



THE POLISHED SLAB

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



December 2020

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUDS SINCE 1940

Volume 80 Issue 12

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 10th - Board Mtg
- Dec 28th - Board Mtg
- Jan 4th - General Mtg
- Jan 28th - Board Mtg
- Feb 1st - General Mtg

See page 8 for details on scheduled classes and instructor contact information

SNGMS Contact :
 sngms2013@gmail.com
 sngmsnews@gmail.com
 www.snvngms.org



To all SNGMS Members:

Happy Holiday Season to all our members and friends.

Hello, fellow rockhounds!

I am your new SNGMS president, Lloyd Chayette. All new 2021 officers were sworn in at the board meeting which was held last Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020 at the shop. The annual awards banquet was canceled due to the current COVID-19 safety precautions. All money paid for the dinner will be refunded by our treasurer, Gary Webb, to the members. We will be having the Chinese auction, instead of the raffle, at the next couple of general meetings.

As far as we know, the rock show in Quartzsite, AZ is still happening. If we hear otherwise, we will let you know. Other events coming up are the parking lot sale in Henderson in March and hopefully, the Spring Jamboree in Boulder City in May.

I hope I can be as good a president as Peggy Sue and all presidents before her. I am sure that with the help of our new board members and all the great people in this club, we will have a wonderful 2021.

Have a safe and happy holiday!!

**Lloyd Chayette, President,
 SNGMS, December 2020**

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Field Trips & Events

Awards Banquet: Sun, Dec 13th **(Cancelled)**

Quartzsite, AZ: Jan 20th-24th 2021

Outings Being Considered (Dates to Be Finalized):

Wickenburg, AZ: Sat, Feb 13th 2021

Parking Lot Sale: Sat, Mar 6th 2021

Rosies, AZ: Sat, Mar 13th 2021

Bitter Spring, NV: Sat, April 10th 2021

Spring Jamboree, May 1st-2nd 2021

Lund, NV: Sat-Mon, June 12th-14th 2021

Cedar City, UT : Sat-Sun, July 10th-11th 2021

Goldfield, NV: Aug 2021

South Cadys, CA: Sat, Sep 11th 2021

North Cady's, CA: Sat-Sun, Oct 9th-10th 2021

Parking Lot Sale: Sat, Nov 6th 2021

Oatman, AZ: Feb 2022

Utah: July 2022

Photos from the Ute Field Trip:



SNMGMS Board Meeting minutes for December 10, 2020

On December 10, 2020, the regular Board of Directors meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 6:00 PM by the President. All but Bob Belcher were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting read by Secretary were approved as read.

Treasurers Report: Account Balances were reported.

Shop report:

All equipment is up and running well. Safety glasses have been ordered for sale to members.

Unfinished business:

Show report: The next meeting for the 2021 show will be held sometime in January. Everything else is going well.

The Awards banquet has been officially canceled for this year. Those members who have purchased tickets will be reimbursed.

New Business:

Due to the holidays and the ongoing pandemic related issues all classes will be suspended until February 2021.

Items donated for the Chinese Auction are going to be auctioned off in lots of 25 at the general membership meetings when we are able to resume those.

The 2021 Board Members were sworn in at this time they are as follows.

President: Lloyd Chayette

Vice President: Wayne Muth

Secretary: Debbie Bucknam

Treasurer: Gary Webb

3 Year Board: Ron Mazz

2 Year Board: Kerry Wenzl

1 Year Board: Bruce Martin

Parliamentarian: Ananaka Rau

Past President: Peggy Sue Moore

Peggy Sue motioned seconded by Wayne Muth that \$300 be authorized to purchase items in Quartzsite for future raffles. Motion carried.

There will be a meeting on January of volunteers to go over rules for field trips and add anything that might not be covered in the current rules. Volunteers are always welcome and appreciated as the volunteers are what fuels our club activities.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bruce Martin and seconded by Wayne Muth the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.



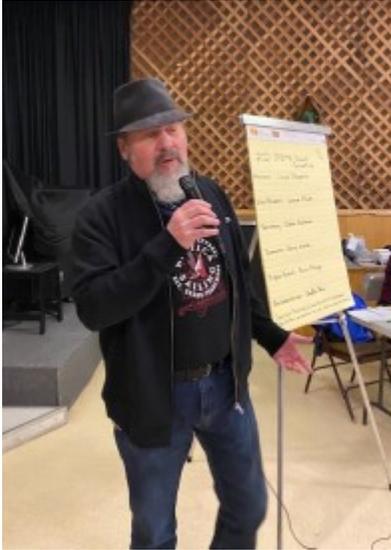
SNGMS 2021 Board of Directors

President: **Lloyd Chayette** chayette.lloyd@yahoo.com 714 474-6384
Vice-President: **Wayne Muth** rimwayno@outlook.com 702 285-7878
Secretary: **Debbie Bucknam** grandmadeb10@gmail.com 805 415-1870
Treasurer: **Gary Webb** SNGMSTreasurer@gmail.com 702 876-2592
Parliamentarian: **Ananaka Rau** arau3@yahoo.com 775 400-6511
One Year Board Remaining: **Bruce Martin** brucemartinlv@yahoo.com
725 400-1472
Two Year Board Remaining: **Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl** 702 378-2205
Kheffner@levi.com
Three Year Board: **Ron Mazz** zman8229@gmail.com 586 914-4130
Past President: : **Peggy Sue Moore** moorepeggysue@gmail.com
702 348-9600

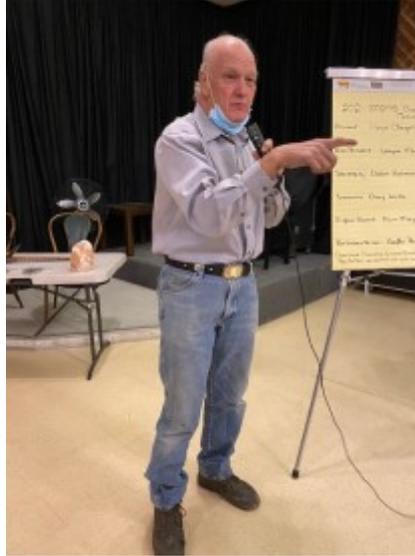


Our new 2021 President, Vice President and 3 Year Board:

President: Lloyd Chayette



Vice President: Wayne Muth



3Year Board: Ron Mazz



Photos from the Kids Club Christmas Party:



Birthstone for the Month of December is Turquoise: Turquoise is an opaque, blue-to-green mineral that is a hydrated phosphate of copper and aluminum, with the chemical formula $CuAl_6(PO_4)_4(OH)_8 \cdot 4H_2O$. It is rare and valuable in finer grades and has been prized as a gemstone and ornamental stone for thousands of years owing to its unique hue. Turquoise has long been considered a holy stone by our Native Americans. The gemstone has been known by many names. Pliny the Elder referred to the mineral as *callais*(from Ancient Greek κάλαϊς) and the Aztecs knew it as *chalchihuitl*. The word *turquoise* dates to the 17th century and is derived from the French *turquois* for "Turkish" because the mineral was first brought to Europe through Turkey, from mines in the historical Khorasan Province of Persia.

Turquoise symbolizes beauty. In the middle ages it was believed that it made women virtuous and loyal.



SNGMS 2020/2021 Meetings

	Jun 29 Board
Dec 28 Board	05 General
Jan 04 General	29 Board
28 Board	Aug 02 General
Feb 01 General	Sep 02 Board
25 Board	06 General
Mar 01 General	30 Board
Apr 01 Board	Oct 04 General
05 General	28 Board
27 Board	Nov 01 General
May 03 General	Dec 02 Board
Jun 03 Board	Dec 12th (Annual Awards Banquet)

Board Meetings (site to be announced)
 General Meetings at
 Eagles Lodge, 1601 E. Washington Ave.

SNGMS Contact:
sngms2013@gmail.com
www.snvgms.org



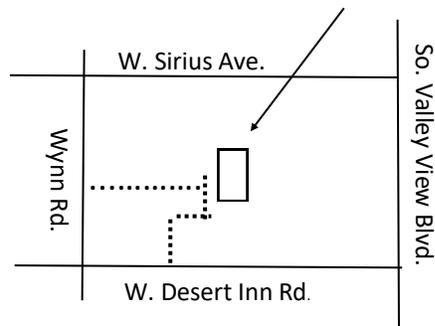
SNGMS General Meeting

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

Non-members welcome!

Eagles Lodge 1601 E Washington Ave.

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

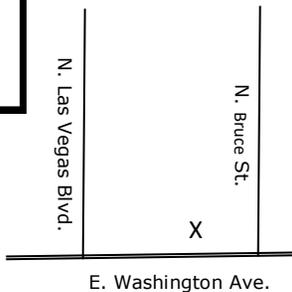


Finding the Shop Location

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. Another option is to enter off of Wynn Rd. Go west on Desert Inn Rd. to Wynn Rd., turn right onto Wynn Rd. and go to the first entrance on the right

Finding the General Meeting Location

Eagles Lodge #1213
 1601 E Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, NV
 (702) 642-1213



KIDS CLUB / EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

The Kids Club meets on the second Sunday of most months at the SNGMS Shop from 3-5. As always, for more information, or to volunteer to lead an activity, or to help with an educational event contact Mary Beth Paladino at 702-255-1647

Our holiday party was fun but quick. There was plenty of food, cookies and Joanns fabulous frappe. There were plenty of gifts and stockings for every participant.



Our thanks to Carol C. Who brought stockings and cookies for all the stars. Tracey from Cedar City sent polished rocks. Amber who was Mrs. Claus and her elf Ron. Barb, Chops, Peggy Sue, Ron, Amber and Joann helped with decorating.

Again thank you all for your generosity.

Mary Beth and Kim

Shop Talk : Brad's Bench Tips

Templates

Whenever I have to make more than 2-3 exact copies of a sheet metal component, I think of making a template. Templates let me easily draw the shape of an item to cut out.

Art stores or online sources like cooltools.us/ and kingsleynorth.com/ sell templates for common shapes like circles, ovals, hearts, etc. but for nonstandard shapes, I make my own out of a scrap of sheet plastic or sheet metal. My preference is brass. I carefully lay out the shape using a steel ruler, a set of dividers, a scribe, and a fine center punch.



One example is the brass template in the pic above that let's me quickly trace the design of ginkgo leaf earrings onto silver sheet. Another is the nickel template which makes it easy to drill a pattern of holes for pin inlay into wooden handles.

Ochre Applicator

Yellow ochre is used when you want to be sure the solder won't flow on an area of your piece while you're soldering another area. The only problem with ochre is coming up with a good way to store and apply it.

I use recycled nail polish bottles. They seal well and have a built-in brush applicator. Just clean them out with a little acetone or nail polish remover, and they're ready to go.



Brad's "How To" Books Make a Nice Holiday Gift

[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)



Classes

Wire wrapping, led by Peggy Sue Moore meets on most Mondays (except for the General Meeting night). Hours for the class are 5 - 8 PM. The fee is \$7.00 for the shop and \$1.00 pattern fee.

Beading: Gary Webb and Sue Dobson will be hosting the beading class. Classes will be the 2nd Monday of the month at 5 pm.

Silver Smithing: Bob Belcher is **cancelling** the silversmithing classes until further notice. They were scheduled for the forth Monday of the month at 5 pm.

Faceting classes. Saturdays 9 am to 12 pm. Please contact Peggy Sue Moore (moorepeggysue@gmail.com) in advance to see if a machine is available. Class fee is \$10.00 plus a \$5.00 fuel fund for the instructor, Tom Kidwell.

Wire wrapping, metal smithing, flint knapping, and silver smithing have a very modest donation of \$7.00 per session, that goes to the club. Faceting class fee is \$10.00 plus a \$5.00 fuel fund for the instructor. Other class donations may vary, depending on what is included in the class. All donations go to SNGMS, all instructors volunteer their time and expertise to help extend the knowledge of our members.



Sunshine Report

from Beth Jones

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 Beth Jones at 702-505-5819 or email her at Punkyjones@hotmail.com (please put SNGMS Sunshine in the Subject)

Angelo Cavazos and his wife, Debbie are both down with COVID 19. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Everyone else seems to be doing okay.

Be well and safe.



SHOP INFORMATION

"New" SNGMS Workshop Schedule

SHOP HOURS

- Sunday 10 am to 3 pm
- Monday Closed for general use: Various Classes
- Tuesday 10 am to 7 pm
- Wednesday 10 am to 7 pm
- Thursday 12 pm to 9 pm
- Friday 12 pm to 9 pm
- Saturday 1 pm to 6 pm

SHOP CLOSED :

- 2nd Sunday of every Month For Kids Club
- Board Meeting: Various Thursday Nights 6 pm to
- Approx 7 pm
- Check Email and "Polished Slab" for possible date changes.



Photos courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse

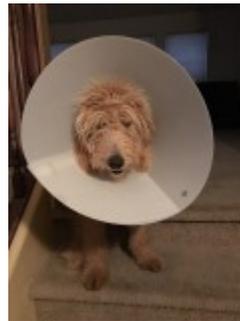


2021 Monthly Cabochon Contest: (Nevada Points of Interest)

- Jan Lake Tahoe
- Feb Ruby Mountains
- Mar Great Basin-Star Gazing
- Apr Lehman Caves
- May Black Rock Desert
- Jun Nevada Test Site
- July Valley of Fire
- Aug Virgin Valley Opal
- Sep Boulder Dam
- Oct Ichthyosaur National Park
- Nov Cathedral Gorge
- Dec (None)

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE CABOCHON CONTEST YOU MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE HOUR OF SHOP TIME. THE WINNERS RECEIVE FREE SHOP TIME. A "Lake Tahoe" cabochon will be the contest entry to be judged at January's general meeting. *Good Luck!*

Since there isn't a cab contest in December here's a lite hearted moment. Rob Madow's dog Honey, after minor surgery, watching TV. Has to make you smile.



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.



Happy Birthdays!

December

Debra Altergott, Steven Altergott, Samantha Alverson, Karen Barrett, Bob Belcher, Kayzle Black, Celeste Cobbs, Conner Creal, Alex Curran, Tony Duran, Gina Greco, Song Hageman, Robeert Harrison, Shane Hayes, Mona Howell, Randy Huffine, Mitch La Fortune, Nicholas Lash, Paula Lawlor, Sheley Leal, Rita Lencioni, Caroline Leone, Patty Leppert, Raquel Lohmann, Robert Madow, John Miller, Kathryn Mundine, Anatalia Muniz, Julia Paladino, Stephen Palecek, Ernie Parrish, Holly Pelka, Danny Prince, Rhett Richins, Sharon Rogow, Sierra Rosten, Kay Scheel, Konner Skougard, Bart Solomon, Doug Storseth, Frances Stratton, James Testa, Dan B. Toney Jr., Del Walkenshaw, Mercedes Warrick, Karen Warsech, Nora Washburn, Gary Webb, Peter Welty, Marc Winters, George Yago, C.T. Yu.

January

If you have a January birthday please bring something for the refreshment table at the January's meeting.

Madelyn Acosia, Christopher Baker, Rita Bergeron, Nicholas Brooks, Diana Burgess, Kane Churko, Meshawn Churko, Dana Coleman, Michele Creal, John Crumpley, Elliot Demlow, Anthony Dominguez, Kevin Donovan, Dennis Farmer, Jon Herring, Amber Irwin, Tanner Jacoby, Donna Jimenez, Lisa Johnson, Arrow Karella, Sean Larscheidt, Matthew Leal, Bob Lofaro, Mario Luchetta, Bill Moore, Quincy Mross, Gabriel Orosz, ZsaZsa Orosz, Andrea Packo, James Perdue, Jameson Perdue, Laurel Rockwood, Michael Rubinstein, Linda Rusk, Susan Seely, Phil Shirley, Patricia Skeary, Annabella Stewart, Jim Tesmer, Inday Timbers, Jack Too-good, Alexa Tripp-Herring, Gary Tucker, Andrea Vidmar, Sam Walden, John Wellman, Lisa Wiemers, Jolena Wright.

Welcome New Members!

***A hearty welcome to members who joined or rejoined SNGMS .
We look forward to getting to know you better***

Jeffery Abbas, Rhonda Alter, Jose Canche, Bonnie Catoni, Cassandra Colwell, Kelly (Steven) Cowell, Melissa Colwell, Conner Creal, David Creal, Michele Creal, Anthony Dominguez, Anthony Earle, Debbie Farnsworth, Sheryl Ganson, Emilio Gonzalez, Jewel Harrison, Robert Harrison, Clark Hill, Amber Irwin, Jeanette Jurado, Matthew Leal, Richard Leal, Shelely Leal, Faith McCaw, Hope McCaw, Christopher Ovens, Andreas Qui-
nonnes, Leanne Sorensen, Gabriel Ward, Lyvia Ward.

SNGMS 2020 Board of Directors

President: Peggy Sue Moore moorepeggysue@gmail.com 702 348-9600
 Vice-President: Sheri Johnson
 Secretary: Debbie Bucknam grandmadeb10@gmail.com 805 415-1870
 Treasurer: Gary Webb SNGMSTreasurer@gmail.com 702 876-2592
 Parliamentarian: Ananaka Rau arau3@yahoo.com 775 400-6511
 One Year Board Remaining: Del Walkenshaw desertartsupply@aol.com 702 451-8040
 Two Year Board Remaining: Bruce Martin brucemartinlv@yahoo.com 725 400-1472
 Three Year Board: Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl 702 378-2205 Kheffner@levi.com
 Past President: Bob Belcher f35fighterman@yahoo.com 702 210-9612

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

Committee Chairperson

Bulletin.....Del Walkenshaw & Deb Koladziej
desertartsupply@aol.com
 Communications.....Del Walkenshaw sngmsnews@gmail.com
 Federation.....Peggy Sue Moore
 Alt. Federation.....Sheri Johnson
 Field Trip.....SNGMS Board
 Shop Foreman Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl
 Historian.....Jack Toogood
 Hospitality.....Open
 Inventory.....Frank Timbers ftimbers@centurylink.net
 Librarian..... Mario Luchetta
 Membership..... John Stackhouse 702-239-0437
 New Member Liaison... Joann Spratt
 Program..... Cindy Allison
 Publicity.....Open
 Raffle.....Steve Chavez
 50-50 Raffle.....Orville and Lisa Wiemers
 Refreshments..... Fran & Allen Stratton
 Rock Stars.....Mary Beth Paladino.....702-255-1647
 Show Chairperson.....Sheri Johnson 702 525-0256
 Sunshine.....Beth Jones punkyjones@hotmail.com
 702-505-5819
 Webmaster.....Lorrilee Stackhouse lorrilee@cox.net
SNGMS Contact:
sngms2013@gmail.com sngmsnews@gmail.com
www.sngms.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

Quartzsite, AZ: Jan 21st-24th 2021

AFMS & RMFMS, Sandy, UT, Gem & Mineral Show: April 21st-24th

Some links that you may find helpful:



<https://www.rockandmineralshows.com/>

American Federation Of Mineralogical Societies-

<http://www.amfed.org>

Rocky Mountain Federation -

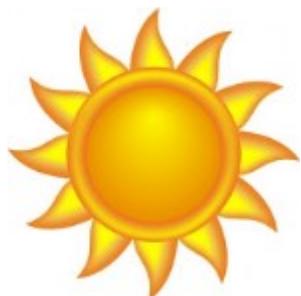
<http://www.rmfm.org>

and the Rock & Gem website -

<http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society
3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Return Service Requested



ROCKS-R-US

www.snvgms.org

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.

Club Mascot: Rock Wren

Club Gemstone: Turquoise

Club Logo: Rocks-R-U-S

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in: Rocks, Gems, Geology, Fossils, Lapidary Arts or Silversmithing

Annual Dues: Individual - \$25; Family - \$35

Meetings are held the first Monday of the month at the Eagles Lodge #1213, 1601 E Washington

No meeting is held in December. Instead we have our annual awards dinner.

**POLISHED SLAB
 ADVERTISING RATES**

<i>Ad Size</i>	<i>Six Months</i>	<i>Yearly</i>
<i>Business Card</i>	\$18	\$30
<i>Quarter Page</i>	\$48	\$90
<i>Half Page</i>	\$90	\$170
<i>Full Page</i>	\$150	\$275