



# The Polished Slab

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



April 2012

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUDS SINCE 1940

Volume 72 Issue 4

## Upcoming Events

Apr 17-22 Burro Creek

May 3 - Board Meeting

May 7 - General Meeting

Wire Wrapping - most Mondays except General Meeting night, 3 & 6 PM at the Shop.

Silversmithing - each Tuesday, 5 PM at the Shop

Beading - Usually 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 6 PM at the Shop.

Polymer Clay - Board Meeting Thursday, 2 PM at the Shop

See page 8 for more class information

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## President's Message

*from Sheri Johnson*

Dear Fellow Rockhounds,

As many of you know, we have permanently changed meeting locations. We are now at the Eagles Hall at 1601 E. Washington. The change was necessary because the Latin Studio moved to a location that was not conducive for our meetings. We have a few "bumps" to work out at the new location, but they are minor.

The Burro Creek camping trip is this month. There is more information here in the Slab if you are interested in attending. There will be camping and lots of rock to add to your collection! What more could you ask for?

In May, don't forget to attend the picnic on Saturday, May 19th, at Flamingo park. The Club is supplying hamburgers and hotdogs, please bring a side dish (that won't "melt" in the sun). The activities will include an egg hunt for the kids and a rock swap for the adults. Bring a few extra rocks to trade for other goodies!

Happy Easter and good hunting!

## Board Meeting Summary - March 29th 2012

On March 29, 2012, a Board of Directors meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 5:55 P.M., at the society's workshop on 3111 S. Valley View Blvd., #E125. In the absence of the president, the vice president Jack Toogood was in the chair. The secretary and all other members were present. A pledge of allegiance was given to the flag.

The minutes of the March board meeting were read and approved without correction.

The treasurer reported the standing balance.

The shop foreman reported the creation of a shop website, and average daily shop incomes.

**Old business:** A proposed September picnic was tabled for further discussion, and the Burro Creek in April is scheduled as planned.

**New business:** Due to the unexpected loss of the previous general meeting location, a new location was found, and all necessary paperwork signed.

### **Board Meeting Summary - con't.**

Obtaining meters for shop machinery was discussed.

John Stackhouse made a motion to appoint Lori Green to refreshments committee. The motion was seconded and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

## **General Meeting Summary - April 2nd 2012**

A general meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 6:09 P.M. on April 2, 2012, at 1601 E. Washington Ave. The president was in the chair, and the secretary was present. A pledge of allegiance was given to the flag.

The minutes of the March general meeting were read and approved without correction.

The treasurer reported for the month of March a negative net income.

Committee reports:

Membership reports 346 members.

Federation reports of both California and American federation shows scheduled in July.

Kids club reports of the family picnic in May, and activities with Brown Middle School.

Shop committee reports the creation of a shop website.

Sunshine committee reports members doing well.

Shop class instructors report of classes continuing as scheduled, with the addition of a new polymer clay class to be held May 3, 2:00-5:00 P.M.

The chair announced, as unfinished business, volunteers are needed for the Kid's club. The Burro Creek trip and family picnic in May are scheduled as planned.

After a recess, the chair announced, as new business, the new meeting hall was prompted by the loss of previous location. This new location has anticipated permanence, and some parking issues may see resolution. A field trip to Ely is planned from June 14-17. Members are urged to check e-mail settings to ensure receipt of bulletins and news flashes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00P.M., followed by a gold mining presentation and raffles.

## **SNGMS Recycles Aluminum Cans**

If you don't recycle your cans, consider bringing them into the SNGMS Shop and they will be recycled, with the resulting funds going to the club expenses and activities.



## SNGMS Shows Off!

SNGMS members handed out brochures, showed photos of club activities, and talked to potential members at two events recently. We had booths at the three day Sons of Erin St. Patrick's Day Festival in Henderson where we showed a display of rocks, minerals, polished stones, and crafts including faceted stones, and beaded, wire wrapped, and silversmithed jewelry. We had another booth at the Glass Craft & Bead Expo. Frank Auerswald will be handing out brochures at his booth at the Gilcrease Nature Sanctuary Arts & Crafts Fair later this month. If you are having a booth and would like to hand out SNGMS brochures contact a board member and we will be happy to supply some.

### The Rock & Mineral Display at St. Pat's Festival



Photos courtesy of Paula Lawlor

SNGMS Club Members' Booths at St. Pat's Festival. They talked up the club and the classes we offer, making many new friends.

## Looking For Donations or Loans of Nevada Rocks & Minerals

The SNGMS Shop has a showcase set aside for creation of a display to show off to our visitors and get them excited about the possibilities of rockhounding, lapidary, and associated crafts. We would like your donations or loans of rocks and minerals of Nevada. What seems to create the most interest and excitement is examples of rough, a slab, and a polished example of a rock. If you have any contributions contact a SNGMS Board Member and arrange to have your donation/loan secured in the shop display.



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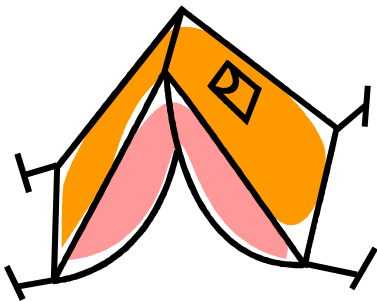


# Upcoming Events



**Burro Creek** - April 17 - 22. Burro Creek is located 60 miles northwest of Wickenburg on Highway 93. From Kingman, travel east 17 miles on Interstate 40, then south 53 miles on Highway 93. The recreation site turnoff is one mile south of Burro Creek Bridge. From the signed turnoff, continue 1.5 miles to the recreation site via the paved access road. SNGMS has an annual camp out at Burro Creek each spring. There is fun, fellowship, and some field trip opportunities in the area.

**Egg Hunt/Picnic** - May 19. The club will sponsor a family picnic that will include an egg hunt for the kids, a rock swap, and games for all ages. It will be held at Flamingo Park (Flamingo and Jones) from 11 AM - 2 PM and SNGMS will furnish hamburgers and hotdogs. Club members are asked to bring side dishes, remembering to avoid easily spoiled items due to the heat. A signup will be available at future meetings.



**Ely NV** area - June 14 - 17. An annual camp out near Ely NV is another SNGMS activity. This year it will be at the Illipah Recreation area and is scheduled for June 14 through 17th (Thursday through Sunday). Hotel accommodations are available in Ely if you don't like to camp. **Make your reservations NOW** - other activities in the area are filling the rooms quickly! Again the activities include field trips in the area. Illipah Reservoir Campground is located 40 miles west of Ely on US 50. It is a free BLM campground. Access to the camp is down a good 2 mile gravel road (signed from the highway). More detailed directions are: 37 miles west of Ely on U.S. Hwy 50, turn at the highway sign for Illipah Reservoir and continue 0.1 miles to a road junction, turn left and continue 1.3 miles to the campground. The road is 2WD accessible. Fishing is available, and there are several ghost towns and mining camps within a few miles of the campground.

## Brurro Creek Damsonite

Damsonite is a gemstone found only near Burro Creek and all known easily accessible deposits have been removed. This makes it a rare stone. It is a lovely purple color calcedony and was named after the Damson plum. It resembles lavender jade and is referred to as "the diamond of the desert."



Enjoying the April Meeting at the new site, the Eagles Hall.

Left - John & Lorrilee Stackhouse  
Right - Tony Fetcho, Secretary



Photos courtesy of Mary Brandt



## Kid's Club Activities

The combined Kid's Clubs met in March to start their work toward the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Merit Badge. They added to their rock and mineral collection and learned to identify some specimens.

For more information about the kid's program contact Mary Beth Paladino. Bring your kids to the activities; children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc. of members are all welcome to attend and their accompanying adult is welcome to stay for the event.



## Education Committee Activities

Mary Beth Paladino shared some thank you letters sent to the club by the McMillan school students who enjoyed her program.

A series of twice a week afterschool programs are being presented at Brown Middle School. Contact Mary Beth Paladino to participate. She needs both people with expertise in various areas, and people to just assist with the various activities.



Also enjoying the April Meeting Left - Peggy Sue Moore and Rimma Muth Right - David Parkes and Chuck Higley



Photos courtesy of Mary Brandt

# Come Early!

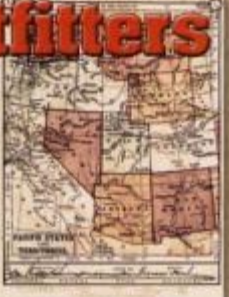
Be sure to come early on General Meeting nights, because between 5 and 6 PM many of our talented members exhibit their works for your admiration and possible purchase. Cabochons, beadwork, silversmithed and wire wrapped jewelry, rock slabs, unfinished stones, and more are usually available. It is a good time to chat with other members and catch up on their latest creations.



## Discounts Available

All the establishments featured in this section offer discounts to SNGMS members. Be sure to show your membership card when making a purchase, and say that the Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society sent you!

**Desert Outfitters**  
[www.desertoutfitters.com](http://www.desertoutfitters.com)  
 Metal Detectors • Topographical Maps  
 Prospecting & Rockhounding  
 Equipment & Supplies  
**Rick - Pat - Pete**  
 (702) **362-7177**  
 Fax (702) 362-2561  
 3340 W. Sirius Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89102



*Blue Diamond Nursery*  
**cactuscactus.com**  
**Tommy Lee**  
 12740 Blue Diamond Road  
 Las Vegas, NV 89161  
[cactustommy@gmail.com](mailto:cactustommy@gmail.com)  
**(702) 875-1968**  
 fax (702) 875-1913  
 BLOG: [www.cactusjoeslasvegas.com](http://www.cactusjoeslasvegas.com)



Website: [discountbeadsiv.com](http://discountbeadsiv.com)  
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 Open 7 Days, 10 to 6  
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**BEAD JUNGLE**  
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 Henderson, NV 89012  
**Sandra Murphy**  
[beads@beadjungle.com](mailto:beads@beadjungle.com)  
[www.beadjungle.com](http://www.beadjungle.com)  
 Open 7 Days 10AM-6PM  
 Tue/Wed/Thurs 10AM-8PM





**SNGMS 2012 Meetings**

Jan 05 Board	Jun 04 General
09 General	28 Board
Feb 02 Board	Jul 02 General
06 General	Aug 02 Board
Mar 01 Board	06 General
05 General	Sep 06 Board
29 Board	10 General
Apr 02 General	27 Board
May 03 Board	Oct 01 General
07 General	Nov 01 Board
31 Board	05 General

Board Meetings at Shop, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd. Bldg. E. Suite 125, General Meetings at Eagles Hall, 1601 E. Washington (Washington & Bruce)

**SNGMS General Meeting**

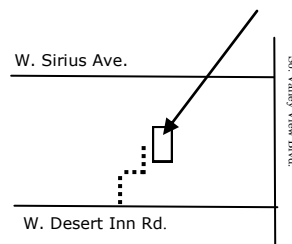
1st Monday of every month  
(2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) No meeting in December.

***Non-members welcome!***

Eagles Hall, 1601 E. Washington  
Las Vegas, NV (Washington & Bruce)

Show & Sell                      5-6 PM  
Meeting                              6-8 PM

**3111 So. Valley View Blvd, Building E Shop Suite 125**

**Finding the Shop Location**

Proceeding west on Desert Inn Road, take the first right past So. Valley View Blvd. into the industrial park area. Drive past the building on your right, then jog right, then left and you will be in front of Building E.



Photos courtesy of Mary Brandt

**Finding much gold John?**

Leon Pruet & John Miller

**SNGMS Candid Camera**

If you enjoy these casual photos of members help us to continue publishing them by submitting your photos to the editor - email to [lorrilee@cox.net](mailto:lorrilee@cox.net).

**Fixing Stuff**

Chuck Huebler & John Miller

# Classes, Classes, Classes!

Wire wrapping, led by Sue Moore and Sheila Tremmel, meets on most Mondays (except for the General Meeting night) at 3 PM and again at 6 PM. Classes are: Apr 9th - Diamond Shaped Bracelet, Apr 16th - Single Wire Pendant With Embellishments, Apr 23rd - S Turn Bezel for Any Shape Cabochon, and Apr 30th - Quiet Sounds of the Sea Mobile. Sign up with Sue Moore at 702-434-6072, or email her.

The beading projects for March are a beaded needle case and a bracelet. April 12th is the needle case, and April 26th is the bracelet. Class is 6 - 8 PM. Contact Pat Skeary at 702-459-2649 for more information.

Silversmithing meets every Tuesday at 5 PM. Bill Lemmon is leading the class. He is doing some project classes, or will help you, as needed, as you complete your own individual projects. No experience or equipment is required to come to the class. Come in and Bill will help you get started. The club will no longer be purchasing silver, so when the current stock is exhausted no more will be ordered. You can purchase silver through Rio Grande ([www.riogrande.com](http://www.riogrande.com)), Monsterslayer ([www.monsterslayer.com](http://www.monsterslayer.com)), or locally. The club has 'starter kits' of required tools that you can purchase, and there is a list of basic tools available from Rio Grande in the shop, if you prefer to purchase that way. Come to a class and they will be glad to tell you everything you need to know to get started.

A new class in polymer clay has started with a small group constructing a primitive cab and crystal pendant. The next class will be May 3rd 2- 5 PM, and we will be making a dragon pin or pendant. Contact Lorrilee Stackhouse at 702-631-5291 for more information.

Contact Peggy Sue Moore 434-6072, Frank Auerswald 365-8306, or John Stackhouse 631-5291 to arrange a time when one of them can help you with faceting. A class is currently meeting on Saturday afternoons with three students taught by Frank.

Tom Skeary taught a clock making class in November. Contact him to arrange to take his next class.

Chuck Huebler is offering a drop-in shop maintenance class on Saturday mornings. Come in at 10 AM and he will teach you about maintaining your lapidary equipment.

Wire wrapping, beading, polymer clay, and silversmithing classes have a very modest donation of \$5.00 per session, that goes to the club. Faceting is \$5.00 an hour, the cost of faceting machine use. Other class donations may vary, depending on what is included in the class.

## New Polymer Clay Class



### Messenger & Associates

Financial Management  
Solid State Physics Radiation Effects  
Semiconductor Devices

3111 Bel Air Drive, 7F Las Vegas, Nevada 89109  
Telephone 702-732-1311

George C. Messenger, Ph.D.  
Vice President and Technical Director

*gpmessenger@cox.net*



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# Shop Report

## SNGMS Workshop Schedule

Sunday	12 noon - 4 PM
Monday	Closed
Tuesday	12 noon - 5 PM
Wednesday	12 noon - 9 PM
Thursday*	12 noon - 9 PM
Friday	12 noon - 9 PM
Saturday	10 AM - 5 PM

\*Closed after 6 PM on the Thursday of the Board Meeting, and closed after 6 PM to saw usage on Beading Class Thursdays

Supervisors will close the shop if no one comes in after two hours. The next shift supervisor will then re-open the shop.

### Fees

Trim Saw \$3.00 per hour, all other equipment is \$5.00 per hour, after the first hour charges are pro-rated in 15 minute increments.

## Shop Talk

*from Chuck Huebler and John Stackhouse*

The new 14" saw has been purchased and installed in the shop! Come down and give it a try.

Remember to clean up any area or equipment you use at the SNGMS Shop. Don't leave a mess for someone else! A cleaning checklist will be posted in the shop by the Genies, please read and follow it.

We are asking for donation of paper towels and/or old towels and other rags appropriate for cleaning. Bring them to the shop or to the next meeting.

Check out the new shop website with up to date equipment status and shop hours as well as a class and activity schedule:

**[www.wix.com/sngmsshop/home](http://www.wix.com/sngmsshop/home)**

Supervisors will be glad to help anyone who is unfamiliar with the equipment to learn, and to get certified.



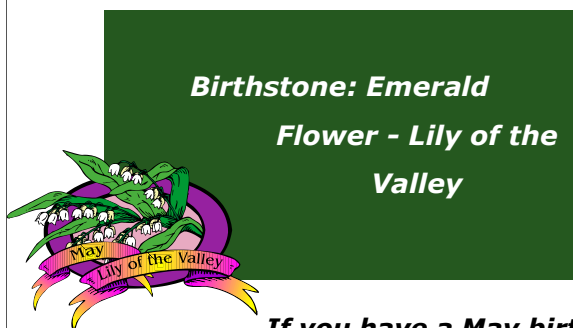
Photo courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse

## New Saw



# Come in and create something!





# Happy May Birthday!

***If you have a May birthday please bring something for the refreshment table at the May meeting***

Marjorie Ader, Wes Bryant, Pat Bunting, Harry Chandler, Sherri Cleveland, Jacqueline Daly, Linda Erwin, Bryan Forgione, Glenn Hale, Victor T Holmes, Charles Huebler, Michael Kisner, Scott Klepzig, Linda Lewis, Connor Murphy, Nelson Nishida, Paul Nuell, Paula Ross, David Seidner, Bret Whipple, Paige Whipple, Melanie Whitehead, Clyde H. Williams, and Eugene Zeigler

## Welcome New Members



***A hearty welcome to members who joined or rejoined SNGMS during late March and April. We look forward to getting to know you better!***

Patricia Grillett, Gary Lehman, Marisa Tiger, Raymond Vericillo, Rick Walters, Ward Wasson, Albert Yates, and Dennis Zollinger

## Sunshine Report *from Dottie Fusch*



*Please if you hear of any SNGMS member in need of a bit of sunshine due to accident, illness, death in the family or other need, call me—Dottie Fusch at 648-5886 (recorder on). Cards will be sent to let the member know that we care and wish them well.*

Mary McKinstry had another fall and is recuperating at home. Doris Currington has been having some health problems. Cathryn Chirstenson is having heart surgery. We wish them all a speedy recovery!

Please, **under no circumstances**, park in front of Unit 124 or Unit 126 (the units next to the Shop). The owners of the units come in at odd hours and need access to their parking spaces. There is ample parking across from the Shop that is not in front of any unit.

## 2012 Board of Directors

President.....	Sheri Johnson.....	702-525-0256 <i>sngms@yahoo.com</i>
Vice-President.....	Jack Toogood.....	702-642-4788 <i>sngms@yahoo.com</i>
Secretary.....	Tony Fetcho.....	<i>sngms_sec@yahoo.com</i>
Treasurer.....	Pat Skeary.....	702-459-2649 <i>sngms_treasurer@yahoo.com</i>
Parliamentarian.....	Frank Auerswald	
Three Year Board...	John Stackhouse	
Two Year Board.....	Tom Skeary	
One Year Board.....	Peggy Sue Moore Ernie Parrish	

## Committee Chairmen

Bulletin.....	Lorrilee Stackhouse.....	702-631-5291 <i>sngms_editor@yahoo.com</i>
ByLaws.....	Peggy Sue Moore	
Education.....	Mary Beth Paladino	
Federation.....	Jason Fabbi	
Alt. Federation.....	Sheri Johnson	<i>sngms_federation@yahoo.com</i>
Field Trip.....	Board of Directors	<i>sngms_fieldtrip@yahoo.com</i>
Financial Manager..	George Messenger	
General Shop .....	Chuck Huebler.....	702-686-4186
Foremen	John Stackhouse.....	702-239-0437
Historian.....	Jack Toogood	
Hospitality.....	Bob and Sue Lofaro	
Inventory.....	Ronald Fetcho	
Librarian.....	Danny Fesler and Kevin Ware	
Membership.....	Mary Brandt	<i>sngmsmembership@yahoo.com</i>
Program.....	Board of Directors	
Publicity.....	<i>vacant</i>	
Raffle.....	Tom Skeary	
50-50 Raffle.....	JoAnne Sprott	
Refreshments.....	Lori Green	
Rock Stars.....	Mary Beth Paladino.....	702-255-1647
Rock Hounds	<i>sngms_rockstars@yahoo.com</i>	
Sargent at Arms.....	Craig Tremmel	
Show Chairperson..	Board of Directors	
Sunshine.....	Dottie Fusch.....	702-648-5886
Webmaster.....	Jack Toogood.....	702-642-4788 <i>sngms_webmaster@yahoo.com</i>

Contact any Board member to volunteer for a position, or a Committee Chairman to offer to help on their committee.

## Upcoming Shows

**Apr 13 - 15 - Vista, CA**, San Diego County Council of Gem & Mineral Societies, Annual Tailgate; Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum. 2040 N. Santa Fe Avenue, Hours: 9 - 5 daily

**Apr 14 - 15 - Kingman, AZ**, Mojave County Gemstoners, Annual Rock & Gem Show, Kingman Academy of Learning High School Gym, 3420 N. Burbank Ave., Hours: Sat 9-5; Sun 9-4

**April 20 - 22 - Indio, CA**, Shadow Mountain Gem & Mineral Society, Coachella Valley Wild Bird Center, 46500 Van Buren Street, Hours: 9 - 5 daily

**April 21 - 22 - Thousand Oaks, CA**, Conejo Gem & Mineral Club, Borchard Park Community Center, 190 Reino Road (at Borchard Rd.), Hours: 10 - 5 daily

**April 28 - 29 - Lancaster, CA**, Antelope Gem & Mineral Society, Lancaster High School, 44701 - 32nd Street West, Hours: 9 - 5 daily

**May 5 - 6 - Anaheim, CA**, Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Brookhurst Community Center, 2271 W. Crescent Avenue, Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4:30

**July 13 - 15 - Riverside, CA**, CFMS Gold & Gem Show hosted by Valley Prospectors, Riverside Municipal Auditorium, 3485 Mission Inn Avenue Riverside, CA 92501, Hours Fri 10-5, Sat & Sun 10-4

These are only a sampling of shows that are fairly close to the Las Vegas area. There are rock clubs throughout the United States and the computer is your friend in finding information about clubs and shows. Just search for the area you are interested in and rock club and you should find plenty to keep you busy, wherever you are going.

Some links that you may find helpful are:  
California Federation - <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>,  
Rocky Mountain Federation - [http://www.rmfmts.org/rock\\_shows\\_by\\_date.htm](http://www.rmfmts.org/rock_shows_by_date.htm),  
and the Rock & Gem website - <http://rockngem.com/showdates/>

If you know of any shows or vendor opportunities that would be of interest to our readers please let the editor know!



## Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society

3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125

Las Vegas, NV 89102

### Return Service Requested



# Rocks-R-Us

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

The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit corporation, organized to educate ourselves and the community in the science and arts related to rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, and nature in general. Fostering an understanding and appreciation of the physical world, we can use it and protect it for future generations.

<b>Club Mascot:</b> Rock Wren  <b>Club Gemstone:</b> Turquoise  <b>Club Logo:</b> Rocks-R-Us  <b>Membership</b> is open to anyone with an interest in: Rocks, Gems, Geology, Fossils, Lapidary Arts or Silversmithing  <b>Annual Dues:</b> Individual - \$20; Family - \$30  <b>Meetings</b> are held the first Monday of the month at Eagles Hall, 1601 E. Washington. No meeting is held in December. Instead we have our annual awards dinner.  <b>Visitors</b> are always welcome and bring a friend or two.	Polished Slab Advertising Rates		
	Ad Size	Six Months	Yearly
	Business Card	\$18	\$30
	Quarter Page	\$48	\$90
	Half Page	\$90	\$170
	Full Page	\$150	\$275
SNGMS Web Page Ads and Links to your Web Page are available for additional fees.  First month is free to club members. Ads must be paid in full prior to publication. Make checks payable to Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society. Mail to : SNGMS/Attn: Editor, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125 Las Vegas, NV 89102			