

The Polished Slab

VOLUME 68, ISSUE 3 A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940 MARCH 2008

President's Message

My apologies for the late start of the March meeting. Thank you to all of you who attended. Thank you to Erica Hamilton for acting as Secretary. Thank you to Carri Holmes for taking the position of Hospitality Chairman, and to Mike Henry for volunteering to serve as Parliamentarian / Sergeant at Arms. Thank you to Diane Hale for her impromptu presentation on workshop safety.

We still desperately need a volunteer for Sunshine Chairman, please contact me or any board member, before the next meeting. Sunshine is a contact person who sends out get well cards, flowers, and keeps the club updated on who is in the hospital, passed away, had a new baby, weddings and such.

Don't forget the Glass Expo on April 4,5,6. Start making plans for Burro Creek April 16th. Our next meeting is April 7th. I hope to see all of you there. Be well.

Regards, *Jack Toodood*
E-mail: vegasbmw@hotmail.com

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POB 94744 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193



KIDS CLUB - Pebble Pups

EASTER PICNIC



Sunday, March 30th 11:00am to 3:00pm
at the West Flamingo Park Gazebo
(between Jones & Torrey Pines on Flamingo Rd.)

Bring a dish to share (salad, chips & dips, etc.)
Hotdogs & Hamburgers will be provided.

Easter Egg Hunt for Kids & Adults

Come on out!



Great fun for all!



Contact: Mary Beth Paladino 255-1647

FIELD TRIPS

March 16th - CALLVILLE

Tempski & Palm Wood
(Golden Age Passport or Park Pass
to enter Recreation Area required)

Meet at South West Corner of
Lake Mead & Hollywood **before 8AM**
or at the turn-out 1 mile north of Lake Mead &
Lake Shore Rd. intersection

March 29th - UTE

Petrified Wood

Meet at Northbound I-15 Apex Off Ramp
Before 8AM

April 5th - POTOSI TO GOODSPRINGS
Specimens for cutting & Fossils

Meet at the Gas Station at
Blue Diamond Rd. & Red Rock Loop **before 8AM**

April 16th - 20th - BURRO CREEK
CAMPOUT

Potluck - Sat. April 19th
(Club will provide hamburgers & hotdogs)

(4W DRIVE RECOMMENDED FOR ALL FIELD TRIPS)

(See page 7 for 2008 Schedule)

March Board Meeting Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM. Present were President Jack Toogood, VP Sharon Rogow, Treasurer Sue Lofaro, Directors Erica Hamilton, Frank Auerswald, Glenn Beye, and Bob Lofaro. Absent was Secretary Clare Breneman. Erica Hamilton filled in as Secretary.

Old Business- Heritage museum show won't happen for 2008.

New Business - Frank needs to make another silver purchase. Approved by the board. Bob Lofaro will be the club's resident agent. Sharon discussed possibilities for upcoming shows. A storage unit has been rented for showcases and show materials. Meeting adjourned at 6:57.

Submitted by *Erica Hamilton* (Acting Secretary)

FIELD TRIP MEETING PLACES

by Dorris Currington, Field Trip Chairman

NORTH

APEX OFF RAMP - on I-15 North

SOUTH - I-15

13175 LAS VEGAS BLVD. SOUTH (Wheeler's RV)
Exit on I-15 South at St. Rose Parkway, turn on Las Vegas Blvd. South.

SOUTH - HIGHWAY 95

RAILROAD PASS CASINO

EAST

SOUTHWEST CORNER AT LAKE MEAD BLVD. & HOLLYWOOD (Rite Aid Drug Store Parking Lot)
or

Make arrangements for Mile 16 or 1st Turnout on Lake Shore Road North of Lake Mead Blvd. & Lake Shore Road intersection. **(Golden Age Passport or Park Pass required to enter Lake Mead Recreation Area)**

WEST

GAS STATION AT INTERSECTION OF RED ROCK LOOP & BLUE DIAMOND ROAD.

NORTH WEST

OFF RAMP TO INDIAN STORE - Highway 95 North

GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The meeting was called to order at 7:25PM. Erica read the February minutes. Motion to approve by Charlotte Robinson, seconded by Barbara Sines. The minutes were approved as read. Due to computer issues, the Treasurers report was skipped. Mary Beth gave the kids report and plans for the Easter Picnic at West Flamingo Park on March 30th from 11 to 3PM. The club will furnish burgers and dogs.

Sunshine report - Clare Breneman is recovering at St. Rose Hospital from heart surgery. Sharon gave the show report. A discussion was held regarding participation in shows. Wes Bryant - Workshop report: we are still looking for more supervisors to add more hours. Work party scheduled for Sunday April 9th to empty the trailer. Doris Currington gave a field trip update and has the trips for the year planned out. Lorna Metz gave the First Friday Report - next First Friday is April 4th.

OLD BUSINESS: Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek were presented an award for serving as club historians for 2007.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion by Wes Bryant to pay storage unit rent for entire year to get two free months. Motion carried. Motion by Sharon to participate in the Intergem Show this year. Second by Sandy Cunningham. Motion carried. Discussion on Helldorado Days participation. Sharon to investigate further.

Break at 8:15 for refreshments. Meeting resumed at 8:30. Program by Diane Hale on workshop safety. Meeting adjourned at 8:59PM.

Submitted by *Erica Hamilton* (Acting Secretary)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TO FILL POSITIONS

**Sunshine Chairman
Federation Director**

Rock&Gem

NEVADA - CALIFORNIA - ARIZONA - UTAH
Show Schedule

MARCH

14-16--VICTORVILLE, CALIFORNIA: 32nd annual tail gate; Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club; Stoddard Wells, Stoddard Wells Rd.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission

15-17--SPANISH FORK, UTAH: Show, "Spring Parade of Gems"; Utah Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society; Spanish Fork Fair Grounds, 475 S. Main, in the indoor tennis court; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; free admission

21-23--COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA: Show, "Verde Valley Gem & Mineral Show"; Mingus Gem & Mineral Club; Mingus Union High School, 1801 E. Fir St.; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Fri. \$1, Sat. \$3, Sun. \$3, 3-day pass \$5

22-23--ANGELS CAMP, CALIFORNIA: Show and sale, "Jump for the Gold"; Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society; Calaveras "Frogtown" Fairgrounds; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; adults \$3, kids under 12 free

29-30--TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA: 59th annual show, "Nature's Treasures"; South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society; Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd.; free admission; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4

APRIL

4-6--BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA: 6th annual show, "Rock and Gem Rendezvous"; San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society; Kern County Fair Grounds Carnival lot, 1142 South P. St., corner of Belle Terrace and P. St.; Fri. 9-7, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; free admission

4-6--SANDY (SALT LAKE CITY), UTAH: Show; Gem Faire; South Towne Exposition Center/Exhibit Hall 5, 9575 S. State St.; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; \$5 weekend pass

18-20--SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA: Show; Gem Faire; Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rios S; Fri. 12-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; \$5 weekend pass

**OTHER SHOWS MAY BE FOUND ON THE
ROCK & GEM WEBSITE**

OUR NEXT MEETING

April 7th at 7pm.
at the Senior Center on Bonanza Avenue.

**If your birthday is in April,
please don't forget to bring some
goodies for the refreshment table.**



SUNSHINE REPORT

Clare Brenneman is recovering from heart surgery in St. Rose De Lima Hospital's Acute Rehab. Unit, Room 4101 West. She was missed at this month's meeting, and we wish her a speedy recovery.

George & Priscilla Messenger represented SNGMS at the UNLV Annual Scholarship Recognition Luncheon on February 20th. Each year the Club makes a \$1,000 donation to the UNLV Scholarship Fund.

LAS VEGAS ARTS DISTRICT FIRST FRIDAY

APRIL 4th

6 to 10PM

**TABLES AVAILABLE
DEMONSTRATORS NEEDED**

Call Lorna Metz, Chairman 877-4258

You may be a rockhound if.....

- You fall asleep each night to the soothing sounds of a rock tumbler.
- You trade "perfectly good money" for a "rock".
- You give directions using phrases such as "turn left at the road cut" or "turn right at the quartz rock outcropping".



MARCH BIRTHSTONE

AQUAMARINE (Beryllium aluminum silicate)

In the 19th century the preferred color for aquamarine was sea green, and indeed the name itself means seawater. Today the most valued colors are sky blue and dark blue. Aquamarine is dichroic, appearing blue or colorless as the stone is viewed from different angles. Gem-quality aquamarine is found as hexagonal crystals, which may be up to 39 inches long and flawless, with striations along the length of the crystal. Aquamarine is often cut with the table facet parallel to the length of the crystal in order to emphasize the deepest coloration.

The best of the gem-quality aquamarine is found in Brazil, where it occurs in pegmatites and alluvial deposits of gravel, locally called *cascalho*. Other localities include the Urals (Russia), Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and, more recently exploited, Nigeria. A dark blue variety occurs in Madagascar.

.....from "GEMSTONES" a Smithsonian Handbook

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Michael Abramowitz	Perla Abramowitz
Therman Beavor	Al Bryant
Linda Cowser	Paul Deaver
Gary Delvin	Claudia Fetcho
Ronald Fetcho	Ron Flasz
Diane Gawura	Jim Gawura
Larry Henderson	Lisa Henderson
Jon Hoolihan	Jim Macklow
Yoshiko Macklow	Ann Marie Manzi
Dave Matheson	Joy Matheson
Gail Mayes	Tom Mayes
Casey Moss	Kirk Mullinay
Earnie Parrish	Judy Parrish
Chad Stohfus	Albert Tweedy
Barbara Weber	Charles Weber

William Clyde



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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Harvey Ader	Gary Delvin
Tinka Douris	Barb Eagan
Michele Fonzi	Glenn Hale
Jeff Harper	Walter Kinney
Dave Matheson	Deana McKinstry
Donald Miles	Beverly Smith
Jason Snyder	Nancy Tatom
Doyle Wayman	

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

Apologies to **Lee Turner** for missing his
March Birthday.



ROC-KINN FOS-LIN

by Doris Currington

HAIR SPRAY?

To find the picture in your slab to mark where you want to cut a cabochon you spray it with water, right? **"WRONG"**! Spray that slab with unscented hair spray. Spray them all and you can find one quick next time. It leaves a shiny smooth finish that is easily washed off.

Use hairspray on your display minerals too. It brings out the color and dust does not cling to them. That means less soaking in hot water to keep them clean. **Be sure to use unscented spray**, as the minerals seem to trap and intensify any perfume odor.

"IT TAKES A SLOW HAND"

Start cutting slowly and carefully increase the pressure when sawing. It will help keep your stone from splintering on the edges. Remember, "SLOW" is the magic word.

POLISHING TIGEREYE

Polish your stone, then dry it. Apply some vinegar and let it dry for a couple minutes, then polish it again. You should notice a better finish. Vinegar helps in polishing other stone too.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Miscellaneous Equipment
(See at Workshop)

Good Prices!

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3340 W. Sirius Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89102
702-362-7177 fax 702-362-2561
Mon-Fri 10-6 Sat-10-5 Sun - closed

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

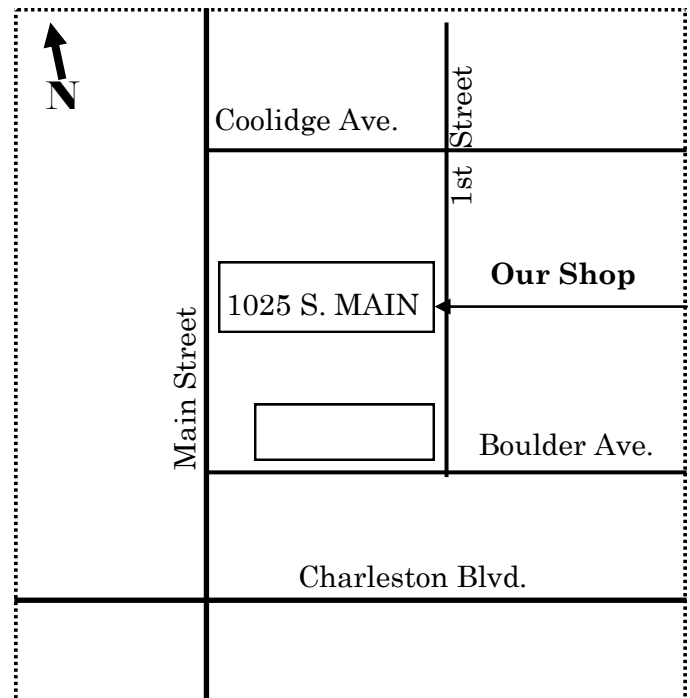
LOCATION: 1025 South main Street
(Use 1st Street Entrance)

TUESDAY & SATURDAY 1 to 9PM
THURSDAYS 1 to 5PM

DEPENDING ON SUPERVISOR AVAILABILITY

Contact Wes Bryant
Home - 228-3331 Cell - 285-7829

TO VERIFY SCHEDULED DAYS



CLASS SCHEDULE

SILVERSMITHING - \$5.00 per class

TUESDAYS - 6 to 9PM &

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

CONTACT: Frank Auerswald 365-8306
for location and space availability

WIREWRAPING -

Contact: Sandy Cunningham
702-806-0816


FACETING - THURSDAYS 6 - 9PM

Contact: Larry Grillett 702-656-0262

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President	Jack Toogood	510-4192	Three Year Board	Bob Lofaro	614-4351
Vice President	Sharon Rowgow	656-1144	Two Year Board	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
Secretary	Clare Breneman	452-0175	One Year Board	Glen Beye	354-9808
Treasurer	Sue Lofaro	614-4351	One Year Board	Erica Hamilton	325-9877
			Field Trip Chairperson	Doris Currington	452-3707
Volunteer Chairpersons:			Volunteer Chairpersons:		
Awards Banquet			Show Chairperson	Sharon Rowgow	656-1144
Class Coordinator	Frank Auerswald	365-8306	Sunshine		
Door Prizes	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Webmaster/Liaison	Jack Toogood	510-4192
Federation Director			Zoo Display	Sandy Smith	290-2675
Financial Planner	George Messenger	733-6578	Shop General Foreman	Wes Bryant	228-3331
First Friday	Lorna Metz	877-4258	Shop Supervisor	Howard Abrams	644-6960
Historians	Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek	876-3861	Shop Supervisor	Richard Fyfe	645-7553
Hospitality	Carri Holmes	499-3869	Shop Supervisor	Larry Grillett	656-0262
Newsletter Editor	Gay Fyfe	645-7553	Shop Supervisor	Mike Kirk	433-4146
Parliamentarian/ Sgt. At Arms	Mike Henry	430-0473	Shop Supervisor	Bob Lofaro	614-4351
Pebble Pups	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Shop Supervisor	Sharon Rogow	499-0272
Program Director	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Shop Supervisor	Sandy Smith	290-2675
Publicity	Erica Hamilton	325-9877	Shop Supervisor		
Refreshments	Susan Dobson	564-2373	Shop Supervisor		

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society P.O. Box 94744 Las Vegas, NV 89193

Website: www.sngms.com

E-mail: sngmsweb@netscape.net

SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIPS for 2008				FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN DORIS CURRINGTON 452-3707
JANUARY (1) <i>SHOP & SIGHTS</i>	FEBRUARY (15) <i>SPECIMENS CUTTING - FOSSILS QUARTZITE SHOP & SIGHTS</i>	MARCH (16) CALLVILLE SIGHTS TEMPSKI, PALM WOOD SPEC. TRACKS (PRE-HISTORIC)	APRIL (5) POTOSI/GOODSPRINGS SIGHTS, SPECIMENS FOSSILS - CUTTING	COMMITTEE PERSONS CLIF JACKSON 433-4146 MICHAEL KIRK 292-7938
	(16) YERMO. CA CUTTING - SIGHTS SPECIMENS	(29) UTE SIGHTS, WOOD SPECIMENS CUTTING	(16, 17, 18, 19, 20) BURRO CREEK, AZ SPECIMENS - CUTTING	
MAY (17) KINGSTONS SIGHTS - SPECIMENS CUTTING, FOSSILS	JUNE (8) MUDDYS SIGHTS - SPECIMENS CUTTING	JULY (12) PARKS ONYX CUTTING	AUGUST (10) BILL LEMMON I - 15 N CUTTING - SPECIMENS	
(31) MILE 16 SIGHTS - FOSSILS SPECIMENS, CUTTING CLAIM - ROADWORK	(21, 22) LUND, NV SIGHTS - SPECIMENS CUTTING	(19, 20) GOLDFIELD SIGHTS - SPECIMENS, FOSSILS - CUTTING	(30, 31) MANHATTON SIGHTS - SPECIMENS - CUTTING	
SEPTEMBER (1) MANHATTON Cont.	OCTOBER (11, 12) TECOPA SIGHTS - WOOD, FOSSILS, FIRE AGATE, HOT BATHS EARTHQUAKE FAULT, DATES	NOVEMBER (8) RIVERSIDE 78 FT. KOHTA CIRCUS PETRO PANEL, MICA SIGHTS	DECEMBER ROCK CLUB SHOW CHRISTMAS PARTY	TRIPS START AT 8 a.m. UNLESS EXCEPTIONS APPLY IF IT HAS RAINED WITHIN THE LAST 4hrs. OR RAIN IS PREDICTED FOR THE DAY or WIND IS MORE THAN 25mph. NO TRIP !!!!!
(21) SEARCHLIGHT SIGHTS - PICTURE ROCK DESERT ROSES? SPECIMENS	(26) KOKOWEEF SIGHTS - CUTTING	(22) PABCO ONYX - BUTTERFLY SIGHTS - SPECIMENS	GOOD HUNTING	
SUBJECT TO CHANGE				PIOCHE FIELD TRIPS Contact Clint 775-962-2222

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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: 7:00 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.

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Gay Fyfe, Editor E-mail: gayf@infionline.net