



THE POLISHED SLAB

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



November 2017

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 77 Issue 11

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 2nd - Board Mtg
Nov 6th - General Mtg
Dec 10th - Annual
Awards Banquet

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From Wayne Muth

To all SNGMS Members:

As you all know it is winding down for me as your President. I have enjoyed the experience, and want to thank everyone that helped through the last two years. Last night the new Board Members were elected, and I believe much will be achieved in coming next year. I will still be on the Board, I will help with the transition.

A couple of updates, the shop has the new 16" saw and it is being used. If you are working at the shop, try to use this saw, as we have a year warranty on it, and though I don't expect problems, this is the time to find out. We also have some new wheels coming for the shops Cab Kings, as we anticipate an increase in people using the shop after they return from Quartzsite.

As mentioned at the meetings, we are down on revenue at the shop, so please come down cut rocks, cabbing, and such.

Also be sure to register for the Annual Awards Banquet. We will be cutting it off on December 5th so as we know what to provide for food and seating.

Again thank you for all your support.

Wayne Muth
President SNGMS

Here's a couple of pictures of our departing President (hard at work) during the Logandale, NV, Fall Bluegrass Festival in October.



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Field Trips

November 18th : Please remember this is **NOT A FIELD TRIP.** We are taking a trip to the Tempiute mine outside Rachel, NV. Cliff Jackson has advised that the road is washed out, and if we get 5 or 6 people we may be able to fill it in. If we have more that is fine.

We will meet at 8:00 am at the Love Gas Station, at 8:30 am then off to the site. We are not sure what we are going to find, as there could be more of the road washed out areas as we go up.

Shovels and picks should be brought. Also pack water and food, 4 wheel drive and or high clearance vehicles will be needed.

Spring Jamboree May 5-6, 2018 Our mascot has been named "Ed" after our long-time member , friend and mentor Ed Rupprecht. Ed passed away on the first day of our Boulder City Spring Jamboree, May 2, 2015.



Hello Fellow Rockhounds - We have a Facebook page!



To find us - look for Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society. Follow us for events and to see the latest goings on at the shop and upcoming classes!

Every year, the American Federation of Mineral Societies honors an Adult member or couple and a Youth member from every club within the Federation with the ACROY Award (AFMS Club Rockhound Of the Year).

And the winners for SNGMS are.....

Jayda Sumner and Mary Beth Paladino!

Jayda is a freshman in High School and has been a active member of the Kid's Club / Rockstars since her family first joined the club. Jayda's knowledge of rocks and geology is quite impressive. She is always friendly and willing to help and the younger children look up to her as a leader. One of her interests is in the uses of rocks by indigenous people. Also, she is proficient at polishing stones and making jewelry out of the cabochons she has polished.

Mary Beth has been the guiding force behind the SNGMS Kid's Club / Rockstars. She holds monthly meeting with the kids and always has interesting projects for them to work on. She arranges presentations and field trips for them to expand their appreciation of rock collecting. Beyond the club, she provides interesting presentations for local schools and help scout troops earn their merit badges in rock related areas. Mary Beth gives freely of her time and money to prepare projects, handouts and samples needed to make each event a success. Her efforts have a positive impact on the youth groups with which she interacts. She is an asset to SNGMS!

Please join me in congratulating Jayda and Mary Beth!

Sheri Johnson, RMFMS ACROY Chair.

Birthstone of the Month: **Topaz** is the birthstone for November and is an ancient healing stone and gemstone. The royal crown of England is set with nearly five hundred of these gemstones. Topaz symbolizes the joy of life.



SNGMS Board meeting minutes for 11/2/2017

On November 2nd, 2017, 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. The secretary was present. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited.

The minutes of the September 28th, 2017 meeting were approved as read.

The treasurer reported the account balances.

Shop Report: The new saw is here and the meter needs to be installed. Beth Jones proposed, seconded by Frank Timbers, that "wheels be ordered for the Cab Kings, not to exceed \$650.00." The proposal was amended to "not exceed \$700.00" and the Board approved it.

Unfinished Business:

Faceting supplies were received

The Eagles location for the Awards Banquet is OK, and all other party plans are in place.

Sheri Johnson reported on the SNGMS Facebook page saying that it is now live.

New Business:

The Board discussed the annual vote for officers and the proper procedure to follow if there is only one nominee for each position.

The lease on the shop is due on February 28th.

Scott Edwards proposed switching his shift from Saturday to Tuesday, which was welcomed by the Board.

John Stackhouse proposed, seconded by Beth Jones and approved by the Board, that "up to \$600 be spent purchasing items for the raffle table at Quartzsite and Tucson. Wayne Muth and Jason Fabbi agreed to do the purchasing.

John Stackhouse proposed, seconded by Steve Wilson and approved by the Board, that "the Board meeting be adjourned"

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Shop Talk (Back by popular demand this article is republished from September & October's 2016 Polished Slabs)

How to stabilize your slabs and cabs, by Peggy Sue and Bill Moore

When we first started making cabochons, we, like everyone else, were frustrated with material that was too soft or unstable to hold together.

We first tried Opticon. We bought a little toaster oven to process slabs and cabochons, but were not happy with the results as it never hardened to our satisfaction.

The best advice we received came from our friends in Kingman, AZ, who were into working with turquoise. We followed their advice and have worked out how to get the most out of our efforts.

Here is how it works:

Buy 330 Epoxy. It comes in a 1 oz. box or in two 8 oz. bottles. (see picture)



(Continued On Page 7)

*Discounts Available with your
SNGMS membership*

All the establishments featured on page 4 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



Gold Rush Prospecting and Adventure Tours
1311 Nevada Hwy. Ste. C
Boulder City NV 89005
702-982-7000
www.goldrushpros.com

Just A Hobby

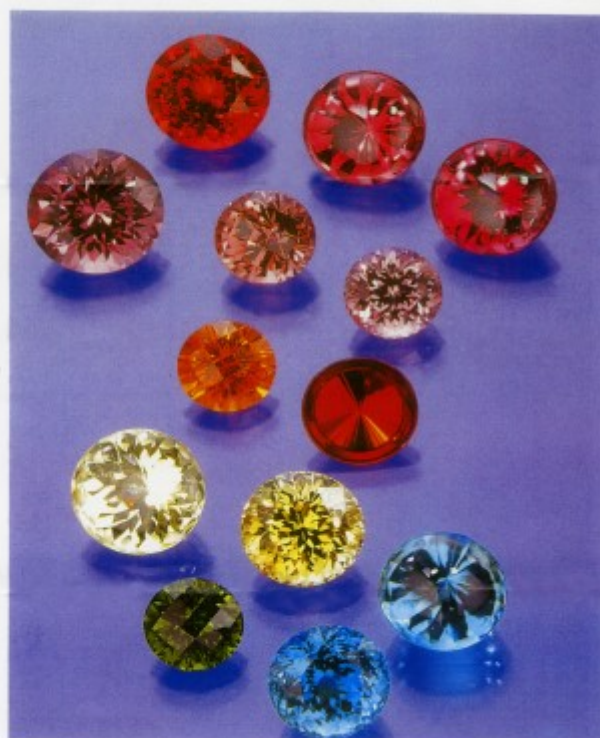
**Jewelry Gemstones
App Only**

**Henderson
727-542-3144**

GEMSTONES FOR SALE

RICHARD (727)542-3144

- TANZANITE
- SPESSARTINE
- SPINELL
- AMETHYST
- GARNETS
- AMETRINE
- EMERALDS
- SAPPHIRES
- RUBYS
- CITRINE
- OPALS
- KUNZITE
- LAZURITE
- MOONSTONE
- ONYX
- SUNSTONE
- RHODOLITE
- TOPAZ
- ZIRCON
- AND MANY MORE AVAILABLE.....



17,000 Carats

SNGMS General meeting minutes for 11/6/2017

On November 6th, 2017, the regular meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 6:00 PM by the president. The secretary was present. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited.

The minutes of the October 2nd, 2017 meeting were approved as read.
The treasurer reported the account balances.

Nominations: Frank Timbers reported nominees and accepted nominations from the floor. The nominees were: President: Bob Belcher, Vice President: Beth Jones, Secretary: Lorrilee Stackhouse, Treasurer: Bill Moore, Parliamentarian: Scott Edwards, 3 Yr. Board: Del Walkenshaw. There were no additional nominations that were accepted by the nominated party. The slate of officers was approved by the membership by a show of hands.

The Awards Banquet will be a pot luck at the Eagles Lodge on December 10th. Reservations are required.

Committee Reports:

Classes: Wire wrapping classes will be announced via email.

Sunshine: Bill Lemmon has been transferred back to Mountain Vista Hospital and is not doing very well.

Shop: The new saw was purchased this month and is in operation. The old saw will be kept as back-up. Scott Edwards will open the shop on Tuesdays at 1 PM for open shop until 5 PM when he will teach metal and silver smithing classes until 8 PM. Thanks to members the geode saw was has been improved.

Membership: John Stackhouse reports 410 adult and 60 child members. Dues are due by Dec. 31st. If they are not paid, you have until Jan. 31st, with a \$5.00 late charge, to pay in order to continue your membership without interruption.

Federation and Show: The Facebook page is up and running. The Rocky Mountain Federation meeting will be in Rapid City, South Dakota in July 2018. Repeat vendors at the Spring Jamboree will receive a discount on their booth rental this year.

Field Trip: A couple of trips are planned this month. Details will be announced by email.

Jr. Members and Rock Stars: Mary Beth Paladino reported collection of donations for the Springs Preserve. The kids will have a field trip to collect trilobites. Adult club members are welcome and details will be emailed.

Cab contest results: 1st Place – James Sloan and Bruce Martin, 2nd Place – Debbie Bucknam. There will be no contest in December.

Scott Edwards proposed “that the meeting be adjourned.” Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

The **Don't Die Out There** Deck: (Courtesy of Tony Duran) Tony ran across this card deck out at Corn Creek Station and thought it would be a great item for our backpacks. It's available through www.mountaineersbooks.org. It's a regular 52 playing card deck with wilderness survival advice. Here's a couple of samples of what's contained in the deck:



SNGMS 2018 Meetings

Jan 04 Board	Jul 05 Board
08 General	09 General
Feb 01 Board	Aug 02 Board
05 General	06 General
Mar 01 Board	Sep 06 Board
05 General	10 General
Apr 05 Board	Oct 04 Board
09 General	08 General
May 03 Board	Nov 01 Board
07 General	05 General
31 Board	Dec None
Jun 04 General	Annual Awards
	Banquet

Board Meetings at Shop, 3111 Valley View Blvd. Bldg. E. Suite 125, General Meetings at Eagles Lodge, 1601 E. Washington Ave.

SNGMS General Meeting

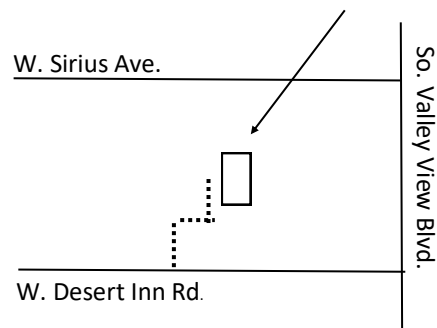
1st Monday of every month
(2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) No meeting in December.

Non-members welcome!

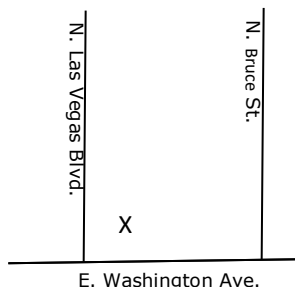
Eagles Lodge 1601 E Washington Ave.

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

**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



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3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125
Las Vegas, NV 89102



(Continued from Pg 3)

Shop Talk How to stabilize your slabs and cabs, by Peggy Sue and Bill Moore

Use all of the two ½ oz. tubes, or equivalent from the larger bottles, by mixing it in a wide mouth glass with something like a popsicle stick.



Add approximately 1 cup of acetone. Mix this together until fully blended.

Put in your cabochons and/or slabs, making sure that your material is covered by the liquid.

Cover the jar tightly with the lid and put it into a refrigerator for 1 week. Each day I pick it up and slosh everything around to make sure that the mix is getting everywhere on the slabs and cabochons. The reason you keep it in the refrigerator is to retard the hardening process and allow the epoxy to penetrate into the material.

When you take it out at the end of the week, place the items on a cookie cooling rack or a classifier and let dry for a day in the sun. You can now add a second batch of slabs and cabs to your jar of left over liquid. I usually run batches in the same liquid until I don't think it is working any more, at which time I put in more epoxy mix.

I have had great success with this process but remember, some material is just too crumbly to work with, no matter what you do.

See Del at Desert Art Supplies for the epoxy, as he carries the larger bottles.

I'd like to add a couple of things to the above great article. First when drying the stones I transfer the liquid to another bottle, I empty the turquoise into an aluminum pie plate lined with baking parchment paper. The stabilized turquoise doesn't stick to the paper as it dries. And like Peggy Sue mentioned, I place the pie plate out in the sun, occasionally stirring the stones until dry. No sticky mess.

I've tried another epoxy (ArtResin) and have had very good success using the same stabilizing techniques. I do thin the solution a little more and go two weeks in the refrigerator. I'm able to get four to five stabilized batches out of the same mixture before it gels. The one thing I did notice is that the Epoxy 330 Part B Hardener has a darker amber color whereas the ArtResin's is clear. (Del Walkenshaw)

ArtResin



Classes

Wire wrapping, led by Peggy Sue Moore or Scott Edwards , 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.

At this time there are no beading classes scheduled.

Metal and Silver Smithing, Scott Edwards has changed the Metal & Silver smithing class from Saturday mornings to Tuesday evenings from 5 pm to 8 pm. The class is suitable for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. The shop is now opened Tuesdays from 1 pm to 5 pm for regular shop usage. dvanced students.

Faceting classes. Saturdays 8 am to 1 pm. Please contact Peggy Sue Moore in advance to see if a machine is available. If you use club machines they are \$5 an hour, no class fee.

Another knapping session will be organized. Watch for the announcement. The contact is Michael Kisner, (702) 285-2032.

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 is \$5.00 an hour, the cost of faceting machine use, or a flat \$5.00 if you use your own machine. 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.

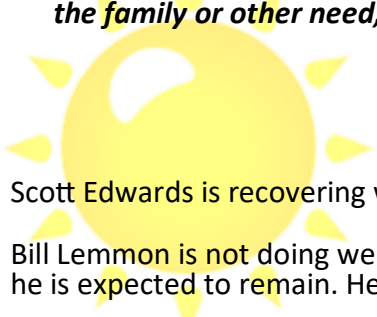


Sunshine Report

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 Edwards is recovering well from his knee surgery and was at the meeting.

Bill Lemmon is not doing well and is now at back in the hospital at Mountain Vista . It's unknow how long he is expected to remain. He would enjoy having visitors no calls for he can't speak well.

Kim Wenzl has damage her knee and may require surgery. Get well soon Kim.



SHOP INFORMATION

SNGMS Workshop Schedule

Sunday	12 noon –5 PM
Monday	Closed
Tuesday	1 PM - 8 PM
Wednesday	12 noon - 9 PM
Thursday	12 noon –9 PM
Friday	12 noon - 9 PM
Saturday	12 noon – 6 PM



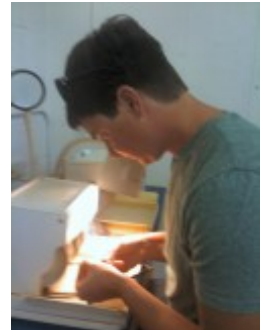
Photos courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse

Shop Fee

All equipment is now metered and charge will be:
\$0.50 per 1/10 hour actual use.

No Cabochon contest will be held in December.

Happy Holidays



November's Cabochon contest winners for "Harvest Colors":

Two way tie for 1st Place:

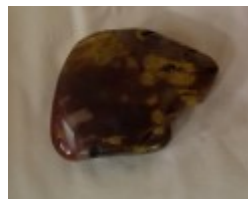


2nd Place:

Debbie
Bucknam



James Sloan



Bruce Martin

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!

November

Brian Anderson, Leonard Andrews, Ellen Adan Barnaum, Alessandra Briceno, Star Graham, Jim Grothuesmann, Nancy Huffine, Sandra Johnson, Aiden Kerr, Thomas Larson, Jennifer Lee, Alexander Leiva, Mark Martin, Stanley McCoy, Marilyn McDougal, Peggy Sue Moore, Jill Ono, Tony Peltz, Ananaka Rau, Jaen Rupprecht, Kathy Rynd, Dietmar Selzer, Osiris Smith, Phyllis Suiter, Jimmy Todacheewy, L.D. Tripp, Garrett Watson

December


Debra Altergott, Steven Altergott, Bob Belcher, G. Gavan Boyle, Tony Duran, Todd Esgue, Donald Evans, Mark Fernades, Andrew Fogde, Shannon Funk, Mattie Graham, Natalia Heiden, Kaitlyn Hickinbotham, Mona Howell, Randy Huffine, Roxanna Kholghi, Nicholas Lash, Paula Lawlor, Caroline Leone, Patty Lepert, Edward Mahler, Rhiannon Maynes, Simon Meiklejohn, John Miller, Kathryn Mundine, Paul O'Bannon, Ernie Parrish, John Perry, Frances Persaud, Danny Prince, Sharon Rogow, Geri Salton, Doug Storseth, Frances Stratton, James Testa, Del Walkenshaw, Gary Webb, C. T. Y u.



Welcome New Members!

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

Robert Brown, Jenni Collier, Billie Fecher, Dan Lockett, Virginia Navarro, Carmelita Angulo, Anthony Fetcho, Janet Frei, Larry Glines, Linda Arnold, Anthony Rivas, Carole Hinds, Julie Hall, Betsy Armatys, Stephanie Moss, Steve Hochman, Mike Howard, Tracy Howard.



2017 Board of Directors

President: Wayne Muth rimwayno@outlook.com
 Vice-President: Beth Jones punkyjones@hotmail.com
 Secretary: Lorrilee Stackhouse 702-631-5291
 Treasurer: Frank Timbers 702-228-0889
ftimbers@centurylink.net
 One year Board: Ron Johnson
 Parliamentarian: Scott Edwards
 One Year Board Remaining: Steve Wilson
 Two Year Board Remaining: John Stackhouse
 Three Year Board: Jason Fabb
jinevada@outlook.com
 Past President/One Year Board: Peggy Sue Moore

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

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.

December 10th: SNGMS Annual Awards Banquet

November 18th and 19th: 2017 Mining Supplies and Rock Shop, Hesperia, CA . For more information visit their web site: www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com

March 7-11, 2018: A multi-day field trip to Burro Creek, Arizona, Peggy Sue Moore will be coordinating this trip.

May 5,6 2018: Boulder City Spring Jamboree

Some links that you may find helpful:
American Federation Of Mineralogical Societies-
<http://www.amfed.org>
California Federation -
<http://www.cfmsinc.org/>
Rocky Mountain Federation -
<http://www.rmfmts.org>
and the Rock & Gem website -
<http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

Committee Chairmen

Bulletin.....Del Walkenshaw & Deb Koladziej
desertartsupply@aol.com
 ByLaws.....Scott Edwards
 Communications.....Toni Blackwell sngmsnews@gmail.com
 Education.....Mary Beth Paladino
 Federation.....Sheri Johnson
 Alt. Federation.....Peggy Sue Moore
 Field Trip.....open
 Financial Manager.....George Messenger
 Shop ForemanRon Johnson
 Historian.....Jack Toogood
 Hospitality.....Corinne Silvia
 Inventory.....Frank Timbers
 Librarian.....Caity Stackhouse
mynameiscaity@gmail.com
 Membership.....John Stackhouse 702-239-0437
 New Member Liaison... Open
 Program.....Cindy Allison
 Publicity.....Scott Edwards
 Raffle.....Rimma Muth
 50-50 Raffle.....Orville and Lisa Weimers
 Refreshments.....Rita Bergeron
 Rock Stars.....Mary Beth Paladino.....702-255-1647 Rock Hounds
 Show Chairperson.....Sheri Johnson
 Sunshine.....Beth Jones 702-505-5819
 Webmaster.....Jack Toogood.....702-642-4788

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

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