

The Polished Slab

VOLUME 69, ISSUE # 12 A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940 DECEMBER 2009

President's Message

Well, Fellow Members, The time has come for my swan song, so I'd like to thank all the members who cooperated with and assisted me in my year as your president. I hope it was not too painful and that most are satisfied with some of our accomplishments. There is never enough time to do everything you hope to do, but I'll still be as close as your telephone if I'm needed. We had an excellent Awards Banquet, with food left over, and many of you attended. The room was full and Pat Skeary and her crew did a wonderful job of decorating and orchestrating the entire afternoon. Thank you each and every one. The Pow Wow at Quartzite will soon be upon us and I hope many of you plan to attend. Myself and the rest of the group will be camped at the regular spot on Plomosa Road at least from Jan. 14th through the 21st. Coffee is usually ready before the sun comes up and we try not to let the pot run dry. Please stop by and at least say hello. Burro Creek is set for the weekend of April 15th and the group campground has been reserved. Here's wishing all of you a very Merry Xmas and a happy and prosperous New Year and I hope all of you will "Keep On Rockin'."

—Wes Bryant

Awards Banquet

I would like to thank my committee members for the wonderful work on the awards banquet. Once again Doris came up with a clever and unique idea for our centerpieces. The tables looked beautiful. I would like to thank our cooks, Beth Jones for her delicious ham, Corinne Silvia, Craig Tremmel and Tom Skeary for the turkeys. The donations for the Chinese Auction and door prizes were great. Those donating areas follows: Angie Cerrvantes, Nancy Tatom, Doris Currington, Clare Breneman, Tom Skeary, Mary Beth Paladino, Sandy Cunningham, Lois Kapsner, Joyce Nuell, Corinne Silvia, George and Priscilla Messenger, Diane Burgess, Chuck Hubler, Judy Parrish, Terry Beck, Sharon Rogow, Claudia Fetcho, Bill and Peggy Sue Moore, Beth Jones, Diane Hale, Ed and Jaen Rupprecht. Thank you all...you made the Awards Banquet a huge success.

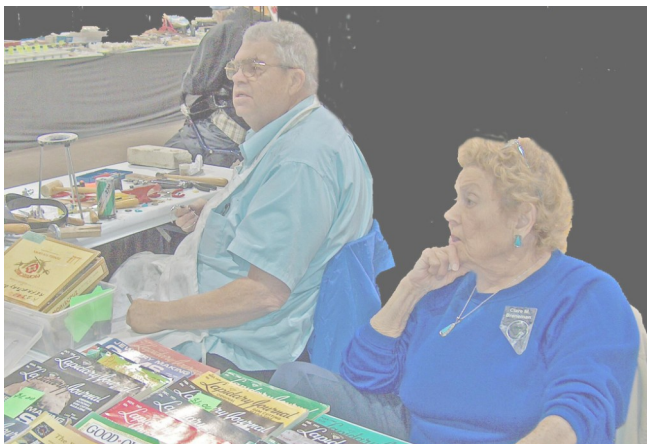
Pat Skeary ,Banquet Chairman

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AWARDS BANQUET PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



GEM SHOW PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



DECEMBER BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The meeting was called to order Sunday, December 13, at 12:09 pm. Members present were President Wes Bryant, Vice-President Tom Skeary, Treasurer Sue Lofaro, Secretary Diane Burgess, Board Members Jack Toogood, Bill Moore and Bob Lofaro and Field Trip Chairman Bill Lemmon.

OLD BUSINESS: The Intergem Show will not reimburse the members for parking, but the club will. Members who worked the show will be reimbursed by the Club when they turn in their parking tickets. No one was instructed how to handle the raffle, so no drawing was made. Wes decided to have the raffle. Jack said that the Bulletin Board on the website is workable. **RE:** Letters to the Editor: letters must be presented to the President or Board for review. The Editor must get approval before printing any letter.

NEW BUSINESS: New Board projects include: change standing rules: 1) for protocol on door prizes (vs. calling it a raffle), 2) no individual should take it upon themselves to make a decision. The recipient of the \$1,000 award for a geology student at UNLV is Marguerita Rodriguez. Scott Edwards submitted a flyer on SNGMS information to send to teachers. Wes read the letter. It will be discussed at next Board meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:36 pm.

Diane Burgess, Secretary



Rock&Gem

Show Schedule

Quartzsite, AZ.

This massive outdoor Rock and Mineral Show is a major event in Western Arizona.

Location and Details:

Located on I-10 and Highway 95 about 110 miles west of Phoenix and 18 miles east of the California State Line

Dates:

January 1 - 31,-- Desert Gardens Gem and Mineral Show

January 10 - 25,-- The "Main Event" is located close to Exit 17 on the North side of Interstate 10. The cross streets are Main Street and Quartzsite Blvd.

January 20 - January 24 .-- Annual Pow Wow

Laughlin, NV --Clouds Jamboree--Avi Resort & Casino www.cloudsjamboree.com
Jan 1-31

Tucson, AZ

Jan 30 thru Feb 13 Arizona Tucson Mineral & Fossil show www.mzexpos.com

Jan 30 thru Feb 14 Arizona Tucson Gem Show

Tom & Gail Mayes are teaching kids about rock hounding. They are requesting that members donate any extra cabochons for teaching these children about rock hounding and creating finished stones. If you wish to help Tom & Gail, contact them at 702-340-2755.

OUR NEXT MEETING

JANUARY 4th at 6PM at the Senior Center on Bonanza Avenue. If your birthday is in January, please don't forget to bring something for the refreshment table and how about something besides cake and cookies? How about some other snacks...pretzels, chips 'n' dips, nuts, crackers, blankets, cold cuts, finger sandwiches maybe??

Use your imagination!!

THANKS TO ALL VOLUNTEERS...

Thanks for your help, all of you who so graciously volunteered your time for the many jobs we needed to cover. Those who helped: Ron and Claudia Fetchco, Tom McClelland, Art Lory, JoAnn and Mick Sprott, Jan Fitzgerald, Angelo Cervantes, Diane Pearson, Joyce and Paul Nuell, Dianne Burgess, Cheryl Milne, Autumn Milne, Clare Breneman, Sal and Barbara Ermocida, Hector and Carol Rosario, Priscilla and George Messenger, Jason Fabbi, Ralph Hunt, Debbie Curebanas, Mike Kirk, Que Miller, Jack Toogood and Anthony Aiken. Those who practically lived at the show for the duration or went above and beyond the call for help!! were: Frank Auerswald, Sr, Frank Auerswald, Jr., Charles Huebler, Bob and Sue Lofaro and Sandy Cunningham. Angie Cervantes and Art Lory, assisted by his trusty assistant, Tom McClelland, set up showcases of their wonderful works! In addition, the phone committee consisting mainly of Sue Lofaro, Jan Fitzgerald and Sandy Cunningham worked really hard to contact members to remind them about the show and to ask for volunteers. I am sure that a few people were not mentioned because they did not sign in or that I goofed and missed them. Please e-mail me at sharonrr@cox.net and let me know who you are so that we can recognize you at the January meeting. Many new members helped and some old members who had not been available in the past did, also. It was wonderful to see everyone. We missed those of you who chose not to come. Think about participating in future shows especially if you did not volunteer this time or ever! Its fun and it helps the club!

I have been informed that the Intergem Show will not be held in Las Vegas in the future but there will be other shows coming up. We will be considering several in the next year.

Additional note; don't forget about Cloud's Jamboree and other shows in Laughlin and also Quartzite, both in January. The Tucson International Rock, Gem, Jewelry and Bead Show is the first two weeks of February. Hope to see you at some or all of the shows.

I'll close with wishes to all for the Best of Holidays and the Happiest of New Years.

Sharon

LAS VEGAS ARTS DISTRICT FIRST FRIDAY

Next event is Friday January 8
Demonstrators **must** contact Sue Moore

- Table space **must** be reserved.
- If you arrive without a reservation, you must bring your own table.**
- Everyone is responsible to supply their own lighting.
- Set-up is at 5PM.
- **Volunteers for set-up, club fundraisers, and greeters needed.**

Call Sue Moore, Chairman 348-9600

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Call Larry Grillett @ 702-875-5329 on any of the above items at the workshop.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Autumn Milne

Janet Klion

Monika Giles

Nicholas Giles

Xan Goodman

Martina Steger



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Debra Altergott	David M. Hopkins
Samantha Altergott	Nancy Huffine
Steven Altergott	Kevin Lewis
Dana Belcher	Edward Mahler
Barbara Betz	Celeste March
Michael Braverman	Mary McKinstry
Laura Diveley	Faye Murphy
Tony Duran	Jonathan Nickel
Juanita Durham	Sharon Noah
Chris Edwards	Ernie Parrish
Todd Esque	Cathy Razor
Donald Evans	Kathleen Reiss
Jason Fabbri	Sharon Rogow
Ronald Fetcho	Dave Schmerin
Jerry Foster	Syma Sherratt
Vincent Gagliardi	Bart Solomon
Wilda Garber	Bradley Townsend
Helga Graley	Terry Wolfsberger
Luna Harboun	Bill Zell
Bob Heim	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM SIGNS!

(If yours was missed we don't have it on file)

KIDS CLUB - Pebble Pups

No Kids club meeting for
December...Kids can attend the
Christmas Party/Awards Banquet
.....Mary Beth Paladino

*If you'd like a reminder on this, contact
Terry Beck at terrybeck69@yahoo.com*



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CLASS SCHEDULE

**CABOCHON CLASS - \$5.00 per
class CLASS FEE TO BE PAID IN AD-
VANCE class limit 3**

The class fee includes: Instruction, the
use of the trim saw and one slab. Costs
for use of a Genie and other equipment
will be at the prevailing member rate of
\$3.00 per hour and paid at the shop.

CONTACT: Wes Bryant 645-7553
For class information

SILVERSMITHING - \$5.00 per class
TUESDAYS - 5:30 PM to 8 PM.

CONTACT: Jenna Plein @ 629-5467

For location and space availability.

WIRE WRAPPING - \$5.00 per class

CONTACT: Sue Moore @348-9600 or
peggy_sue1@earthlink.net
for class information and registration.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

**LOCATION: 1025 South Main Street
(Use 1st Street Entrance)**

TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY 1 to 9PM

Contact Larry Grillett
656-0262

Equipment Use Rates

Genie	\$3 per hr.	Slab Saws	\$3 per hr.
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President	Wes Bryant	228-3331	Three Year Board	Bill Moore	348-9601
Vice President	Tom Skeary	459-2649	Two Year Board	Bob Lofaro	614-4351
Secretary	Diane Burgess	650-5285	One Year Board	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
Treasurer	Sue Lofaro	614-4351	One Year Board	Jack Toogood	642-4788
Field Trip Chair	Bill Lemmon	438-3363			

Volunteer Chairpersons:**Volunteer Chairpersons:**

Class Coordinator	Frank Auerswald	365-8306	Show Chairperson	Sharon Rogow	499-0272
Door Prizes	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Sunshine	Pat Skeary	459-2649
Federation Director	Sharon Rogow	499-0272	Webmaster/Liaison	Jack Toogood	642-4788
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First Friday	Sue Moore	348-9600	Shop General Foreman	Larry Grillett	656-0262
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Hospitality	Jim & Carri Holmes	499-3869	Shop Supervisor	Kelly Barber	458-7852
Jewelry Makers	Sandy Cunningham & Mary	806-0816	Shop Supervisor	Wes Bryant	228-3331
Kids Club	Beth Paladino	255-1647	Shop Supervisor	Kristy Denton	293-0703
New Member Liaison	Tom Skeary	459-2649	Shop Supervisor	Larry Grillett	656-0262
Newsletter Editor	Sandy Cunningham	806-0816	Shop Supervisor	Sheri Johnson	525-0256
Parliamentarian/	Larry Grillett	656-0262	Shop Supervisor	Mike Kirk	433-4146
Sgt. At Arms			Shop Supervisor	Bob Lofaro	614-4351
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	Miriam McGowan	450-0090	Shop Supervisor	Sharon Rogow	499-0272
Publicity			Shop Supervisor	Tom Skeary	459-2649
Refreshments	Susan Dobson	564-2373	Shop Supervisor	John Zimmerman	756-8044

Any changes in workshop schedule—contact Larry Grillett 656-0262

SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIPS for 2009

FIELD TRIPS

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE PERSONS

CLIFF JACKSON 292-7938

MICHAEL KIRK 433-4146

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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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: 6:00 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.

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society
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Sandy Cunningham, Editor

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