



THE POLISHED SLAB

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



May 2020

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 80 Issue 5

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 28th - Board Mtg
Jun 01st - General Mtg
Jul 02nd - Board Mtg
Jul 06th - General Mtg
Jul 30th - Board Mtg

See page 8 for details on
scheduled classes and
instructor contact information
SNGMS Contact :
sngms2013@gmail.com
www.snvngms.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To all SNGMS Members:

President's Message for May, 2020

I hope that this quarantine ends before I have enough wine bottles to make a bottle house in my back yard.

We have all been patient during this "Stay at Home" time, but the shop crew has been working constantly on cleaning and repairing the equipment at the shop. I painted the bathroom and Cloroxed every part of the fixtures. This last item on my list prior to re-opening is to shampoo the carpet and mop the shop floors.

We held our regular Board of Directors meeting and worked up a plan to re-open as soon as they lift the stay at home order. I am hoping for May 15th, but we are at the mercy of the officials on the exact date.

We put our heads together and came up with our shop plan for make sure that everyone is safe and healthy while working on their projects. We will send the plan out under separate sngmsnews as soon as everyone on the Board has had a chance to edit it.

On the brighter side, what has everyone been making while you were home? Send pictures of your completed projects to Del Walkenshaw at the desertartsupply@aol.com. It doesn't have to be lapidary related and I know that we have some great wood workers in our membership.

I am planning on a celebratory field trip for the day they let us out of our "groundhog holes"...something fairly close by the Las Vegas Valley. Place and date TBA.

In other news, the Spring Jamboree went by the wayside but we are still clinging to the hope that the Federation Show and Convention at Big Piney, WY, is still on for mid-June. Our RV is ready to go.

Any member planning to go to the RMFMS show and convention can purchase dinner tickets for the Saturday evening dinner and awards presentation. Let either Sheri Johnson or me know if you want to attend.

Until we are released into the world, this is your President wishing you great success on whatever you are working on at home.

Peggy Sue Moore, President, SNGMS, May 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Field Trips	2
Board Meeting	3
General Meeting	4
Kids Club	6
Education Activities	
SNGMS Meeting dates & Directions to Shop	6
Shop Talk	7
Classes and Sunshine	8
Shop Information	9
Birthday, and New Members	10
Upcoming Events	11

Field Trips & Events

Cancelled: Spring Jamboree, Sat-Sun, May 2nd-3rd, Boulder City, NV

Cancelled: Silver Park/ Caliente, NV, Sat-Sun, May 16th-17th

Tonopah, NV: Sat-Sun, June 13th-14th

Holt Canyon, UT, Sunday, July 12th

2020 Outings Being Considered (Dates to Be Finalized):

Goldfield, NV: Goldfield Days, Aug 1-4

Pahrump Winery: Sat, Aug 22nd

Delta, Ut: Sep 18th-19th

Geocaching (Local): Sat, Sep 26th

Tule Springs, NV: Sat, Oct 10th

Parking Lot Sale: Sat, Nov 7th

Wickenburg, AZ: Feb 2021

Hinkley, CA: Sep 2021

Oatman, AZ: Feb 2022

McDermitt, NV: July 2022

Bob Belcher's Copper Rose:



Peggy Sue's fluorescence find on the March Beatty night trip



SNGMS Board meeting minutes for April 29th, 2020

On April 29, 2020, the regular Board of Directors meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 12:00 PM by the President. The following board members were present.

Board Members Present: (check all in attendance)

President: Peggy Sue Moore

Vice President: Sheri Johnson

Secretary: Debbie Bucknam

Treasurer: Gary Webb

Parliamentarian: absent

Director: 1yr – Del Walkenshaw

Director: 2yr – Bruce Martin

Director: 3yr – Kerry Wenzl

Past President – Bob Belcher

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Treasurers Report:

Account Balances were reported.

Due to the cancellation of the Spring Jamboree all vendors fees have been refunded.

Shop report:

All equipment is up and running well.

New bases have been installed on all 6 Cab Kings.

Unfinished business:

The audit was performed on March 16, 2020.

New Business:

Reopening of shop:

The shop will reopen in accordance with directives from the office of the Governor, when allowed the following will be in place until directed otherwise.

1. No more than 10 people at a time in the shop. To help facilitate this there will be appointments scheduled with the supervisor on duty, phone numbers for supervisors will be published in an email prior to reopening. If there are already 10 people scheduled the supervisor will maintain a waiting list.
2. Face covering (provided by members) will be required to be worn at all times.
3. Social distancing of 6 feet is to be adhered to.
4. Members must provide their own sanitizer, gloves, drinks, towels both paper and cotton plus pen or pencils.
5. Correct change or check will be required for payment.
6. Smokers must also adhere to 6 foot social distancing.
7. Supervisors will spray equipment with sanitizer after members are finished using equipment before usage by next member.

New Business:

The lightning for the signage in the front of the shop will be changed to LED and a porch light will be installed. Motion by Bruce Martin 2nd by Bob Belcher to approve, motion approved.

May General meeting has been cancelled. The Silver Park field trip is also cancelled but ad hoc field trips maybe scheduled.

Adjournment Time: Bruce Martin proposed seconded by Sheri Johnson and approved by the board that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM.



General Meeting scheduled for May 4th was cancelled.

Pabco Road Buddy:

(courtesy of William Moore)

**Three days of rock hunting & we
ran into this guy on the road**






**Sean found this rock while
on the Pabco trip.**



Birthstone for the Month of May is Emerald: Is a precious gem stone and a variety of the mineral Beryl ($\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_3)_6$) colored green by trace amounts of chromium and sometimes vanadium. Beryl has a hardness of 7.5–8 on the Mohs scale and is in the hexagonal crystal family. In mythology Emerald was associated with Mercury, the messenger of the gods and is the protection stone of travelers. The green gemstone symbolizes hope and development and was a stone of divine intuition for the Greeks. Emerald is regarded as a powerful stone for problems of impaired balance such as vertigo.



***Something to work on while not out on a field trip
or at the shop. (Have fun!!)***

1  <div>SAND</div>	2 <div>MAN BOARD</div>	3 <div>STAND I</div>	4   <div>R E A D I N G</div>
5 <div>WEAR LONG</div>	6 <div>R ROAD A D</div>	7 <div>T O W N</div>	8 <div>CYCLE CYCLE CYCLE</div>
9 <div>LE VEL</div>	10 <div>O M.D. Ph.D. B.S.</div>	11 <div>KNEE LIGHTS</div>	12 <div>I I O O O O O</div>
13 <div>CHAIR</div>	14 <div>DICE DICE</div>	15 <div>T O U C H</div>	16 <div>GROUND FEET FEET FEET FEET FEET FEET</div>
17 <div>MIND MATTER</div>	18 <div>HE'S/HIMSELF</div>	19 <div>ECNALG</div>	20 <div>DEATH/LIFE</div>
21 <div>GI C C C C C C</div>	22 <div>PROGRAM</div>	23 <div>(B R O W N)</div>	24 <div>J U YOU S ME T</div>

(Answers will be send out a week after the Polished Slab is published)

SNGMS 2020 Meetings

Jan 02 Board	Jul 02 Board
06 General	Jul 06 General
30 Board	30 Board
Feb 03 General	Aug 03 General
27 Board	Sep 10 Board
Mar 02 General	14 General
Apr 02 Board	Oct 01 Board
06 General	05 General
30 Board	29 Board
May 04 General	Nov 02 General
28 Board	Dec 03 Board
Jun 01 General	Dec 13th (Annual Awards Banquet)

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

SNGMS General Meeting

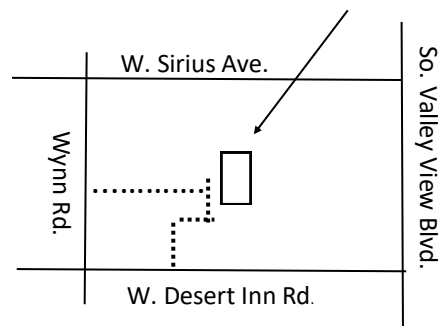
1st Monday of every month
 (2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) No meeting in December.

Non-members welcome!

Eagles Lodge 1601 E Washington Ave.

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

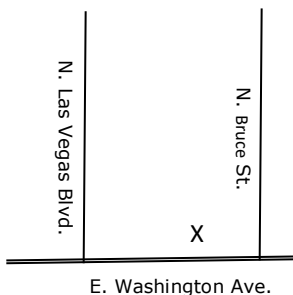
**3111 So. Valley View Blvd,
 Building E Shop Suite 125**

**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. 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 (past the BIG white Commercial building sign) turn right and straight in front of you is Building E #125.

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

**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

Cancelled for May

Shop Talk : Brad's Bench Tips

DRILLING SMALL ITEMS

Small pieces need to be held securely while drilling to prevent them from spinning if the drill catches. Having sliced my fingers occasionally in my younger days, I avoid band-aids now by using flat-jaw pliers or a ring clamp. Pliers also save you if the piece gets hot. Put a little tape or a piece of vinyl tubing over jaws of the pliers if needed to avoid scratches.



DRILLING A STONE

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force. The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup.

Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$7.

Chuck the core drill in a drill press, Dremel or Foreman and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, go very easy on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you will usually chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.



Discover New Jewelry Tricks in Brad's "How To" Books
[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 \$5.00 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: Silversmithing classes are being planned to fit a Monday schedule .

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 \$5.00 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)

Scott Edward in Mt View hospital in critical condition. He is battling a spreading cancer and a "lung infection". He needs all our prayers. Ananaka Rau, his sister, has not even been able to see him due to the Covid-19 shutdowns. She finally was able to talk to him yesterday. He does not have his phone with him at the moment so has to be called by the hospital phone.

Kevin Kettleson passed away. He and his wife Joan are "new members" that have been around with Chops for a long while.

Beth Jones is battling a fever. Get well soon Beth.



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



2020 Monthly Cabochon Contest:

(Birds)

Jun	Cardinal
Jul	Bald Eagle
Aug	Road Runner
Sep	Ring-Neck Pheasant
Oct	Raven
Nov	Peacock
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 "**Cardinal**" cabochon will be the contest entry to be judged at **June's** general meeting. **Good Luck!**

May's "American Gold Finch" Winners:

1st Place:

2nd Place :

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!

May

Meri Bautch-Ford, Wes Bryant, Katerina Chayette, Carol Corden, Linda Erwin, Colleen Flansaas, Anthony Gelish, Eliana Graco, Nancy Ann Helmuth, Jonathan Hollaus, Lamar Holt, Michael Howard Jr., Juliet Jacoby, Katie Jacoby, Bernadino Jimenez, Jeffery A. Justice, Brett Kishkis, Michael Kisner, Clayton Lewis, Barb Maz, Ron Mazz, Jo Ann Myers, Richard Nelson, Daniel Norrbom, Carl Olsen, Dave Oscarson, Amber Palecek, Luara Pupp, Vincent Riden, Jerry Riley, David Seidner, Mary Skaarup, Roberta Vance, Carol Wilhems, Jessica Winslow, Karl Workman, Linda Wright.

June

If you have a June birthday please bring something for the refreshment table at the June meeting.

Anthony Alverson, Scott Amberson, Soraya Amberson, Linda Arnold, Frank Auerswald Sr., Mark Baxter, Bonnie Brown, Roberto Calvera, Janine Carruth, Steve Chavez, John Cox, Claudia Crouse, Linda Darling, Janet Frei, Tracy Hassett, Evan Helmuth, Wendy Higel, Bill Hildebrandt, Margaret Johnson, Sheri Johnson, Kevin Kettleson, Michael Kirk, Ashley Laster, Mark Leppert, Margaret Mahler, Linda Martin, Madeleine Masters, Livyana Muniz, Morgana Muniz, Wayne Muth, Destry Myers, Tsukiko Nakano, Naomi Nozoe, Mary Beth Paladino, Colin Reinke, Robert Riemer, Gail Seidner, Cortney Smith, Scott Stevens, Jim Switalla, Jon Thiriot, Gail Wisniewski, Jennifer Zangger, Vincent Zebrowski.

Welcome New Members!

A hearty welcome to members who joined or rejoined SNGMS .

We look forward to getting to know you better

(No activity this month)

SNGMS 2020 Board of Directors

President: Peggy Sue Moore moorepeggysue@gmail.com 702 348-9600
 Vice-President: Sheri Johnson sherisrocks89121@gmail.com 702 525-0256
 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 f35fighter@man@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 702 525-0256
 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... Barbara Belcher
 Program..... Cindy Allison
 Publicity.....Scott Edwards memulld@yahoo.com
 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
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.

Big Piney, WY, June 19th –21st, 2020: Gem & Mineral Show, Contact pres@wsmsg.org

*Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies convention
 &
 Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Society show*

Gem & Mineral Show 2020



**ROCK & ROLL WITH
 WYOMING ROCKS**

Hosted by the Sublette County Rock Hounds

June 19th, 20th, & 21st

at the Sublette County Fairgrounds
 10937 Hwy 189, Big Piney, Wyoming

Friday & Saturday 9-5, Sunday 9-4

*Dealers, lectures, demonstrators, exhibits, field trips, Mr. Bones, Fossil
 Butte National Monument walking fish fossil, fluorescent mineral
 display, kids' activities, food concession & more!*

Admission: \$2.00 adults, kids free



and a funding contribution made by Pinetree Travel & Tourism Commission www.VisitPinetree.com

contact: jason@wvpsinc.com

Some links that you may find helpful:

American Federation Of Mineralogical Societies-

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

Return Service Requested



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-Us

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>	<i>\$18</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Quarter Page</i>	<i>\$48</i>	<i>\$90</i>
<i>Half Page</i>	<i>\$90</i>	<i>\$170</i>
<i>Full Page</i>	<i>\$150</i>	<i>\$275</i>