

The Polished Slab

VOLUME 66, ISSUE 12 A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

DECEMBER 2006

President's Message

Another Awards Banquet; another year comes to a close. I think that everyone who attended our banquet had a good time. I know that I certainly did. Good food shared with friends and family is always something to be appreciated.

Our club space has been reserved for Cloud's Jamboree at AVI for the entire month of January, and I invite all to take advantage of this opportunity. More info on this is on page two. Call Sharon for details or questions.

I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Years. No matter whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or sacrifice a goat to observe the winter solstice; enjoy the holidays safely. I will see everyone at the January 8th meeting. Be well.

Respectfully, *Jack Toogood*

Quartzsite Schedule '07

THE MAIN EVENT

TYSON WELLS ROCK /GEM SHOW

TYSON WELLS SELL-A-RAMA

TYSON WELLS ART & CRAFT FAIR

QUARTZSITE SPORTS AND RV SHOW

ROCK & ROLL CLASSIC CAR SHOW

HOBBY CRAFT AND GEM SHOW

41ST ANNUAL QIA POW WOW

PROSPECTORS PANORAMA

DESERT GARDENS GEM SHOW

Jan 5th - 31st

Jan 5th - 14th

Jan 19th- 28th

Feb 2nd- 11th

Jan 20th - 28th

Feb 3rd - 4th

Jan 31st - Feb 4th

Jan 24th - 28th

Nov 1st - Feb 15th

Jan 1st - Feb 28th

For More Information Contact the Quartzsite Chamber Of Commerce
call 928-927-9321 : or visit the website www.qzchamber.com

published monthly by: **Southern Nevada
Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.**
POB 94744 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193

AWARDS BANQUET 2006

Congratulations go out to Nancy Tatom for her efforts in putting on the awards banquet for 2006. With almost sixty members attending, this year, it was definitely a success. After an invocation by Chaplain Wally Pearson; dinner was served at about 1:45PM. Cornish game hens with stuffing, ham, baked potatoes, salad, green beans, and corn were the fare of the day. Apple pie, pumpkin pie and ice cream for dessert finished off our little holiday feast. Awards were given out to the members of the 2006 Board of Directors, followed by awards to the Committee Chairmen. Next, special appreciation awards were presented to Lynn Manthey, Sue Lofaro, and Bob Lofaro. The 2007 Board of Directors were sworn in by our Federation Director Carolyn Chervenak. Then, came the Chinese Auction and door prizes. By 4PM we were finished, and most were on their way home. Thank you to the staff at the American Legion Post #40, and thank you again, Nancy. JT

2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



LET'S ALL GO TO LAUGHLIN JANUARY 2007

Dick Cloud, of Clouds Jamboree, originally located in Quartzsite, AZ has very generously offered the SNGMS (that's us) a 24'x36' space in the first row of the outdoor Avi Casino Show which runs from January 1 through January 31, 2007. Can you believe that it is already 2007!!!! Members can sell their items, pay no fee, and remit only 10% of proceeds to the SNGMS, on the honor system. Water and power are included, however, you are responsible for bringing tables, tents and any other equipment that you may need. If you have an RV, you are invited to use it. Hotel room rates, if needed, are \$21.00 per night during the week and \$45.00 per night on weekends. The on sight manager, Mike Butz, is still negotiating for a lower weekend per night rate and we will pass along any updates that we get on this. The amount of space each individual will get depends on the number of people who reserve space for a given day or time period. If you do not make a reservation, please come down anyway. You can enjoy the show and there just may be a place for you via "no shows" and etc. For reservations call Sharon at 499-0272 or e-mail, Sharon@beadlover.com.continued page 4

BLUE TOPAZ DECEMBER BIRTHSTONE

As cool and inviting as a blue lake on a blistering summer day, December's birthstone is derived from the Sanskrit word "tapas," meaning fire. This is because Blue Topaz was considered by ancient civilizations to have cooling properties. Not only was it believed to cool boiling water when thrown into the pot, but to calm hot tempers as well! This gemstone was credited with many other healing powers, among them the ability to cure insanity, asthma, weak vision and insomnia. The Blue Topaz was even thought to have magical properties in its ability to make its wearer invisible in a threatening situation. Blue Topaz is the hardest of the silicate minerals. While pure Topaz is colorless, minor changes of elements within the stone result in a variety of other colors, such as blue, pale green, red, yellow and pink. The blue hue is created when Topaz is heated, whether the heat source is natural or engi-

neered by man. The three shades of Blue Topaz are Sky, Swiss and London Blue. The latter is the deepest blue and is often used as a less expensive substitute for Sapphire. Topaz is found primarily in Brazil, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Mexico, Pakistan, China, and the United States. A gift of Blue Topaz is symbolic of love and fidelity.

An *alternate birthstone* for December is the Turquoise. So named because it was initially brought to Europe by way of Turkey, this stone is one of the first gems to be used in jewelry. Turquoise was considered by ancients to be a sacred stone, protective against all manners of evil and ill health. This beautiful gemstone is mined in Iran and the southwestern United States. A gift of Turquoise represents friendship and luck. . . .
.....from ABOUT BIRTHSTONES

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What's Happening ?

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEVADA - CALIFORNIA - ARIZONA - UTAH Show Schedule

Dec 15-17 SAN DIEGO, CA Gem Faire. Sheraton Hotel Mission Valley 1433 Camino del Rio S (503)252-8300

Jan 1 YUCAIPA, CA 46th Annual show Yucaipa Gem & Mineral Society, Yucaipa Community Center, 34900 Oak Glen Rd free admission, contact Bill Jochimsen (909)790-1475

Jan 5-7 MESA, AZ 35th Annual show "Flagg Gem & Mineral Show" Arizona Mineral & Mining Museum Foundation, Mesa Community College, 1833 W. Southern Ave, free admission, contact Ray Grant (480)814-9086

OTHER SHOWS MAY BE FOUND ON THE
ROCK & GEM WEBSITE

**Our next meeting is January 8th at 7PM. at the
Senior Center on Bonanza Ave.**

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

BRAND NEW / NEVER USED / STILL IN BOX
Rectifier for Gold, Silver or Brass electroplating.
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10" slab saw \$395	10" slab saw \$455
6" trim saw \$125	6" trim saw combo \$165
gem saw \$65	1 gal rotary tumbler \$215
wet /dry grinder \$125	Vigor 1/4hp arbor \$195
DP Genie(early model) \$850	DP Pixie \$650
(2) vibrasonic tumblers \$175 each	
Cress electric kiln 8.25" x 6.5" \$245	
call BOB HEIM at 530-822-5678 anytime	

KIDS CLUB - Pebble Pups

Kids club meetings are held at my home at 3740 Moss Ridge Court. Call for directions. 702-255-1647 Mary Beth Paladino

JIM GROTHUESMANN
SNGMS member



JIM'S MINERALS

P.O.Box 91801, Henderson, Nevada 89009-1801

A BIG THANK YOU

Thank you to Jack for hosting our Christmas Banquet. Thank you to everyone who helped with decorations, tickets, chinese auction, door prizes and those who donated. Thanks to everyone who attended and made this year's event a success.

..... Nancy Tatom banquet chairperson



SUNSHINE REPORT

by Priscilla Messenger

We are sad to say that **Judy Auerswald** passed away on Tuesday, Dec 12th. Our sympathy and condolences go out to Frank and his family.

Call me if anyone needs an address or phone number to send greetings to anyone. 733-6578 Priscilla



Feeding the Hungry,
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City Mission

2214 N. Pecos Road
Las Vegas, NV 89115
(702) 384-1930

.....continued from page 2.....

In addition, Dick Cloud wanted to offer the following information:

1. There is still space available for the show in the big white tent on a main street in downtown Laughlin. The cost is \$1500.00 for ten days which includes electricity at your space and hotel accommodations. You can access more information on their web site, www.Cloudsjamboree.com or e-mail for info to Cloudsjamboree@tds.net.

2. There are also spaces available for regular vendor space at the Avi Show. The cost is \$400.00 for the entire month of January, 2007 and \$200.00 for the month of February with water and power included.

3. For January, 2008, a new indoor bead show is being planned. It will run the same dates as the tent show, with cost and conditions the same, also.

4. Bus tours of rock club members are welcome and Cloud's will be happy to make the arrangements. If you know of any other clubs who may be interested, please contact Clouds or Sharon, our SNGMS show coordinator at Sharon@beadlover.com or at mobile # 499-0272.

Lets all support this show considering that we have a wonderful opportunity to participate very economically. We can sell, show off, buy, learn, and have lots of fun, thanks to Dick Cloud's generosity. SR

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CLOUD'S ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ROCK, GEM & JEWELRY SHOW at the AVI Resort & Casino, 9 miles south of Laughlin JANUARY 1st through JANUARY 31st

A space has been reserved for our club use.

For info call Sharon Rogow

INTERGEM SHOW REPORT

The Intergem show was a success thanks to many of you members who pitched in to help. Richard and Jeanne Barnes came from Quartzsite on their way home to Overton to help with setup. Art Lory demonstrated faceting; Arnold Wermes displayed his outstanding silver work. Larry Grillett and Jack Toogood demonstrated making cabachons. Display cases were set up by Mary Beth Paladino, Art Lory, Bob Skulsky, Arnold Wermes, Sharon Rogow and Ed Rupprecht. Ed went the extra mile and filled two cases with his beautiful work. Lynn Manthey set up both geode saws and cut geodes most of the weekend. The saws, raffle tickets, the dollar wheel, five dollar wheel, and sales from specimens netted the club over \$1200. Tear down went quickly and smoothly and everyone who helped out, did a great job. Thanks to all of you for your efforts.

DUES ARE DUE JAN 1st, TIME TO RENEW

Dues expire each year on December 31st Members joining in Oct, Nov, Dec are good for the following year.

**Time to pay your club dues. You can pay at the next club meeting or mail in your check.
Get them in before the deadline to avoid being dropped from the membership roster.**

The deadline is March 1st.

Annual dues are \$20 for an individual membership and \$30 for a family membership

Make all checks payable to ; Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

Mail to: SNGMS PO Box 94744 Las Vegas , NV 89193

THIS MONTH

Dec 21th - Winter Solstice - The shortest day and longest night of the year. The sun is directly over the Tropic of Capricorn and marks the first day of winter for the Northern Hemisphere.

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JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Susan Crandall	Hillary Grillett
Jeanne Barnes	Carl Fields
Patrick Fiedeke	Matthew Keller
Thomas Cullum	Pat Skeary
James Tesmer	Diane Burgess
Simy Bryant	Gaye Fyfe
Murray Smith	Sandy Smith
Carolyn Chervenak	Jack Toogood
Natalie Signor	Ashley Summers
Bobbi Huelesman	Ronald Neldner
Helen Mortenson	

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

RIDESHARING PROGRAM

Anyone who would like a ride to the monthly meeting should call 222-1946 and we will try and arrange for you to be picked up. Please call about a week in advance of the meeting to allow for arrangements to be made.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Helen Mortenson	Harry Mortenson
Nelson Nishida	Ruth Nishida
Tony Baumgartner	Jarlath McNee
John Cox	

WELCOME RETURNING MEMBERS

Glenn Beye	Cora Beye
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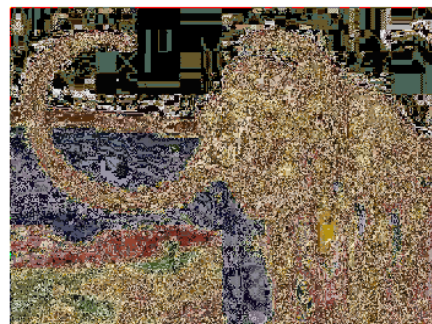
TUES-FRI 9-5 SAT 9-1

731-2663

CRYSTALS

TOOLS

What's even bigger than a 13-foot high Columbian Mammoth with 10-foot long tusks?



A 48 foot long Ichthyosaur, of course.



The Nevada State Museum's natural history galleries tell the violent story of Nevada-volcanoes that is, and include minerals, gems, and paleo specimens.

The history galleries explore the human side of the shaping of Nevada.

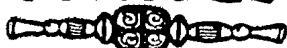
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SECOND TIME AROUND, OUR PAST from Dec 1969 POLISHED SLAB
 Courtesy of Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek ; Our Club Historians

*Field Trips - Continued -
 "CACTUS PAT SEZ" ----*

We went on from there to the old TALC MINES where we had lunch & everyone got some samples of SERPENTINE. A few got samples of light green to dark, & some in black, or light gray. I got a couple of lilac colored ones, & I'll have to tell you my Mother was the one who found them. Well, you can't win them all! LUCY MARTIN got the best sample of all & didn't walk more than 20 yards from the car. RAD COX & his LOVELY WIFE found an ore car a few feet out of a mine entrance. Later, JINX COCHRELL came running down the hill & said "Who can haul the ore car I found back to Vegas?!" . . . We were then at a *#%##&*)(!***\$*##* standoff so no one took it!

Bernada French & Harry Ogle, Bessie & Joe Haddad, Bernice Runke, Margaret Shiniek, Dean & Jinx Cochrell were among the group, as was the Frank Kinsey family. Rad Cox & his wife were joined by Julius Steiner, who, I might add, knew a lot about the area & gave us a lot of good information! Also with us were Iola & Byron Whitehouse, & Lucy Martin, who has a mining claim or two in these very mountains.

NOW . . . I will have to tell you of my little experience! You DO NOT walk in to a mine with just a flashlight & curiosity, & I speak with AUTHORITY! I was going along at a good pace, looking at the ground, when "WHAM"! I hit an 8 x 8 crossbeam around 586" off the ground (oh, yeah, I'm 5'9", so you can guess what happened!). SO --- DON'T GO INTO MINES WITHOUT A GOOD LIGHT & A FRIEND TALLER THAN YOU IN FRONT!

It started off as a CACTI TRIP TO SANDY VALLEY, but, of course, the ROCKHOUNDS won out & we all had a real good time! So next time you see a Cactus Trip in the paper, don't be shy, 'cuz where there's cacti, there's rock . . . & plenty of it!

*MORE of the ☺ ☺ ☺
 ROCKHOUNDS WORLD!*

NEW LOCKS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED AT OUR CLUB LAPIDARY WORKSHOP . . . KEYS ARE IN THE KEEPING OF --- TOM AMUNDSEN --- JESS (SHOP FOREMAN) CHAPMAN --- GEORGE HAUGEN --- AND JIM BARTH. Anyone wishing to use the

Shop, please contact JESS who will arrange for someone to be there if he can't make it himself.

JOHN NAMES has been appointed ADVISOR to the Shop Foreman.

We have a chance to buy DUGWAY GEODES by the pound . . . you'll hear more of that later, too!

TOM AMUNDSEN reports the '70 SHOW is getting very good response, especially as to the "BLUE RIBBON CLASSIC" he has planned, largely thanks to JACK KLEIN OF THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION who sent a long list of former Blue Ribbon Winners for Tom to contact.

BOB (KING) & DAISY SMITH visited a bit in Mexico while at the San Diego County ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP near Yuma. We're just slightly confused as to what it was 20 miles from --- Yuma -- or Mexico? But, 20 miles isn't much to a Rockhound, so does it really matter??? 400 cars were total in attendance. Bob seemed very impressed with the sight of 100 cars in a row, going down a dirt road on their way to a field trip!

JESS says our lap (in the shop, silly) needs to be balanced! Guess everybody (or several bodys) know this, but don't know what to do about it . . DO YOU? Volunteers welcome!

WE HEAR THAT PAUL MERCER became ill after his big HAND WEAVERS CONVENTION recently. Hope all is well with our Founding Father!

ROCKY PUBLICATIONS has had several requests for another CLUB DIRECTORY IN BOOKLET FORM . . . The last one was from KING SMITH, so we'll probably DO IT one of these days soon! We've wanted to for a long time.

WANTED:

ASSISTANT EDITOR FOR
 POLISHED SLAB BULLETIN!
 Since the AF took MIKE
 WHEAT to Denver, Colo -
 we can use steady help -
 No experience necessary -
 no pay, either!
 (Don't push, folks!) J... (8)

EDITORS NOTE: Bob "King" Smith and Daisy Smith mentioned above are both life members who have who have passed on to that final field trip in the sky. JT

**SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

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BIRTHDAYS _____ (MONTH & DAY ONLY)

INTERESTS [] Mineralogy [] Lapidary [] Field Trips [] Geology [] Beads [] Silversmithing [] Other

NEW MEMBER ____ **RENEWAL** ____ **ANNUAL DUES - ADULTS \$20** ____ **FAMILY \$30** ____

FAVORITE PROGRAM FOR MEETINGS - silent auction - guest speaker - slide show - video -
show and tell - other (please specify) _____

MAIL IN OR TURN IN AT THE MEETING

2007 Officers - Board of Directors - Committee Chairpersons

Elected Officer	Name	Phone
President	Jack Toogood	222-1946
Vice president	Sharon Rogow	656-1144
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Treasurer	Pat Skeary	459-2649
One Year Board	Tom Skeary	459-2649
Volunteer Chairpersons		
Parliamentarian /Sgt at Arms	Craig Edmonds	838-0012
Editor	Jack Toogood	222-1946
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Website Liaison	Carolyn Edmonds	838-0012
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Hospitality	Carolyn Chervenak	274-2867
Historian	Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek	876-3861
Financial Planner	George Messenger	733-6578
Awards Banquet		

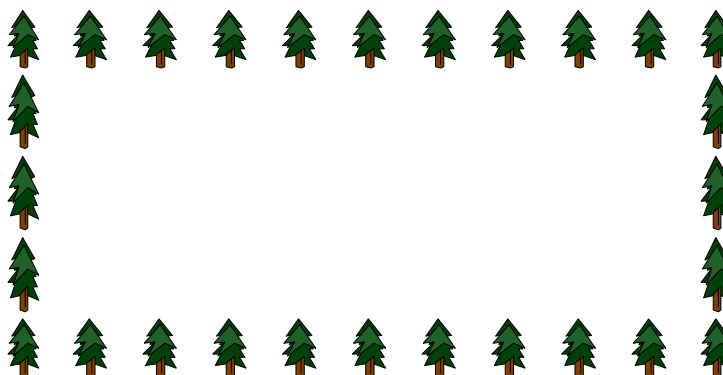
Elected Officer	Name	Phone
One Year Board	Dick Moore	459-1208
Two Year Board	Larry Foutz	896-7757
Three Year Board	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
Field Trip Chair	OPEN	
Volunteer Chairpersons		
Refreshments	Sue Lofaro	614-4351
Door Prizes	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647
Inventory		
Sunshine	Priscilla Messenger	733-6578
Publicity	Erica Hamilton	364-1400
Program Director	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647
Class Coordinator	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
General Foreman	Wes Bryant	
Shop Foreman		
Shop Foreman		

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society P.O. Box 94744 Las Vegas, NV 89193
website www.sngms.com E-mail: sngmsweb@netscape.net

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

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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 Gemstone:Turquoise Colors:Turquoise & Silver
 Club Logo: Faceted stone 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.

Polished Slab Advertising Rates

Ad Size	Six Months	Yearly
2" x 3.5" Business Card	\$ 18	\$ 30
4.25" x 5.5" Quarter Page	\$ 48	\$ 90
5.5" x 8" Half Page	\$ 90	\$ 170
11" x 8" Full Page	\$ 150	\$ 275

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