



EARTHQUAKE

e-Newsletter about what's movin' and shakin' at the Earth Science Museum

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ESM Outreach Program Activities

By Shirley Cote, Harvey Jong and Ray Grant

On May 2nd, Lynne & Terry Dyer, Earth Science Museum outreach program volunteers and members of the Mineralogical Society of Arizona, set up a display of their rocks, minerals & fossils at the ASU Preparatory Academy Polytechnic Elementary School in Mesa. They provided students with information about rocks and minerals and their uses in everyday life.



Displays at ASU Polytechnic included lots of different samples, brochures and books Lynne Dyer photo



Lynne & Terry at ASU's Tempe campus for Earth and Space Exploration Day last Nov. Look for them again this Nov. S. Cote photo

As expected, with AIMS testing completed, and the school year coming to a close, ESM Outreach has received increased requests for classroom presentations. Schools participating in the program included Congress, Copper Canyon, Encanto, Harris, Kyrene de las Lomas and Ocotillo Elementary schools, along with Emmanuel Lutheran and St. Timothy schools.

This summer, Lynne Dyer will give presentations for the Mesa Public Library Summer Reading Program.

July 23 - Main library
July 24 - Dobson library
July 25 - Red Mountain library

(Please call the Mesa public library at 480-644-2207 for more information on these programs.)

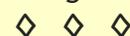
Lynne also has an ongoing program for Boy Scouts, and the ESM now provides Scout Leaders with a rock and mineral kit containing three sedimentary, three igneous, and three metamorphic rocks plus six minerals. This helps scouts meet their badge requirements.

Lynne Wheeler-Benker, ESM Outreach volunteer in the Prescott area, will also give library presentations this summer.

(For more information on programs at the Prescott library, please call 928-777-1500.)

Mardy Zimmermann, ESM VP of Education and Outreach Coordinator, is again collaborating with the Arizona Museum of Natural History, and will give two presentations at their summer camps for young children. These presentations will involve the egg carton program and an introduction to fluorescent minerals.

(Please call the Arizona Museum of Natural History at 480-644-2230 regarding these summer camps.)



Community Support

By Deanna Smith, AZ Leaverite Rock & Gem Society member and Safeway employee



B-row: Jay, Melissa, Gail, Denise, Alice and Daniella
F-row: Vicky, Colleen, Dana, Ann, Corinne, Sharon, Petra and Evelyn Deanna Smith photo

Safeway employees at our Phoenix accounting offices have been collecting egg cartons for the Arizona Leaverite Rock & Gem Society for about three years now. It all started when the Leaverite's ran out of egg cartons at the Flag Gem and Mineral Show, (held each January at Mesa Community College), on a Saturday and had to close early. It saddened me to hear about kids showing up on Sunday looking for the egg carton program, only to find it closed. So I put up a notice on the bulletin board at work, asking fellow employees to save egg cartons for the Leaverite's, explaining that they were used to help kids start an instant rock/mineral/fossil collection. And that each dollar collected for each egg carton sold, was then donated to the Earth Science Museum and helped support their educational outreach programs. So, their egg cartons would truly be a gift that kept on giving. With over a 1000 employees on campus, I figured I might get a few. Well, so far this year, we've collected close to 1500 egg cartons. They show up on top of the break room refrigerators, on my chair, or desk and sometimes I get an email from another department, asking me to swing by and pick up a stack.

MANY THANKS to Deanna and her fellow Safeway employees for stepping up and helping throughout the year, ensuring a plentiful supply of egg cartons for this very popular educational program.



Eager participants making their personal egg carton rock, mineral, fossil collection. S. Cote photo

Community Support Challenge

The ESM Outreach Program is planning to expand its educational offerings with new instructional materials that focus on the physical properties of minerals. A mineral hardness testing kit will be the first project in the expansion effort. This kit will provide samples that students can use to determine a mineral's relative hardness or "scratchability". Nine minerals from Moh's hardness scale along with a few common alternative testing items will be featured along with a study guide that explains the concept of hardness and its use in identifying minerals.

Development of the kit is off to a good start thanks to a recent donation by Russ Hart. Items that are still needed include:

- Samples of apatite, topaz and corundum
- Alternative test items, such as a 2" x 2" glass plate and a steel file or nail
- Box (4" x 5") for packaging the kit

If you can help, please contact Harvey Jong at harvey.jong@earthsciencemuseum.org.



President's Message

By Harvey Jong

This month marks the second year anniversary of the abrupt closure of the Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum (AMMM). The museum was a highly rated destination for earth science education and represented a key nexus point for lapidary, mineral, and prospecting clubs. Today, the old museum building remains empty providing a sad reminder of a once-thriving center of activity for learning and enjoying Arizona's rich mining and mineral heritage.



Closed Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum S. Cote photo

Just before the closure, a group of AMMM staff members and volunteers met and discussed the possibility of establishing a new, privately-funded museum dedicated to earth science education. A proposal for the Earth Science Museum (ESM) was the result of these meetings.

This plan outlined an ambitious timetable for developing the new museum in three phases over five years. Responses varied from critical skepticism to enthusiastic support. We moved forward with the first phase that focused on educational outreach. While these initial efforts have been very successful, we haven't been able to move as far or as fast with the second phase which involves transitioning to a physical facility.

Subsequently, the schedule for the grand opening of the ESM has been extended. This confirms that building a new museum involves a lot of time, talent, and hard work!

So, as our journey in museum building continues, I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who has been involved and contributed to the project from the very beginning, I hope we can count on your continued support in the future.

I would also like to issue a general call for help. We need you! There are several critical skill areas (marketing, fundraising, architecture, website development) that remain open, while there are many opportunities to contribute in expanding our outreach and membership activities.

All too often we see situations, such as with clubs, where a few individuals step up and do most of the work while others sit back and watch. For small scale projects, this arrangement can lead to successful outcomes. Building a new museum is not a small project. It won't happen by itself or with just the efforts of a few dedicated people. For this challenging, but worthwhile cause, one cannot sit on the sidelines and expect someone else to do the work. As recently demonstrated by the clean-up efforts at Russ Hart's property, things happen when we pull together and work towards a common goal!

HELP US BUILD THE EARTH SCIENCE MUSEUM!



Museum & exhibit possibilities sketch by Dave Fanger

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We're on the Web!

Visit us on  and at:
www.earthsciencemuseum.org

MANY THANKS TO OUR MAJOR DONORS!

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Russ Hart
Debbie Michalowski
Dennis & Georgia Zeutenhorst

Mission

Establish an innovative, world-class destination museum in the Phoenix area dedicated to inspiring all generations about earth sciences.

Vision

We envision a community where students and the general public have curiosity about, passion for, and understanding of the underlying principles of earth sciences.

Please join us at the next ESM board meeting
Wednesday, June 12, 2013, at the Burton Barr
Library in Phoenix at 6:30 p.m. Rm. B.

For more information about the ESM, how
to become a member or how to arrange
for a school visit go to:
www.earthsciencemuseum.org.

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