood and having some small successes and patting myself on the back for having done so. My darling wife called to me, indicating another piece "right over there". When I went to look, I was astounded to see a LOG! I don't mean just a large piece, but an item 2 1/2 to 3 feet in diameter and about 7 feet long. I can't even rent a truck capable of carrying that thing, much less lifting and loading it! That's leaverite even as I weep telling about it.

On another outing, I found an area of big, weird, wonderful & colorful sandstone hoodoos. All were of a quality and conformation to do any rock-hound's yard proud. I *wanted* 'em! The problem? They were all still firmly attached to terra firma and inaccessible by vehicle and once again, far too large to move. Now, I get plumb pouty when I can't have my way when I'm grubbin' rocks and it *just ain't fair* that I have to pay attention to logic!

I hate to admit it's leaverite almost as much as I hate to admit being wrong, but once again, I had to **leaverite there!** DANGIT!!





## IN THE SPOTLIGHT Leonard Deutsch



My adventure in rocks and minerals started when my father went to Las Vegas in the early 1950's. He brought back a few minerals for me. One was rose quartz and the other one he said was silver. The silver one was a rock covered in aluminum foil. I was about 6 years old then and did not know better. Soon I was collecting near my house in Monterey Park, California. I met a few neighbors up the street that belonged to the local club, Montebello Rock and Mineral Society. I started to go to the meetings and started to learn about how to identify them. When I was in the 6th grade, I was allowed to attend the Geology class at the East Los Angeles Junior College, and went with them on their field trips collecting fossils and minerals close to home. Some of the localities I collected in were Pala, Tick Canyon, Palos Verdes, Boron. I continued to collect and go to the meetings for a number of years. After starting college, East Los Angeles Junior College and California State University at Los Angeles, I was too busy to continue rock hunting.

I started teaching in 1966 and used my minerals in the areas of science. I would put out some that would fluoresce and some that were radioactive. We played hide-and-seek with the Geiger counter to find the rock hidden in the room.

I got married in 1966 and celebrated my 43 anniversary last week. My wife and I would hunt with some friends a few times throughout the years. My friend would collect insects and I would collect minerals.



A lapse in my collecting then occurred for more than 10 years. Moving from California, to Nevada and then here to Kingman. I had moving boxes full of rocks that the movers had tumbled and mixed up. Since retiring, I started to think about those boxes and last year I made it my goal to fix them up. I was fortunate to talk to Art Smith at MCCC and he told me about Ed Huskinson. He and Bob Pedersen and Jerry Baird of the Lake Havasu club helped me to identify a lot of minerals again. I still have about 200 of the 500 thumbnails that need to be identified.

My wife and I joined the Gemstoners' club just last year and we enjoy it very much.

Editors note: Leonard has been an valuable asset to the Gemstoners since joining and has helped in many ways. He took it upon himself in December to work at getting the website [www.gemstoners.org](http://www.gemstoners.org) up and running. No experience just lots of fortitude. Visit the site often for Field Trip updates, read the current or past issue "Little Gems" or just staying informed with Special Notices.



## Amethyst

February Birthstone

By  
Carolyn Andrews



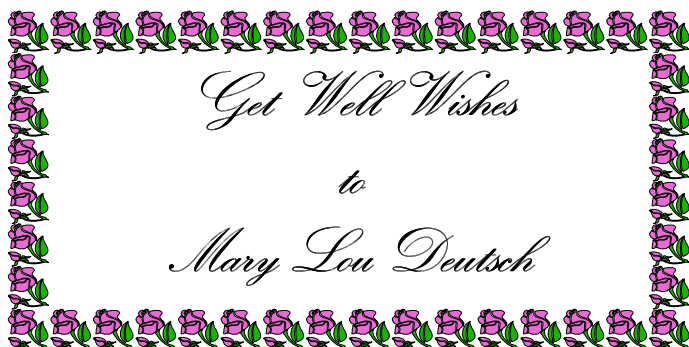
In the United States Amethyst can be found in North Carolina, Arizona, Pikes Peak Colorado, Virginia, and New Hampshire. Producing Gem quality purplish violet. Outside of the U. S. gem quality producing countries ,with reddish purple being the rarest, Siberia, Brazil & Uruguay.

Ancient Greeks thought this silicon dioxide (dichroic gemstone) prevented intoxication.

Among the most valuable of all the quartz types it is prized for its purplish-violet color. It was considered a special stone to be worn by royalty, high dignitaries of the church and powerful people. Generations ago the finest dark reddish-purple stones were mined in Siberia. This was quite different from the violet color of many other types of fine amethyst. True Siberian is actually red. When faceting amethyst there can be two distinct hues, both visible in a variety of intensities.

In Minneapolis a small museum called the Walker Art Center has an astonishing collection on exhibit of the Siberian Amethyst. This little museum is owned by T. B. Walker who made his wealth in the lumber business and price was no object when purchasing fine gems and art for his museum.

Amethyst is also used for carvings and in meditation for Charka healing.



## The Mystical Side of Stone



**Arizona Lizard Stone:** This stone occurs in colors ranging from light to dark green. It promotes healing on all levels, allowing the body to reject the cause of the disease. Disorders of the skin and bloating are assisted by Arizona Lizard Stone. It alleviates headaches and provides emotional stability. Energy blockages which may lead to poor circulation can be removed through the use of this stone.

Arizona Lizard Stone generates hope in desperate situations. It supports changes of lifestyle and behavior but also encourages an appreciation of heritage and commonalities.

### The Colors of Jasper and Health

**Brown Jasper:** works slowly to remove ailments caused by pollution and toxins

**Green Jasper:** affects ailments of the upper torso, digestive tract, and cleansing organs

**Red Jasper:** battles diseases of the blood and liver, brings problems to light before they threaten

**Yellow Jasper:** benefits the endocrine glands and cleansing organs, gives strength and health

Source:<http://www.angelfire.com/de/poetry/Gemstones/jasper.html>

*Note: Wikieup, AZ Lizard Stone seems to be more sandstone in nature than the usual jasper smooth that one would expect. Maybe this is a question for some of our more knowledgeable members.*





**FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES - MCG**



**Sign in is 15 minutes before departure.**

- Leader will state approximately how far, road conditions, and if 4WD is required when each member signs in.
- Each vehicle is to keep the one behind in sight and STOP if the car or truck is not visible (unless otherwise stated by the leader).
- Always notify the leader if you are hiking or driving to another site and your approximate return time. Participants must notify the leader if they are leaving the group and not planning to return and sign out (with time) and return the radio.
- Members are requested to wear name badges.
- Handheld radios: stay on Channel 3

**Field Trip Schedule**

**February 21st Saturday**

Where: near Wikieup  
 Collecting: Lizard Stone  
 Meet: Basha's  
 Time: 8:00 AM  
 Vehicle 4WD recommended  
 Bring: Pick, Sledge, Pry bar, Collection Bag, Chairs, Lunch and Beverages  
 Return: Early Afternoon  
 Distance: 106 round trip



**February 28th Saturday**

Where: near Oatman  
 Collecting: Squiggly Jasper  
 Meet: Power House  
 Time: 9:00 AM  
 Vehicle 4WD recommended  
 Bring: Pick, Sledge, Pry bar, Collection Bag, Chairs, Lunch and Beverages  
 Return: Early Afternoon  
 Distance: 50 round trip

New Field Trip Meeting Planned to re-assess

**March 21 Saturday**

~~Camping Trip  
 Hauser Geode Beds  
 Near Blythe CA  
 cancelled camping is \$40.00 per night thru  
 April 15th~~

**March 29th Sunday**

Alamo Road  
 Fluorescent Geodes



**KINGMAN LIBRARY  
DVD SERIES 6:15  
3RD WEDNESDAY**



**SHOWS**



**Wednesday**

**February 18 at 6:30 pm**

Hawaiian Islands and Yellowstone Park  
Soils and the Clay Minerals  
Climate and the type of Soils

**Wednesday**

**March 18 at 6:30 PM**

Streams—The Major Agent of Erosion  
Sculpting of the Landscape  
Stream Erosion in Arid Regions

**Wednesday,**

**April 15 at 6:30 pm**

Ice Sculpts the Final Scene  
Groundwater  
The Production of Groundwater

**QUARTZSITE**

January 30 - February 8, 2009

**Tyson Wells Arts & Crafts  
Tucson, AZ**

One end of town to the other  
visit

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

Or

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

City wide Gem, Mineral and Fossil shows. They are too numerous to list. Some exhibitions are dealer only, others are public.

**Wickenburg**

February 13-15, 2009

**Gold Rush Days  
Annual Gem & Mineral  
Show Sale**

Wickenburg Community  
Center, 160 N. Valentine,  
Wickenburg, AZ

Website:

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

Hours: Fri., Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4

Admission and parking: Free

Dealers Contact:

Chamber of Commerce,  
John Creighton, 928-684-5061



**FOR SALE  
OR  
TRADE**

Free ad for gem/rock/mineral  
related items for members

**Shop Tips**

**Workbench Ache?**

**4 Easy Fixes**

**Are you reaching a lot?**

1. Bring your tools closer.

**Are you stooping over?**

2. Lower your chair or raise  
your table.

**Do you get a stiff neck?**

3. Adjust the back of your seat.

**Do you get up and down a lot?**

4. Find a way to bring more  
tools closer, perhaps with an-  
other table or a shelf.

*Update!*

**PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE**  
PLP  
501C3 Non-Profit - Multiple Use

PLP continues to intervene on your behalf  
to keep public lands open. We are an all volunteer organization.  
Every bit helps. Donations are tax deductible!

**NEW FUNDRAISING RAFFLE  
TO BE HELD JUNE 18, 2009  
PRIZES**

	Approx. Value
160-acre wet claim (donated by Western Mining Claims)	\$7,500.00
Keene 4" dredge, model #4400ph (donated by Keene Engineering)	\$3,000.00
Goldmaster GMT Detector (donated by Whites Electronics)	\$795.95
\$250 gift certificate (donated by Armadillo Mining Supply)	\$250.00
Underwater Dredging-Yuba River print (donated by John Agrella)	\$250.00
Deluxe Blue Bowl Kit (donated by Pioneer Mining Supplies)	\$225.00
Custom gold earrings (donated by Natural Gold Jewelry)	\$185.00
GPAA Buzzard Special + clean-up kit (donated by GPAA)	\$150.00
Dri-Wash-n-Guard Detailing Kit (donated by Barry & Gina Wetherby)	\$130.00
HystWare Mines and Mineral V1.0 (donated by Gary Hiestand)	\$99.95
Nugget Hunting Essentials, Vols 1&2 (donated by Arizona Outback)	\$60.00

Public Lands for the People has been working tirelessly for 18 years with land managers, politicians and other user groups to ensure that you can access public lands where and when you want. This is your fight whether you like it or not. Doesn't it make sense to join with others who are taking their time to protect your opportunities? Doesn't it make sense to equip those who are fighting for you with the resources needed for them to have a chance at success? Doesn't it make sense for you to invest \$35 in the Public Lands for the People?

*Yes, it really does!*

**FOR TICKETS:**

Contact Jim Lewis via email at  
[Goldcado1@aol.com](mailto:Goldcado1@aol.com) or phone  
(805) 485-7513. Tickets are  
\$1 each, or 12 for \$10.

PLP has a **NO COMPROMISE**  
philosophy regarding your rights!

**PLP, 7194 Conejo Dr., San  
Bernardino, CA 92404.**

**(909) 889-3039**

**[www.plp2.org](http://www.plp2.org)**

# February 2009

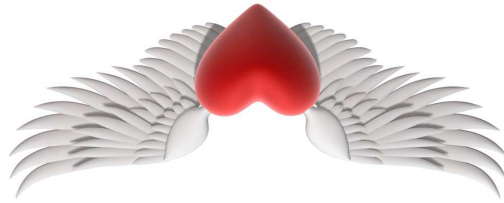
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 	3 Board Meeting @ Library 6:00 PM	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Regular meeting 7:00 PM	11	12 	13	
15	16 Presidents Day	17	18 Library DVD Series 6:15 PM	19	20	21 Wikieup Lizardstone
22 	23	24	25	26	27	28 Oatman Squiggly Jasper

# March 2009

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

1	2	3 Board Meeting @ Library 6:00 PM	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Regular meeting 7:00 PM	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 	18 Library DVD Series 6:15 PM	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

An organization dedicated to the social activities, education, sharing of information about and just plain fun of looking for special "gifts" of beauty abounding on our planet.



## Little Gems

Mohave County  
Gemstoners  
Editor  
PO Box 3992  
Kingman, AZ 86402

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

