



Federation of Southern African Gem and Mineralogical Societies

Federasie van Suider-Afrikaanse Siersteen en Mineralogiese Verenigings

Newsletter 3 / 2013

FOSAGAMS 2014 Namibian Tour

Proposal for August 2014 (final dates to follow)

Distance to be covered 6000-6500 km

Cost of fuel will largely depends on the type of vehicle you drive. You can work this out for yourselves. 10% more should be added for any additional km travelled.

Rosh Pinah	Mine visit	Purchase specimens
Picture Stone Quarry	Cutting material	Self collect
Karabib and Usakos Area	Specimens and Cutting material	Collect and purchase
Uis		Purchase and collect
Gobabasib		Purchase specimens and possibility of collecting
Grootberg	Zeolites	Purchase and collect
Omaue	Dioptase and mine visit	Purchase specimens

We are still negotiating further venues and will advise you of any possible further outings at a later date.

To make the trip manageable we prefer no more than 10 vehicles max 20 people and no less than 7 vehicles minimum 14 people.

Basic camping accommodation will be arranged at each stop over. Different accommodation when available are required, must be arranged by yourselves. There will be however, be times when you want an upgrade. This can be requested on arrival at the camp.

All other costs such as camping fees, food, drinks, fuel etc will be for your own account.

Only paid-up members who belong to a club affiliated to FOSAGAMS will be allowed on this tour.

For further inquiries contact Malcolm Jackson at vicepresident@fosagams.co.za

Open Day at Rob Smith

The annual Open Day was held at Rob Smith's house / shop. All of us gathered to socialize and talk what we love: minerals, crystals, and semi-precious stones.

The popularity of this event is increasing. According to Rob Smith approximately 1500 attended. A 'mineral-crystals-semi-precious' rush was held- an exciting event created by Rob.

An auction was held. R5410,00 was collected. All proceeds went to the Southern African Gems and Minerals. Thanks to Roarke Lessing (Crystal Radio) for acting as auctioneer. Interesting to note was the youngsters' (primary school level) participation in the auction. There were 15 stalls. Articles related to the hobby were sold. A number of the South African Lapidary Magazine also sold well.

The diamond raffle was won by Laura McFarlane, a 12 year old girl.

Rob donated R1000,00 towards FOSAGAMS. R500,00 was paid into the Southern African Gems and Minerals account and the other R500,00 into the FOSAGAMS' account. Many thanks to Rob for this donation and also for his loyalty towards FOSAGAMS over many years.

Visit by Bill and Connie Hevron from New Mexico, USA

Some time ago I received an email from Bill Hevron forwarded by Bruce Cairncross. Bill is a lapidarist and will be visiting Pretoria. After a few emails it also appeared that Bill and his wife will be visiting Cape Town as well. I forwarded his emails to Malcolm Jackson who immediately took interest in Bill's visit.

The members of the Cape Town Club entertained Bill and Connie. Malcolm took them to see Graham Harrison and Henri Schram where Bill traded and bought some material. Malcolm also took them to the shark cage diving.

Bill and Connie then came to Pretoria where they were entertained at Wolf Windisch's house. The art of micro mounting was shown. Swapping of material also took place.

Read more of this visit in the 45/2 issue of the Southern African Gems and Minerals.

Southern African Gems and Minerals

1. We have received the latest Southern African Gems and Minerals and this was distributed.

Please take note that the closing date for the crossword puzzle competition is July 15 2013 (a leaflet has been included into each magazine). The first correct entry drawn, wins R200,00. If there is no winner, the winner at the next competition will get R400,00.

All payments to be deposited into the Nedbank account no 1908 232 439, branch no 190805, Account holder's name: South African Lapidary Magazine. Email your payment to Ray Biram at biram@worldonline.co.za. All payments to be done per FET.

2. Resignation of the editor

David Minster, the editor, resigned from the magazine citing personal reasons. FOSAGAMS wants to thank him for his contribution to the first edition of the newly named magazine. We wish him well.

3. Appointment of the new editor

Sharon Waddington, secretary of Witwatersrand Gem and Mineral Club agreed to be the new editor. FOSAGAMS wishes her well and know that she will be producing some very interesting articles. Sharon can be contacted at editor@fosagams.co.za / 0829234794.

Regards

Linda Stone
President FOSAGAMS