

The Polished Slab

VOLUME 69, ISSUE # 11 A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940 NOVEMBER 2009

Here We Go, The Intergem Show (Again!)

Cashman Center, SE corner of
N. Las Vegas Blvd and Washington Rd
850 N. Las Vegas Blvd., 89101

Schedule

Thursday, Dec. 3rd Loading, 3PM-5:30PM. Meet at the shop at 3PM then proceed to Cashman to set up

Friday, Dec. 4th Noon to 6PM, 2 shifts, noon-3PM, 3-6PM

Saturday, Dec. 5th, 2 shifts, 10 AM-2 PM, 2-6PM

Sunday, Dec. 6th, 2 shifts, 11AM-5PM then, 5PM-6:30 teardown and back to the shop

We need volunteers for all jobs and both shifts each day. Jobs include sales of various items producing money for the club, roulette wheel, which is fun in itself, membership and education, demos (educational), loading and teardown! We also need people for the phone committee, showcase displays, roving helpers, gem bags and raffle.

This is a fun activity where you can shop, network and spend time getting to know new and old members and the public. We hope to see you there! For further information, call Sharon at 499-0272 or e-mail, sharonrr@cox.net. You should be contacted by a member of the phone committee but you certainly can call or e-mail to volunteer.

Thanx in advance,

Sharon

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

For those of you who claim you are not receiving the newsletter via email, please check to make sure that "wrapsodylasvegas@gmail.com" is in your contact list or email address book. Also, check your Junk Mail or Spam Folder. Some email programs recognize a mass email as spam or junk and delete it, so check your folders and make sure you are set up to receive email from wrapsodylasvegas@gmail.com. This should alleviate any further problems.

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GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 pm. Wes welcomed the new members and guests. The minutes of the October general meeting were read by Diane. The minutes stand approved as read. Clare Breneman suggested increasing the type size of the print in the newsletter. Sue Lofaro gave the Treasurer's report for October.

Sharon Rogow gave the Show and Federation report. The Intergem Show is in December. The free cards are ready to handout. She has the sign-up sheets to work the show. On November 14 & 15, there is a Trunk Show selling stone beads and cabochons. There is a Federation Show in California in December. See their website for details.

Sharon said the program for the evening is the annual Show, Tell & Sell.

Sue Moore gave the First Friday Report. Friday, November 6, setup is at 3 pm; sales start at 6 pm. There is limited parking due to ongoing construction.

Pat Skeary gave the Sunshine report. Chuck Huebler is out of the hospital and is present at the meeting. Mona Howell's mother passed away.

Mary Beth will be giving a presentation to Walter Bracken Magnet School for the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades. She thanked all who donated mineral specimens ...(cont'd page 2)

GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (cont'd)

for the presentation that she and Doris Currington will give. Larry Grillett gave the Shop report. Chuck Huebler has fixed all the saws.

Bill Lemmon talked about the upcoming field trip to Searchlight for jadeite, apache tears and geodes Saturday, November 14. Meet at the Railroad Pass Casino parking lot at 7am. You will need a high-clearance 2-wheel drive. Sign up sheet is at the front table. Reflective safety vests are available to wear during the trip.

OLD BUSINESS: The Ore Car Mine picnic is Saturday, November 7 at 1:00 pm. The barbeque trailer will be useable, and Larry Grillett has volunteered to cook. The Club will provide hamburgers and hot dogs. Bring your own tables, chairs, drinks, etc. The Mine is off North Lakeshore Drive. Turn away from the Lake at Milepost 16.

The Awards Banquet sign-up sheet will be at the front table. Items are still needed for the Chinese auction.

Cliff Jackson audited the Treasurer's books for 2008 and reported that they were unable to perform an audit.

NEW BUSINESS: Election of Officers. Wes said the floor was now open for nominations. The votes were tallied; the following is the new Board for the year 2010:

President	Teresa Nezgoda
Vice-President	John Zimmerman
Secretary	Sheri Johnson
Treasurer	Pat Skeary
One Year Board	Wes Bryant
One Year Board	Bob Lofaro
Two Year Board	Bill Moore
Three Year Board	Clare Breneman
Field Trip Chairman	Bill Lemmon

The Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. Raffle to follow.

Diane Burgess, Secretary

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Having felt frequently frustrated over the last five years or so about many worthwhile ideas and suggestions being dropped, ignored or rejected, we decided on the advice of an experienced past president to submit a letter to the editor. We are listing those ideas to air the issues for all members and in hopes that some or all of them might be strongly re-considered and/or implemented.

Newsletter: Promote more electronic delivery to save money, include an educational column and run by a committee of 3 to 5 members.

Meetings: Streamline, need parliamentarian, project agenda on screen, more time for program, eliminate pledge, limit reports, use refreshment time for networking, provide a suggestion box, encourage a minimum \$1.00 donation for refreshments.

First Friday: Get the music back and have food i.e. chips pretzels, hotdogs(!), cold and hot drinks.

Permanent Phone Committee; 10 members to keep the club members informed in general, for special events and for last minute info.

Shop: Dual chairmanship, one for all equipment and another for all administrative i.e. scheduling, supplies, condition, use of shop for additional activities, classes, written receipts for all money paid in and deposited in the lockbox in an envelope including the copy of the receipt at the end of each shift, upgrade and/or replace equipment and bring everything into compliance, OSHA, etc., review training several times a year for existing supervisors especially if new equipment is added or procedures are changed, maintain training program that we have in place for new people, put in a suggestion box, all procedures and activities with prior approval of the board and informing the general membership.

Field Trips: provide maps/directions to meeting place and site, give info on specific areas to find material, show samples of material at that site, have everyone sign in AND out so that no one will be left behind or will leave without notice, go in at least pairs (people and vehicles), use whistles, walkie-talkies, vests (we already have them, lets use them!), sign in/out for any items borrowed from the club.

Committees: Chair by committee and all to be composed of 3-5 members. (cont'd page 3)

Revise By-laws and Standing Rules, via a committee to include a varied cross section of the membership in order to update and include reasonable common sense guidelines for elections, full responsibilities of all board members, all officers, all committee chairs/members, remedies for replacing the above if anyone is not performing in an acceptable manner.

Election and eligibility: Federation recommended some of the following but they do not get involved in individual club business. Must be a member for 1 year, participation in club activities and volunteering, knowledge of Roberts Rules of Order and Club Governing Documents, put out qualifications of candidates before the election and before ballots are cast.

Communication; improve methods so that all members can be well informed, phone tree, web site, e-mail.

Beef up web site: news, events (ours and related outside), calendar, interactive ability.

Buying Committee: To assist, if needed, with purchasing for any club activity especially to attain advantageous pricing and quality items.

Expand the board to include chairs of the Newsletter (Slab), Shop General Foreman, Show and Federation chairs. This idea was presented by a past president of the SNGMS.

Financial: Make funds available to upgrade everything that needs upgrading over a reasonable period of time, increase budget for activities that bring in revenue, increase number of fundraising events, invest in the SNGMS, shop, shows, equipment, materials, activities and any revenue producing events, review safety of investment portfolio periodically due to the ever changing dynamic of the financial markets, resolve tax and insurance issues. An audit must be done once a year.

Handbook: expand to include general club information, i.e. meetings, events, Pebble Pups, shows, programs, shop, procedures and available classes/activities while retaining the present field trip info.

Joint Ventures: investigate and implement, when feasible, activities with UNLV, City of Las Vegas, Clark County, Springs Preserve, County Fair, Sons of Erin, etc.

Members are encouraged to attend board meetings!

Lets have fun, lets get educated, lets support education of the public, lets make a difference!

Sincerely,

Sharon Rogow

Bob and Sue Lofaro

OUR NEXT MEETING IS OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY/AWARDS BANQUET

December 13 at 1PM

at the Fraternal Order of Eagles located at 1601 E Washington Ave near the intersection of Washington & N. Bruce. This is a potluck dinner so plan to arrive at 1PM and dinner will be served at 1:30PM. You can check with Pat Skeary at 459-2649 & see what dishes she needs for the dinner.

NOVEMBER Board Meeting Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm. Members present were President Wes Bryant, Vice-President Tom Skeary, Treasurer Sue Lofaro, Secretary Diane Burgess, Board Members Jack Toogood, Frank Auerswald, Bill Moore and Bob Lofaro and Shop Foreman Larry Grillet. Minutes of the October meeting were read. Minutes stand approved as read. Cliff Jackson gave the audit report. The 2008 financials were not auditable. Cliff will audit the 2009 records. Sue passed out copies of the Treasurer's report for October. OLD BUSINESS: Ron Best said the barbeque trailer will be ready to use by the Ore Car Mine picnic. There was discussion to reward the volunteer members other than awards certificates. The Board decided to keep the awards certificates.

Larry reported that all the saws are working. Chuck Huebler is in the hospital. He has done much work in the Shop. Jack is still working on the new web page.

The Club purchased 25 neon safety vests for members to use on field trips. The Field Trip Chairman will be in charge of the vests. Frank purchased silver for the silversmithing classes. He needs other supplies and tools, and will do an inventory of current supplies.

NEW BUSINESS: Jack needs names of the volunteers in order to make the awards certificates for the Awards banquet. Sharon Rogow reported that there is a kiln for sale for \$350. Sue discussed the insurance needed for the Club. What is needed is liability for the Shop. Member policy is through the Federation. The special event liability is not needed. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

*LAS VEGAS ARTS DISTRICT
FIRST FRIDAY*

Next event is Friday December 4

- Demonstrators **must** contact Sue Moore
- Table space **must** be reserved.
- **If you arrive without a reservation, you must bring your own table.**
- Everyone is responsible to supply their own lighting.
- Set-up at 5PM.
- **Volunteers for set-up, club fundraisers, and greeters needed.**

Call Sue Moore, Chairman 348-9600

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NOVEMBER 2009

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CONDOLENCES

Sincere sympathy to Teresa Nezgoda on the death of her 19-year-old son Dexter who was killed in an auto accident on Friday Nov.13. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Catherine Baca | Andre Beardry |
| Leslie Dodge | Robert Dodge |
| Torrey Durrett | Pauline Eikel |
| Steven P.Gardner | Dolores Gardner |
| Grady McCraw | Cheryl Milne |
| Rimma Muth | Wayne Muth |
| Madeline Nelson | Clyde H. Rathbone |
| Haryko Rathbone | Frank Timbers |

Rich Werner



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Catherine Baca | Trey Barnhill |
| Paul Coroneos | Jennifer Cunningham |
| Maxwell DeHaven | Helen DiPoala |
| Barbara Ermocida | James Evans |
| Dolores Gardner | Diane Gawura |
| Larry Grillett | Jim Grothuesmann |
| Randy Huffine | Kenneth Johnson |
| Kevin Leonard | Eric March |
| Tom McClelland | Steven McNames |
| Peggy Sue Moore | Smitty Reeves |
| Charlotte Robinson | Jaen Rupprecht |
| Brigitte Schrader-Frith | Byron Scott |
| Dale Turnbull | Melody Whittemore |
| Terry Whittemore | |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM SINGMS!
 (If yours was missed we don't have it on file)

KIDS CLUB - Pebble Pups



No Kids club meeting for December...Kids can attend the Christmas Party/Awards Banquet
.....*Mary Beth Paladino*

If you'd like a reminder on this, contact Terry Beck at terrybeck69@yahoo.com



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WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

**LOCATION: 1025 South Main Street
(Use 1st Street Entrance)**

TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY 1 to 9PM

Contact Larry Grillett
656-0262

Equipment Use Rates

Genie	\$3 per hr.	Slab Saws	\$3 per hr.
Trim Saws	\$1 per hr.	Flat Lap	\$5 per hr.



CLASS SCHEDULE

CABOCHON CLASS - \$5.00 per class CLASS FEE TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE class limit 3

The class fee includes: Instruction, the use of the trim saw and one slab. Costs for use of a Genie and other equipment will be at the prevailing member rate of \$3.00 per hour and paid at the shop.

CONTACT: Wes Bryant 645-7553
For class information

SILVERSMITHING - \$5.00 per class TUESDAYS - 5:30 PM to 8 PM.

CONTACT: Jenna Plein @ 629-5467
For location and space availability.

WIRE WRAPPING - \$5.00 per class

CONTACT: Sue Moore @348-9600 or peggy_sue1@earthlink.net for class institution and registration.



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Want to try something new and fun? There is a word in one of the newsletter articles that doesn't fit...it will be VERY OBVIOUS!! Be the first peanut to email me and tell me the word and where you found it, and I will give you one of my wire wrapped pendants as a prize! The earliest email gets the prize! Email me at wrapsodylasvegas@gmail.com. Good luck everyone!! *Sandy*

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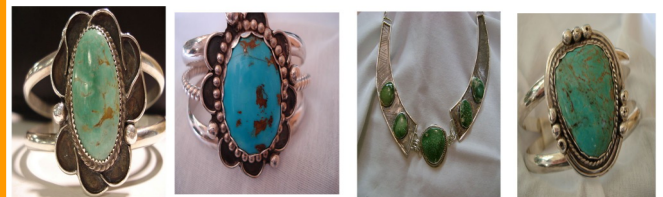
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2008 Officers - Board of Directors - Committee Chairpersons

<u>Elected Officer</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Elected Officer</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>
President	Wes Bryant	228-3331	Three Year Board	Bill Moore	348-9601
Vice President	Tom Skeary	459-2649	Two Year Board	Bob Lofaro	614-4351
Secretary	Diane Burgess	650-5285	One Year Board	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
Treasurer	Sue Lofaro	614-4351	One Year Board	Jack Toogood	642-4788
Field Trip Chair	Bill Lemmon	438-3363			

<u>Volunteer Chairpersons:</u>			<u>Volunteer Chairpersons:</u>		
Class Coordinator	Frank Auerswald	365-8306	Show Chairperson	Sharon Rogow	499-0272
Door Prizes	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Sunshine	Pat Skeary	459-2649
Federation Director	Sharon Rogow	499-0272	Webmaster/Liaison	Jack Toogood	642-4788
Financial Planner	George Messenger	733-6578	Zoo Display		
First Friday	Sue Moore	348-9600	Shop General Foreman	Larry Grillett	656-0262
Historians	Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek	876-3861	Shop Supervisor	Howard Abrams	644-6960
Hospitality	Jim & Carri Holmes	499-3869	Shop Supervisor	Kelly Barber	458-7852
Jewelry Makers	Sandy Cunningham & Mary	806-0816	Shop Supervisor	Wes Bryant	228-3331
Kids Club	Beth Paladino	255-1647	Shop Supervisor	Kristy Denton	293-0703
Membership	Sue Moore	348-9600	Shop Supervisor	Kathy Greco	458-7852
New Member Liaison	Tom Skeary	459-2649	Shop Supervisor	Larry Grillett	656-0262
Newsletter Editor	Sandy Cunningham	806-0816	Shop Supervisor	Sheri Johnson	525-0256
Parliamentarian/	Larry Grillett	656-0262	Shop Supervisor	Mike Kirk	433-4146
Sgt. At Arms			Shop Supervisor	Bob Lofaro	614-4351
Pebble Pups	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Shop Supervisor	Martin McClelland	752-7819
Program Directors	Sharon Rogow &	499-0272	Shop Supervisor	Teresa Nezgoda	885-4811
	Miriam McGowan	450-0090	Shop Supervisor	Sharon Rogow	499-0272
Publicity	Erica Hamilton	325-9877	Shop Supervisor	Tom Skeary	459-2649
Refreshments	Susan Dobson	564-2373	Shop Supervisor	John Zimmerman	756-8044

Any changes in workshop schedule—contact Larry Grillett 656-0262

SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIPS for 2009



FIELD TRIPS

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE PERSONS

- CLIFF JACKSON 292-7938
- MICHAEL KIRK 433-4146

Bill Lemmon has an upcoming field trip outside of Cedar City. Those interested should meet at the Valley of Fire at 6:00 am and will regroup at the Smith's Food King in Cedar City. Wes mentioned the field trip handbook and to take plenty of water. Contact Bill at 438-3363 for more information.

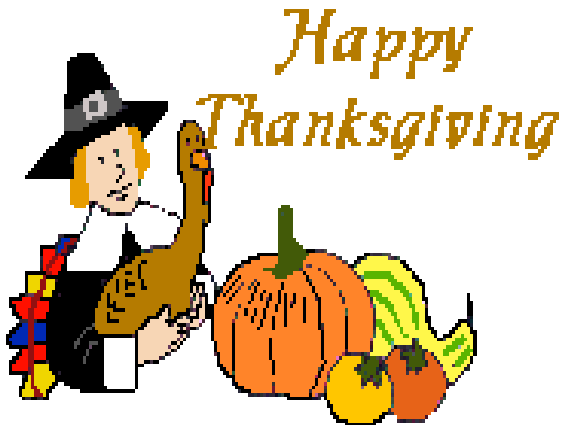
TRIPS START AT 8 a.m. — UNLESS EXCEPTIONS APPLY...IF IT HAS RAINED WITHIN 24 hrs. OR RAIN IS PREDICTED FOR THE DAY or WIND IS MORE THAN 25 mph....NO TRIP !!!!!

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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. We are incorporated for the purpose of promoting an interest in Geology, Gemology, the Lapidary arts and related fields. We began in Las Vegas in 1932, and became the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society in 2003 with the merger of the Las Vegas Gem Club and the Clark County Gem Collectors. The first Polished Slab was published in 1940 by Paul Mercer.

Club Mascot: Rock Wren

Club Gemstone: Turquoise Club Logo: Faceted stone Colors: Turquoise & Silver Club Motto: Rocks-R Us Membership is open to anyone with an interest in: Rocks, Gems, Geology, Lapidary, Beads, Fossils, or Silversmithing

Annual Dues - Individual: \$20.00 Family: \$30.00

Club Name Badges available at \$10.00 each.

Meetings: 6:00 PM the first Monday of the month at the Senior Center at 451 Bonanza just west of Las Vegas Blvd. Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada. 702-229-6454 for location info. No meeting is held in December - Annual awards dinner.

Visitors are always welcome - Bring a friend or two.

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society
P.O. Box 94744
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Website: www.sngms.com
 E-mail: sngms@live.com

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5.5" x 8" Half Page	\$90	\$170
11" x 8" Full Page	\$150	\$275

SNGMS Web Page Ads and Links to your own Web Page are available for additional fees. Contact Jack

First month free for club members. Ads must be paid prior to publication. Make checks payable to Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society. Mail to: SNGMS/attn: Editor P.O. Box 94744 Las Vegas, NV 89193

Sandy Cunningham, Editor

Email: wrapsodylasvegas@gmail.com