



ROCKY TALES

The Official Publication of the Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society

Sept. Volume 53, Issue 8

Meeting September 2, 2026

Location: Yacht Club at 631 London Bridge Road

5:30 pm Sign in

6:00 pm Meeting Starts

The Lake Havasu Gem and Mineral Society meets the first Wednesday of each month from Sept. through May at the Yacht Club facility at 631 London Bridge Road in Lake Havasu City. Fiscal Year: February 1 – January 31.

Name badges are required for all members. One time or replacement badge cost is \$20.00

Annual membership dues are payable on:

**Due January 1 for all members who joined before July, 2024.
(due Jan. 1 and delinquent after February meeting)**

**Due month of membership for all members who joined after
July 2024. (due the first day of the month of join month and
delinquent after the next month's meeting)**

Single membership cost is \$20.00 and Junior membership cost is \$10.00

Payment should be remitted to:

Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society ATTN: Membership

PO Box 990

Lake Havasu City AZ 86405

The Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society is a member of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) and associated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

Havasus Rocks Shop Rate Update

To ensure the long-term sustainability of Havasu Rocks and to keep our lapidary equipment operating at its best, the Board has approved adjustments to the shop fee structure. These changes reflect the increasing costs of oil, maintenance, and equipment upkeep, while continuing to encourage membership and provide affordable access for those who enjoy spending time in the shop.

Effective immediately, the following rates will apply:

Member Rates

- \$5 per hour (one-hour minimum)
- New **Day Rate**: \$20 for unlimited shop use during regular operating hours

Non-Member Rates

- \$10 per hour
- New **Day Rate**: \$40 for unlimited shop use during regular operating hours

Safety Course

- The safety course fee remains **\$15**
- Participants who complete the safety course and become members receive complimentary shop access for the remainder of that day

Membership

- Annual membership dues remain just **\$20 per year**

Volunteer Benefits

- Members can earn complimentary shop time through volunteer service, helping support the Society while enjoying additional access to our lapidary facilities.

LHGMS General Membership Meeting Minutes

May 6th, 2026 / 6:00 PM /Yacht Club-631 London Bridge Rd.

Officers Present

Elley Ringo-President

Josh Bagwell-Vice President/Sgt. At Arms

Tara Houde-Society Secretary

Michele Trumbull-Treasurer

Meeting called to order by Elley Ringo at 6:00 PM

Notes

1. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes are available at Havasu Rocks, and they're also sent out in the Rocky Tales email.
 - a. Minutes from the previous meeting are approved.
2. Elley Ringo-President's Report:
 - a. We are working on a new digital Membership application and a way to pay electronically.
3. Havasu Rock Shop/Lapidary Shop Report:

- a. Havasu Rocks store is doing well.
 - b. The lapidary shop is doing well.
 - c. Kelsey is doing a great job!
 - d. We are getting a new saw for the Lapidary Shop.
 - e. Volunteers are desperately needed at Havasu Rocks and in the Lapidary Shop.
 - f. We are hoping to keep Havasu Rocks open, but shop hours may vary during the summer. Call the shop or look on our webpage for current hours.
 - g. We are rewarding volunteers with free Lapidary Shop time!
 - h. New shop prices: \$5.00/hr for Members, \$10.00/hr for Non-Members, \$20.00/day for Members, \$40.00/day for Non-Members. Rock cutting fee starts at \$10.00.
 - i. We will be doing training for new volunteers.
 - j. Vendor fees at Havasu Rocks will roll over after summer.
4. Membership Update-Rose Mann: We now have 298 Members.
5. Michele- Treasurer's Report: We had a loss this month due to the cost of our picnic. The Treasurer's report was approved.
6. Watched an educational video on Fluorite.7. Rockhounding: Glitter Mountain near St.George, Utah. Date TBD, either the beginning of September or in October.
- a. We are looking for suggestions for rockhounding field trips! We have a suggestion box located at Havasu Rocks.
8. The potluck picnic at London Bridge Park was enjoyed by all.
9. Airport field trip: Lot's of fun finding agates! New members showed up.
10. Talked about the importance of having volunteers so we can keep our doors open this summer.
11. Scholarships: Two scholarships will be given out Monday May 11th during the Evening of

Excellence at the High School.

12. 50/50: Bev Baker

13. Mystery box: Julie

14. Cab contest winner:

a. 1st Place: #3- Sandi

b. 2nd Place: #5- Bill Pepper

15. NO OUTSIDE DRINKS ALLOWED!

Steve Prather, Former President, has signed resignation papers as statutory agent for both the Society and Havasu Rocks and those have been paper-filed with the Corp Commission. A motion was made and approved to appoint Elley Ringo, current President, as statutory agent.

Next meeting is September 2nd, 2026 at 6:00 PM, with a 5:30 PM social time at The Yacht Club

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM

Minutes taken by Society Secretary-Tara Houde

SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
President	Elley Ringo
Vice President	Josh Bagwell
Secretary	
Treasurer	Vacant
Sargent at Arms	Josh Bagwell
Executive Director	
Past President	Jason Upchurch
Havasus Rocks Director	Josh Bagwell
Havasus Rocks Assistant Director	Vacant
Lapidary Shop Director	Josh Bagwell

HAVASU ROCKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Stever Petrangelo
Lapidary Shop Director	Josh Bagwell
Havasus Rocks Director	Josh Bagwell
Assistant Havasus Rocks Director	Vacant

Schedule of Workshops and Events		
Check out our website to stay current with planned events at: https://lakehavasugms.com/events/		
Shop Safety Workshop	As needed and requested. Workshop is required in order to use Lapidary Shop.	This is our shop orientation, how to use equipment per manufacturer recommendations, and the safe use of equipment. Cost is \$15.
Annual Gem and Mineral Show	November 7/8	Windsor Beach

STANDING COMMITTEES	
Events	
Field Trips	Elley Ringo
Finance	Vacant
Gem Show	Elley Ringo
Hospitality	Judy Revilla
Havasus Rocks	Vacant
Lapidary Shop	Josh Bagwell
Membership	Rose Mann

Fall Is in the Air — and Rockhounding Season Is Here!

There's something about fall in Lake Havasu that feels like a fresh start.

The days slowly begin to cool, the desert starts calling us back outside, and rockhounds everywhere begin thinking about dusty roads, favorite collecting spots, and that wonderful question: "I wonder what we'll find today?"

After the long summer heat, fall means rockhounding season is finally beginning! Soon we'll be loading up our buckets, rock hammers, water bottles, hats, and probably far more gear than we actually need, and heading back into the desert in search of that next great find. Of course, half the fun isn't what ends up in the bucket—it's being outdoors, exploring new places, and sharing the adventure with friends.

Fall also means our Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society meetings are starting up again. It will be good to see familiar faces, welcome new members, share summer stories, admire everyone's latest projects and finds, and start planning another season of rockhounding, learning, creating, and having fun together.

But one of the best things about our club isn't actually the rocks.

It's the people.

We are a community made up of people with different backgrounds, talents, experiences, and interests, all brought together by a love of rocks, minerals, lapidary arts, and the desert around us. Some of us have decades of experience. Others are just learning the difference between jasper and agate. That's part of what makes our club special.

We teach each other. We share what we know. We volunteer. We lend a hand when someone needs one. We celebrate each other's beautiful creations—and occasionally admire a rather ordinary-looking rock that someone is absolutely convinced is something spectacular.

That's what community looks like.

As we begin this new season, let's remember to bring that spirit of friendship and generosity with us—into our meetings, our shop, our classes, and out on the desert trails.

There are plenty of rocks out there for all of us.

So dust off those buckets, find your rock hammer, check the air in the tires, and get ready.

The desert is calling, the rocks are waiting, and another wonderful season with our rockhounding family is about to begin.

Happy hunting!

--- Joyce McCluskey, Editor, Rocky Tales

Follow us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/HavaRockShop2017>

Website Administrator is Karen Sawyer

www.lakehavasugms.com



Rocky Tales Newsletter is published monthly from September – May and sporadically throughout the summer. Members are encouraged to submit articles for publication. The submission of news and articles deadline is the 3rd Friday of the month by email to:

Rocky Tales Editor: Joyce McCluskey at bigmamablue@gmail.com