



THE POLISHED SLAB

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



March 2018

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 78 Issue 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 1st - Board Mtg
Mar 5th - General Mtg
Apr 5th - Board Mtg
Apr 9th - General Mtg

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

SNGMS Contact :
702 561-3086

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From Bob Belcher

To all SNGMS Members:

The New Year has brought the club a lot of good things. Our field trip organizers have come up with some Great Trips and some real nice rocks are showing up at the shop. We just completed the Burro Creek campout and thanks to Bill and Peggy Sue Moore they got three Arizona clubs to join us. We MET SOME GREAT PEOPLE AND MADE NEW FRIENDS. We all agreed to do it again. And "Chops" out did him self again and cooked up some great meals.

Again, we came away with a lot of great rocks . What else could a rockhound ask for, great friends and rocks, couldn't ask for anything better.

Next, we have more trips coming up. Our annual jamboree in May is coming up fast and we still need volunteers, so please sign up early. The time changed this weekend and spring time is here so we're looking forward to some more good things to come.

I want to thank all of our committee members, they are doing great job for the club and all their hard work is paying off.

We're all looking forward to Bill Kogan getting well and joining us again.

One last thing, we've been asked to host the Rocky Mountain Federation show here in 2019. It will coincide with our annual May Spring Jamboree in Boulder City. We're working out details so more information will be forth coming. Should be exciting.

Bob Belcher

President SNGMS

March 2018

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Field Trips

March 14th through March 19th: Valley of Fire State Park, is the annual Atlatl competition, for those of you who enjoy pre-history events. You can try your hand at throwing an Atlatl.

April 14th, 2018, Saturday: Fluorite in Afton Canyon, CA, requires **4x4** high clearance vehicle. Meet at the gas station at the I-15 Jean exit on the right side, leaving at 7:45 am. Or, meet at the I-15 Basin Road exit #230, South side parking lot. Meet at 10:00-10:15 am.

A couple of pictures from our recent trips to Bitter Creek, NV , February 17th and Burro Creek, AZ, March 7th—12th:



It's time to start planning for the 2018 Spring Jamboree Gem & Mineral Show in Boulder City, May 5th and 6th.

To get ready for the show, we will be getting together at the shop on the following dates / times to prepare:

- Thursday, March 22nd, 6:00 pm (Coffee shop at Jerry's Nugget)
- Thursday, April 5th, 6:00 pm
- Saturday, April 21st, 1:00 pm

This will be our best year yet! We have added a few new items (like Ed, the 7.5 Tyrannosaurus Rex and a Plinko Board). It should be fun!

See you there!

Sheri Johnson

Birthstones for the Month of March are Aquamarine and Bloodstone: **Aquamarine** is pale blue beryl and derives its name from Latin meaning sea water. Legend has it that aquamarines came from a mermaid's Jewelry chest and is said to bring pure love.

Bloodstone (Heliotrope) is a form of green jasper (chalcedony) with red inclusions of hematite which legend has it to be drops of blood, hence bloodstone. It's thought to have magical properties for preserving health and youth.



SNGMS Board meeting minutes for 3/01/18

On March 1st, 2018, 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 February 1st, 2018 meeting were approved as read.

The treasurer reported the account balances with a checking balance of \$3,533.62.

Unfinished Business:

Sheri Johnson reported that vendors are starting to sign up for the Spring Jamboree show. There will be a Show meeting on March 22nd at the coffee shop at Jerry's Nugget.

Peggy Sue Moore reported that over 40 people are signed up for the Burro Creek trip and she expects more. People from several other clubs are attending the event.

Wayne Muth contacted Shannon Moore and he will make a replacement sign for the shop.

New Business:

Criteria for lifetime membership will be announced at the general meeting and membership will be advised of the requirement for nomination of lifetime members.

Mario Luchetta volunteered to be the new Librarian and was approved by the Board.

John Stackhouse proposed, seconded by Del Walkenshaw, and approved by the Board, that "not more than \$500 be appropriated to send Sheri Johnson as the SNGMS representative to the RMFMS 2018 Show."

Bill Moore proposed, seconded by Beth Jones, and approved by the Board, that "SNGMS agree, subject to general membership and American Federation approval, to host the RMFMS 2019 show in conjunction with the Spring Jamboree show."

Beth Jones proposed, seconded by Wayne Muth, and approved by the Board, that "up to \$500 be approved for the purchase of replacement Cab King wheels as needed."

Bill Moore proposed, seconded by Wayne Muth, and approved by the Board, that "more SNGMS business cards be ordered."

The May Board meeting will be moved to Wednesday, May 2 due to the timing of preparations for the Spring Jamboree.

John Stackhouse proposed, seconded by Wayne Muth, and approved by the Board, that "the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Shop Talk: *Rock Tumbling* by Michael Kirk (Part 2 of 2) (Part 1 was in February's Issue)

The next step is to get ready for the next step. After you have rinsed off the stones, put them back into the barrel and wash them. Get some "HE" laundry soap (only HE) and put in the barrel about 1 TBSP, fill $\frac{3}{4}$ with water and put the lid on and "wash" them. Put then on the rollers and leave running for about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour, after that RINSE stone and barrel out really good, (your stones should smell great).

(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

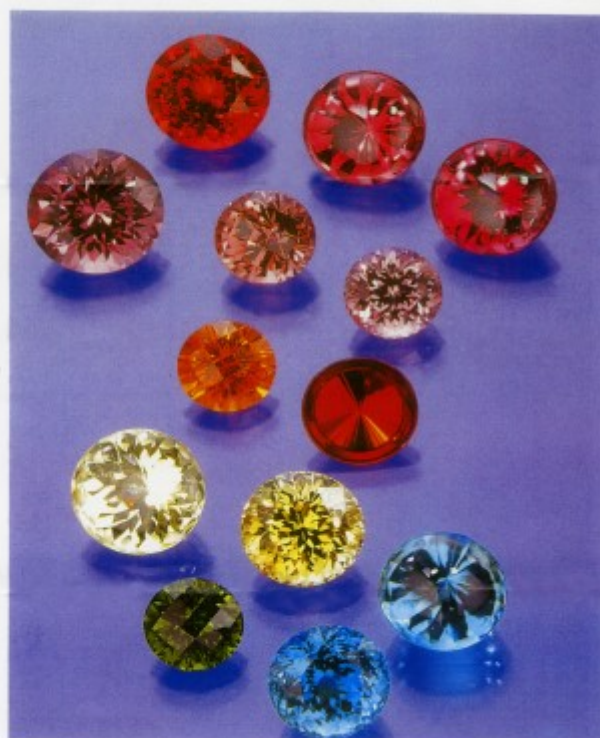
**Jewelry Gemstones
App Only**

**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 3/05/18

On March 5th, 2018, 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 February 5th, 2018 meeting were approved as read.

The treasurer reported the checking balance of \$3533.62.

Committee Reports:

Membership: John Stackhouse reports 316 adult and 39 child members.

Classes: Jim Callaway will teach an intarsia class the first Tuesday in April. All silver/metal smithing classes are continuing on Tuesdays. Scott Edwards and his sister will teach all the wire wrapping classes this month, see emails for details.

Sunshine: Judy O'Bannon passed away on February 25th, service will be on March 24th. Mary Skaarup's mother passed away. Sandy Cunningham is in hospice. Frank Timbers is looking good, but having more testing.

Cliff Jackson will lead a field trip on April 14th.

Mario Luchetta is the new Librarian.

Shop: We have all the Cab Kings in good shape with new wheels. All but one of the saws are up and running.

Federation and Show: This report was presented with the help of not one, but two, dinosaurs. The Rocky Mountain Federation meeting will be in Rapid City, South Dakota in July 2018 with 20 field trips planned. Sheri Johnson proposed, seconded by Peggy Sue Moore, and approved by the membership, that "SNGMS agree to host the RMFMS Show in May 2019." Sheri reported that many volunteers are needed for the SNGMS 2018 Spring Jamboree Show.

Jr. Members and Rock Stars: Mary Beth Paladino reported that March 14 will be a field trip to Valley of Fire and the atlatl contest. An egg hunt is scheduled for the Saturday after Easter.

Field Trip: Peggy Sue Moore reported that the Burro Creek camp out will include representatives from five Arizona clubs.

New Business:

Criteria for lifetime membership was announced and membership was advised of the requirement for nomination of lifetime members.

Cab contest winners: 1st place – Bruce Martin; 2nd place – Ruth Dziadon

Cindy Allison proposed, seconded by Tina Bates "that the meeting be adjourned."

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Life Time Membership Requirement: Article IX Section 3

C. Life membership is a distinguished and privileged title extended to an adult member with a minimum of ten (10) years membership in the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society, Incorporated, or its preceding Clubs, who have held a Board position or committee chair; whose nomination has been presented by a Club member to the Board of Directors, in a written statement of qualifications and attributes, and presented to the membership and approved by a majority vote.

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 02 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

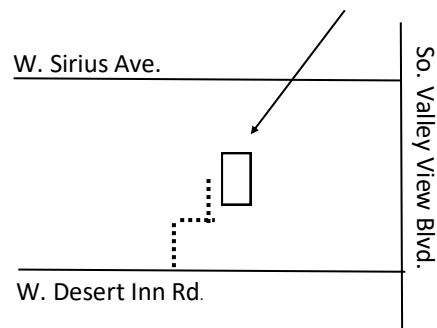
1st Monday of every month
(2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) No meeting in December.

Non-members welcome!

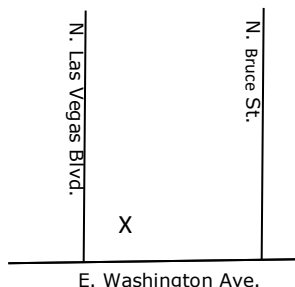
Eagles Lodge 1601 E Washington Ave.

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



SNGMS Contact: 702 561-3086

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



Published monthly by:
Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society
3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125
Las Vegas, NV 89102



Shop Talk: Part 2 of Rock Tumbling (continued from Pg 3, Part 1 was in February's issue)**THE SECOND GRIND**

After the stones and barrel have been washed out with HE soap and rinsed, put the stone back into the barrel and add 2nd grit (usually 120/220) add 1 TBSP of 20 Mule Team Borax, 3-4 Tums to the barrel and fill $\frac{3}{4}$ full of water, put the lid on and give it a shake to mix up the grit and put it on the rollers of the machine. Check daily. Leave this run for about 4-5 days. After they have shaped up, (the stones should start to feel smoother), dump out the mixture into the colander and bucket and rinse off. Now put the stones back into the barrel and put 1 TBSP of "HE" laundry soap and fill to about $\frac{3}{4}$ line and put lid back on and put on rollers. Let wash for about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour, then rinse off.

THE THIRD GRIND

Put the stones back into the barrel, and this time you are going to add the 3rd grit 500F (500 fine) be careful with this stuff because it has the consistency of Volcanic ash. ADD 3-4 TUMS and 20 Mule Team Borax as you have done before, but in this stage you are going to add something different. You are going to add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of plastic tumbling beads. These cushion the stones in this stage because in the following stages the "slurry" is going to get thinner and thinner, and helps the stone roll off each other. Fill barrel to $\frac{3}{4}$ full, put lid on and put on rollers. Let this run for 4-5 days.

THE FORTH GRIND

For this grind you will need 1000 grit AO (Aluminum oxide). This grit is much finer than the 500F and will give you stones a "supercharge" before the polishing stage. After you have rinsed out the barrel and stones in hot water after washing, put the stones in the barrel but add about $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of beads, you will not need 20 Mule Team Borax. Add 1000 grit AO. About $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup and fill to $\frac{3}{4}$ with water, put lid on and put on rollers.

POLISH

When the fourth stage is complete, dump out in colander in bucket, rinse, put back into barrel and beads and stones and fill with 1 TBSP of "HE" laundry soap and wash for about 1 hour. When this is completed, rinse out your stones in hot water and your barrel. Put only the stone back in so that the beads are left behind. Now that the stones are back in a clean barrel, add FRESH beads about $\frac{1}{2}$ cup, add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup TIN or ALUMINUM Oxide polish. DO NOT ADD 20 Mule Team Borax. Put in enough water to just cover the stones, put lid on and runs this mixture for about 4-5 days.

DONE??

Use 20 Mule Team Borax!! It works!!

Use plastic tumbling beads in stages 3 through polish

2 Great websites for rock tumbling: ROCKTUMBLINGHOBBY.COM and THEROCKSHED.COM

GOOD LUCK!

I will do my best to answer your questions.

Michael Kirk

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.

Faceting classes. Saturdays 9 am to 12 pm. Please contact Peggy Sue Moore moorepeggysue@gmail.com) in advance to see if a machine is available. Class fee is \$10.00 plus a \$5.00 fuel fund for the instructor, Tom Kidwell. **The faceting class dates for February are: February 10th and 24th.**

Intarsia: Jim Callaway will teach a Intarsia class the 1st Tuesday in April.

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 class fee is \$10.00 plus a \$5.00 fuel fund for the instructor. 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)



Judy O'Bannon passed away on February 25th, service will be on March 24th.

Sandy Cunningham passed away on the 6th of March. No services are set. Her ashes are going back to Texas where her cousin Nancy Johnson will be taking care of the services.

Mary Skaarup's mother passed away.

Frank Timbers is doing well, but is having more testing.

SHOP INFORMATION

“New” SNGMS Workshop Schedule

SHOP HOURS

Sunday 12 pm to 5 pm

Monday Closed

Tuesday 1 pm to 4:30 pm

Wednesday 12 pm to 9 pm

Thursday 12 pm to 9 pm

Friday 12 pm to 9 pm

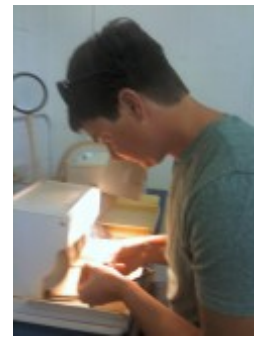
Saturday 12 pm to 6 pm

SHOP CLOSED :

- 2nd Sunday of every Month For Kids Club 2 pm to 5 pm
 - Board Meeting: Various Thursday Nights 6 pm to Approx 7 pm
- Check Email and “Polished Slab” for dates.



Photos courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse



2018 Monthly Cabochon Contest:

March	Green
April	Easter
May	Flower
June	Desert
July	Patriotic
August	Sea Scape
September	The Cosmos
October	Halloween
November	Holiday
December	None Awards Dinner

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE CABOCHON CONTEST YOU MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE HOUR OF SHOP TIME. THE WINNERS RECEIVE FREE SHOP TIME. A “Easter” cabochon will be the contest entry to be judged at the April’s general meeting. **Good Luck.**

March’s “Green” Winners are:

1st Place : Bruce Martin

2nd Place: Ruth Dziadon

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!

March

Charles Adams, Marie Antonett Arient, Tina Bates, Elizabeth Brooks, Robert Brown, Ken Bucknam, Allison Chayette, David Fiegel, Diane Hale, Daune Hashimoto, Cozette Hymer, Ron Johnson, Joy Justice, Andrew Kerr, Debra Kerr, Lee Klassy, Cheryl Milne, Linda Murie, Virginia Navarro, Elana Paladino, Terri Phillips, Corinne Silvia, Gary Tuttle.

April

If you have a March birthday please bring something for the refreshment table at the March meeting.

Gordon Bagley, Samuel Bassols, Barbara Bassols, Barbara Belcher, Toni Blackwell, Karen Blair, Jim Gallaway, Jeffrey Carden, Jenni Collier, Deborah Daly, Sydney Davis, Jason Fabbi, Diane Fiegel, Glenn Hale, Julie Hall, Dennis Harrigan, Juliette Hymer, Alexandra Jimenez, Jon Larson, Treena Luchetta, Jariath McNee, Bill Montgomery, Ed Morken, Mabel Quinto, Linda Rash-Lemmon, Lorrilee Stackhouse, Leslie Sturek Nancy Tatom, James Wendel.

Welcome New Members!

A hearty welcome to members who joined or rejoined SNGMS .

We look forward to getting to know you better

Anna Bassols, David Bassols, Jennifer Bassols, Samuel Bassols, Thomas Bassols, Toni Blackwell, Karen Blair, Scott Blair, Scott Jr. Blair, Nicholas Brown, Jeffery Carden, Greg Centwell, David Cook, Victoria Crossman, Deborah Daly, Calvin Foss, Beth Gardner, Melanie Guzman, Jon Herring, Jon Larsen, Clayton Lewis, Maria Lewis, Anita McClellan, Dan McClellan, Allen Miciek, Bill Montgomery, Alejandro Muniz, Anatalia Muniz, Livyana Muniz, Michelle Muniz, Morgana Muniz, Nelson Muniz, Tsukiko Nakano, Benita, Persaud, Frances Persaud, Nina Persaud, Jenna Plein, Larry Raburn, Sue Raburn, Linda Rash-Lemmon, Tiffany Selig, L.D. Tripp, Tyra Tripp, Alexa Tripp-Herring, Nicole Tripp-Herring, Paul Watterson.

2018 Board of Directors

President: Bob Belcher bbeccher75@gmail.com
702 210-9612

Vice-President: Beth Jones punkyjones@hotmail.com

Secretary: Lorrilee Stackhouse 702 239-0437

Treasurer: Bill Moore kn1ndn@gmail.com

Parliamentarian: Scott Edwards 702 561-3086

One Year Board Remaining: John Stackhouse

Two Year Board Remaining: Jason Fabbi

jinevada@outlook.com

Three Year Board: Del Walkenshaw

desertartsupply@aol.com

Past President/One Year Board: Wayne Muth

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.

March 24th, Saturday, 2018: Desert Art Supplies' 3rd Annual Gem-Boree, Henderson, NV, 10 am to 4 pm.

April 13th-15th: Colorado Mineral & Fossil Show
www.coloradomineralandfossilshow.com

April 14th, Saturday, 2018: Fluorite in Afton Canyon, CA.

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 702 561-3086

Communications.....Del Walkenshaw sngmsnews@gmail.com

Education.....Mary Beth Paladino

Federation.....Sheri Johnson

Alt. Federation.....Peggy Sue Moore

Field Trip.....Peggy Sue Moore & Bill Wertz

Financial Manager.....Open

Shop Foreman Ron Johnson

Historian.....Jack Toogood

Hospitality.....Deb Bucknam grandmadeb10@gmail.com

Inventory.....Frank Timbers ftimbers@centurylink.net

Librarian..... Mario Luchetta

Membership.....John Stackhouse 702-239-0437

New Member Liaison... Barbara Belcher

Program.....Cindy Allison

Publicity.....Scott Edwards

Raffle.....Mary Skaarup & Kerry Wenzl

50-50 Raffle.....Orville and Lisa Weimers

Refreshments.....Ruth Dziadon

Rock Stars.....Mary Beth Paladino.....702-255-1647

Show Chairperson.....Sheri Johnson

Sunshine.....Beth Jones punkyjones@hotmail.com
702-505-5819

Webmaster.....Jack Toogood.....702-642-4788

SNGMS Contact: 702 561-3086

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