Quartzite Pow-Wow Field Trip, January 18-22, 2023

This is a Reminder/Update for the Searcher's Field Trip to the Quartzsite Pow-Wow this January. This is not a typical Searcher's Field Trip in that there are no scheduled rockhounding visits planned by the Searchers, but there are others planned by the Show and Quartzite clubs. This is a chance to join other Searcher friends attending the Quartzsite Pow-Wow between 1/18 thru 1/22. The PowWow is billed as "the oldest gem and mineral show in Arizona, featuring over 520 booth spaces. Vendors bring gems and mineral specimens from all over the world, which, in many cases, they have personally collected. Many of the vendors have attended for over forty consecutive years." You can use the links at the end to see more info. Margaret and I are planning to be on site at the Q-View RV Park (https://goo.gl/maps/ Px91pUT4tA4tygZf9) just north of the 10 Freeway (if we can still get a space) starting Wednesday Night, 1/18 and coming home Saturday 1/21. The owners say they are filling fast. The show continues after that if you wish to stay longer. If you have the grit, you can even make this a one-day trip! Use this email to contact me or text/call me at 909-264-1122 if you're planning to go and I'll let you know the latest. Our friend Russ usually camps in Scadden Wash, far away from the rock shows. It's nice and quiet and more spread out. There's even trees for privacy. The coordinates are 33.657210°, -114.150510°. It's about 6 miles from the campsite to the Pow Wow. There are many other fee-based RV parks in Quartzsite and many, MANY more free DRY camping sites on BLM land to the North, South and South East of the town. If you need help just enter "Camping" in Google Maps. There are literally thousands of RV's perched all over the desert in the area! As for hotel/motels, your best bet for those IMHO, is 25 miles west in Blythe, and there are several to choose from.

There are a few shows going on there in January. For a calendar, see:

<https://quartzsitetourism.com/events/>

An overview of each show can be found here:

<https://rvingwithrex.com/2022/12/17/quartzsite-heres-the-2023-qz-showschedule/>

DESERT GARDENS, 1/1/2023 thru 2/28/2023, is primarily raw rock specimens and where you will see pallets and shipping cubes of beautiful stone from around the world. It is open to everyone, but many wholesalers will purchase large amounts of material for resale. Several of our keenest rockhounds have plans to be there on the first weekend! It may have the best selection of large specimens for carving, spheres and display yard stones.

TYSON WELLS ROCK AND GEM SHOW, 1/6/2023 thru 1/16/2023, is a typical Rock show with raw, cabbed, and finished material. There will even be a section with used equipment and rock-related items. POW WOW GEM AND MINERAL SHOW, 1/18 thru 1/22, is the oldest show in Quartzsite and, while the others are big, this one is the largest. There will be rocks of all kinds and finishes, less of a wholesale feel than Desert Gardens, but still plenty and usually good prices. FIELD TRIPS are a big part of the Quartzsite experience, and while the Searchers will not be sponsoring any, there's a list of the scheduled ones at: http://www.qiaarizona.org/PowwowField-Trip.html If you want to go, don't dawdle! Make plans now and let me know so we can get a meet-up or two during the trip. Bill Hogarth

**Directions to the Scadden Campsite:**

To get to a free camping spot in Scadden, get off the freeway at the Riggles exit and go south for .3 mile.  Turn left at the T intersection i.e., Dome Rock Rd and drive for 3.8 miles until the road ends at Mitchell Mine Rd.  Go south on MM Road for 1.4 miles, turning right at unmarked dirt road as shown on the map.  Follow dirt road for .3 miles to campsite.   33.65763033257018, -114.15116796996682    See instructions on map so you don't get lost.  The road is flat and ok for most RVs.

