



The Polished Slab

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



December 2010

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 70 Issue 12

Upcoming Events

Jan 3 - General Meeting

Wire Wrapping - each Monday except General Meeting night, 6 PM at the Shop

(next wire wrapping Jan. 10, due to the holidays)

Silversmithing - each Tuesday, 5 PM at the Shop

Inside this issue:

Board Meeting Minutes 2

California Federation Conference Report 2

Award Banquet Photos 4,5,6&7

Shop Report 9

New Members 10

Birthdays 10

Quartzite Dates 11

Acting President's Message

from Sheri Johnson

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

This last year, 2010, was a bit of a bumpy ride, but we pulled through. I wish to thank the members for support that was given to me, but I did not do it alone. I was fortunate to have a dedicated Board of Directors and I take this opportunity to thank each one.

Pat Skeary - Treasurer
Patrick Leary - Secretary
Bob Lafaro - One Year Director
Wes Bryant - One Year Director
Bill Moore - Two Year Director
Clare Breneman - Three Year Director
Bill Lemmon - Field Trip Chairman

I thank you all for your wisdom and guidance.

As this is my last message, I am a bit speechless (I know, hard to believe). It has been an honor and a pleasure and I look forward to next year's activities and spending time with an amazing group of people.

Happy Holidays!

2011 President's Message

from Sue Moore

Welcome to a New Year with SNGMS.

I want to encourage all of our membership to join the classes, which will be held in our Lapidary Shop. We are looking to continue or start classes in the following fields: Wire Wrapping, Silversmithing, Electro Plating, Faceting, Lost Wax Casting, Rock Tumbling, Dremel usage, Beading, Clock Making, How to sell your work, & Machine Maintenance, Operation & Safety. At the January 3rd meeting, we will have sign up sheets for all of the aforementioned classes. In some cases, we need instructors. Don't be shy. Remember, you can instruct with others.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sheri Johnson for doing such a great job covering for President this year. It is not easy to pick up the ball and run with it. Kudos to you Sheri!

Sometimes bad things create good things...we have been notified that the Sr.

Continued on page 2

Center, where we have been holding our monthly General Meetings will begin restricted hours on January 10th and that we would need to find a new home for those meetings. Thanks to Chuck Huebler's contacts with our shop neighbors, and Glen Beye's efforts, we have viewed and approved a new meeting hall 2 doors away from our Shop. The suite number is E-122, and it is hired out for parties, receptions, dance classes, etc. Good Job Chuck!

Here's to an exciting year for the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society!

Board Meeting Minutes - December 2

Unfinished Business – The Board decided to donate a coffeemaker to the Senior Center for the year.

New Business –

- New location – As of January 10th, the Senior Center will be closing at 6:00 pm due to budget cuts. Glen Beye volunteered to be the contact to find a new location.
- Federation – Sharon Rogow provided a summary of the federation show.
- Slab Mailing - Since the number of Slabs that are mailed have dropped below the number required for continuing to use Bulk mail, starting in February, only the members without e-mail addresses will continue to receive via mail.
- End of year audit - Pat requested that the by-laws are amended so that an end-of-year audit is performed by a committee of members, not an external firm.

California Federation of Mineral Societies Conference Report

from Sharon Rogow

November 12-14, 2011, Visalia, CA

Having recently returned from attending and participating in the California Federation Conference, I would like to share the information with you and there was lots of it!

Points of Interest

The Federation would like us to host the 2012 Federation Show. Federation Show Coordinators are available to meet with us, at no charge, to help with planning. (Note: The Board has not made a decision yet on this matter.) There is a Federation Show and Conference in Anderson, CA, May 13 - 15, 2011. It will be an educational and fun experience. For more details, go to <http://www.cfmsinc.org/> for details.

PLAC, Public Land Access Committee and ALAA, American Land Access Association are two lobbyist groups formed to protect access to public lands. If interested, contact Sharon, 499-0272 or sharonrrr@cox.net for more information or access the Federation web site, [cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org).

Camp Zzyyzx: March 27-April 3, 2011, Space is available, Cost is \$350.00 per person and includes room, all meals, unlimited classes, field trips and educational lectures. Contact Sharon for more information.

The Junior Program is very important and a key issue is parent support

The incoming CFMS President, Jim Brace-Thompson, announced at the Installation Banquet that 2011 is the "Year of the Child". He will continue to stress the importance of the Junior Programs and will continue to promote them as he has done for many years.

All in all, the conference was a great learning, networking and idea-making experience!!



SNGMS Board for 2011 Sworn In

Photo courtesy of Patrick Leary

Congratulations to the SNGMS Board for 2011. They are, from left to right:

Bill Moore (One Year Board), Clare Breneman (Two Year Board), Sheri Johnson (One Year Board), Tom Skeary (Three Year Board), Pat Skeary (Treasurer), Peggy Sue Moore (President), Glen Beye (Secretary), Jack Toogood (Vice-President), and Frank Auerswald (Parliamentarian)

Looking for Volunteers in 2011

The following positions are the committees which keep our club working:

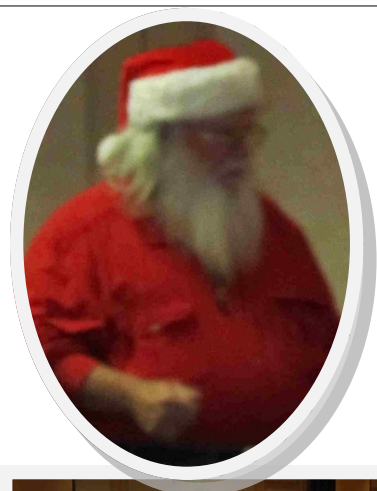
Librarian	Publicity/Marketing	Federation Director
Sunshine	Raffle	Field Trip (looking for guides to lead trips organized by the Field Trip Director)
Bulletin	Refreshments	Show Chairman
Webmaster	Inventory	Rock Stars & Pebble Pups
Program Chairman	Shop Foreman (looking for supervisors)	
Hospitality	Membership	
Historian		

We have individuals already working in some of these committees, however, we are looking for additional members, who are available to assist on the committee, or in some cases, take it over.

Contact any Board Member to enlist. There will be sign up forms at the General Meeting, January 3rd.

Dues are due by January 31st





Enjoying the Banquet

Thanks to Patrick Leary for photos



Silent Auction



Door Prize Table





Awards Banquet Committee



Awards Banquet

A SUCCESS! There were 118 club members and guests who attended the banquet at the Las Vegas Hilton. We all received some wonderful comments about the entire affair—centerpieces, table favors, Chinese Auction, door prizes, - and, most of all, the wonderful, plentiful, tasty buffet and special desserts.

Wayne Muth, our Club member, is also Banquet Manager at the Las Vegas Hilton. Aren't we lucky to have him as a member and as a friend who worked very hard to make our banquet a success? He and his staff went beyond the call of duty for us and we appreciate all their efforts. THANK YOU WAYNE!

My committee also did a wonderful job. We got started several months late this year, but we were able to get it all done and to be pleased with our work.

We hope the club members who attended also feel the banquet was a success and that they were happy to be a part of it. Thanks to all who supported and praised us.

Clare Breneman and Awards Banquet Committee



Enjoyable from start



To finish!



Library Donations Needed

As you get ready for the New Year think of donating some of your lapidary, rockhounding, or jewelry making books and videos to the SNGMS Library. If you haven't looked at it in a long time maybe it is time to pass the material on to be enjoyed others. Donations happily accepted at the SNGMS Shop or at the General Meetings.

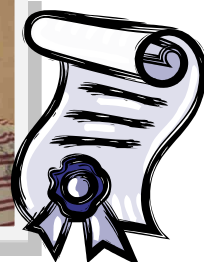
Recycle Your Cans

Bring your Aluminum cans into the SNGMS Shop to be recycled. The proceeds from the sale of the cans will go into the SNGMS Treasury to help fund Club activities.

Thanks for Donations

A thank you to everyone who donated door prizes, silent auction items, and table favors for the Awards Banquet. And congratulations to the winners! Many of the prizes were handmade by the fine craftspeople in the club and will be cherished by the recipients.

Volunteers Recieve Awards



Mary Beth Paladino
Joanne Sprott
Chuck Huebler
John Stackhouse
Mike Kirk
Lorrilee Stackhouse
Lucinda Wilson
Tom Skeary
Tony Duran
Jason Fabbri
Nick Giles
John Zimmerman
Lisa Zimmerman
Sue Moore
Doris Currington
Howard Abrams
Leigh Abrams
Frank Auerswald

Dotty Fusch
Jack Toogood
Sheila Tremmel
Craig Tremmel
Sharon Rogow
Claudia Fetcho
Ronald Fetcho
George Messenger
Sue Dobson
Cliff Jackson
Wayne Muth

Certificate for Volunteers who
set up the new SNGMS Shop:

Bill and Sue Moore
Tom and Pat Skeary
Chuck Huebler

Craig Tremmel
Kurt Tremmel
Howard and Leigh Abrams
Mike Kirk
Wes Bryant
Ron, Claudia and Tony Fetcho
George Peterson
Jan Fitzgerald
Jim Gawura
Jason Fabbri
Joe Lynch
Nancy Walker-Mitchell
Nick and Monica Giles
Scott Klepzig
Eric Vollrath
Don Evans
Tom Mitchell

SNGMS General Meeting

1st Monday of every month

Non-members welcome!

Las Vegas Senior Center

451 East Bonanza Rd.

Las Vegas, NV (702) 229-6454.

Show & Sell 5-6 PM

Meeting 6-8 PM

Field Trips

We have a member of the Society who has worked very hard to make our monthly field trips a rewarding experience. At the next meeting, please take a few minutes to thank Bill Lemmon for finding some amazing locations in the past year. He has graciously volunteered to continue as the Field Trip Chairman, and I cannot wait for the next great trip! Happy Hunting.

Thanks Bill!



IN APPRECIATION FOR EVERYONE WHO DONATED THEIR TIME TO BUILD AND SETUP THE SNGMS WORKSHOP



**Bill and Sue Moore
Tom and Pat Skeary
Chuck Huebler
Craig Tremmel
Kurt Tremmel
Howard and Leigh
Abrams
Mike Kirk**

**Wes Bryant
Ron, Claudia and
Tony Fetcho
George Peterson
Jan Fitzgerald
Jim Gawura
Jason Fabbi
Joe Lynch**

**Nancy Walker-
Mitchell
Nick and Monica Giles
Scott Klepzig
Eric Vollrath
Don Evans
Tom Mitchell**

Change to Polished Slab Mailing

As of the February 2011 issue The Polished Slab will be emailed to everyone with an email address on file. Members without e-mail, who are within the greater Las Vegas/Henderson area, may pick up a printed copy of the Slab at the General Meeting or at the SNGMS Shop. Copies of the Slab will continue to be mailed to out-of-town members who do not have an e-mail address.

Jerry Hesch, MHS, PT The Hesch Method Bodywork

YouTube: [jerryhesch](http://jerryhesch.com)
www.heschmanualtherapy.com

Hands-on care for acute and chronic injuries which oftentimes resolve in 1-3 sessions using a whole body approach.

Treating back & neck pain, pelvic pain, sacroiliac pain, sciatica, hip, foot & ankle, hip, knee, shoulder and rib pain

jerryhesch@cox.net

(702) 558-6011 PST



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Shop Report



W. Sirius Ave.

W. Desert Inn Rd.

So. Valley View Blvd.

SNGMS Workshop
3111 So. Valley View Blvd, Building E, Unit 125

SNGMS Workshop Schedule

Sunday	Closed
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	12 noon-9 PM
Thursday*	12 noon-9 PM
Friday	12 noon-9 PM
Saturday	10 AM -9 PM

*Closed after 6 PM on the Thursday of the Board Meeting.

Hours are subject to change dependent on usage.

Fees

Trim Saw \$3.00 per hour, all other equipment is \$5.00 per hour after the first hour charges are pro-rated in 15 minute increments.

Finding the Shop

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.

Shop Talk *from Chuck Huebler*

Everyone's support is needed to keep the shop successful.

If you aren't qualified on the equipment, a supervisor will be glad to help you. No special knowledge or equipment is required to get started learning the lapidary arts.

For safety, users of the shop equipment are requested to wear closed shoes and long pants or an apron. Wearing old clothes is recommended

SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY!

Be mindful of what you are doing in the shop, as equipment (and You) can be damaged. If you don't know, or aren't sure of the equipment operation, ask for assistance. The supervisors are there to help you.

If none of the listed times are convenient for you, contact Chuck and/or a supervisor and we will try to accommodate your schedule, if a supervisor is available.

Supervisors will close the shop if no one comes in after two hours. The next supervisor will then re-open the shop.

If you make a mess please clean it up!

Come down to the shop & participate!

Number One In Value Number One In Service Number One In Self Storage

Ralph Hunt & Debbie Curebanas-Hunt
Facility Managers

4475 W. Rome Blvd • North Las Vegas, NV 89084
702.395.2203 • Fax 702.395.0406
site4475@gostorageone.com

VISA DISCOVER **GoStorageOne.com** MasterCard

Rocks Requested

Loan of 'Animal Rocks', rocks that resemble an animal or a part of an animal are requested by Doris Currington for a display. She already has a perfect camel's head and a small 'guess' animal with a long tail. Take a good look at your rocks, using your imagination. If you see an animal hiding in there give Doris a call at 452-3707.

Ray Simpson

We have just received the sad news that SNGMS Lifetime Member, Ray Simpson, passed away on December 16th in Kingman, AZ at the age of 94 1/2. Our condolences go out to his family.

Welcome New Members

A hearty welcome to members who joined SNGMS during late October, November, and December. We look forward to getting to know you better!

Lisa Batton, Lane Barker, April Barker, Maranda Brandt, Mary Brandt, Theresa Brooks, Karen Butler, Sheri Darling, Russ Gladem, Lori Green, Chuck Higley, Virginia Kennedy, Linda Love, Charlotte Lujan, Alora Mahler, Eddie Mahler, Terry T. Meyer, Jackie Norman, Ryan Quantz, Ted Reynolds, Judy Ross, Avis Tasker, and Steve Wilson



Birthstone: Garnet

Flower: Carnation

Happy January Birthday!

If you have a January birthday please bring something for the refreshment table at the January meeting. Healthy snacks are especially welcomed!

Samantha Altergott, Andre Beaudry, Rita Bergeron, Clare Breneman, Simy Bryant, Diane Burgess, Joan Burns, Susan Crandall, John Crumpley, Dana Coleman Crumpley, Thomas Cullum, Sandra Cunningham, Doris Currington, Peter DiDonna, Ali Ess-Hafhabadi, Jan Fitzgerald, Hilary Grillett, Kim Hoffman, Jeff Jones, Nancy Kallman, Leo Karnes, Edward P. Lawson, Bob Lofaro, Jeff Meckley, Roy L. Mobley, William (Bill) Moore, Ronald Nelder, Kelly Parker, Ruth Parker, Marin Parker, Haryko Rathbone, Carol Rosario, Gerald Sala, Kathryn Simons, Pat Skeary, Steve Thompson, Jack Toogood, Rich Werner, and Lucinda Wilson

Thanks!

Many thanks to Shannon Funk who created and donated the beautiful sign for the SNGMS Lapidary Shop. He did an excellent job, and we appreciate it! His business is Sign Express at 3230 Polaris Ave. #6 in Las Vegas, phone 702-792-2888, and email signxpress@mac.com.



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Las Vegas, NV 89193



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Vacant

Vice-President

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702-642-4788

Financial

George Messenger

Bulletin

Lorrilee Stackhouse

702-631-5291

sngms_editor@yahoo.com

Refreshments

Sue Dobson



Contest

Just for fun, come up with a caption for the little guy with the big rock. Send it to *sngms_editor@yahoo.com*. If yours is the 'best', based on biased opinion, it will be featured in the next Polished Slab. If not, we reserve the right to use it in a following Slab edition. Publishable captions only please, keep it clean!

Quartzite Dates 2011

Jan 1 - Feb 28 Desert Gardens - Gem & Mineral Show

Jan 8 - Jan 23 Main Event

Jan 1 - Jan 10 Tyson Wells Rock & Gem Show

Jan 21 - Jan 30 Tyson Wells Sell-A-Rama

Feb 4 - Feb 13 Tyson Wells Arts & Craft Fair

Jan 2 - Jan 30 Sports, Vacation & RV Show

Feb 2 - Feb 6 Hobby Craft & Gem Show

Feb 5 - Feb 6 Rock & Roll Car Show

See www.sngms.com for more information

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society

P.O. Box 94744

Las Vegas, NV 89193-4744

Return Service Requested



Happy Holidays!

Rocks-R-Us

www.sngms.com

Remember your dues are due by January 31st. Don't forget to pay! Keep your membership uninterrupted. Contact the membership chairman, or pay at the SNGMS Shop.

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 - \$20; Family - \$30

Meetings are held the first Monday of the month at the Senior Center at 451 Bonanza Road, on the southwest corner of Bonanza Road and Las Vegas Blvd. No meeting is held in December. Instead we have our annual awards dinner.

Visitors are always welcome and bring a friend or two.

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

SNGMS Web Page Ads and Links to your Web Page are available for additional fees.

First month is free to club members. Ads must be paid in full prior to publication. Make checks payable to Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society. Mail to : SNGMS/Attn: Editor, P.O. Box 94744, Las Vegas, NV 89193