

The Polished Slab

VOLUME 69, ISSUE # 2 A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940 FEBRUARY 2009

President's Message

Well, our second meeting of the year has come and gone and already we're beginning to get our feet on the ground. Still a way to go yet, but we'll get there. I would like to thank Tom McClelland, Catrina Gardner, Lorna Metz and Mary Switalla for volunteering to assist us in acquiring a speaker for our next meeting. I would rather they had volunteered to be Program Director, but beggars can't be choosers. Let's all wish them success, and provide them with any leads or contacts you may have, since a meeting with a program is more enjoyable than strictly business.

Also, thanks are due to the following members who have volunteered to provide 4X4 transportation on short field trips (that is if they are planning to participate in the trip). The members are: Ray Vercillo 702-435-3095, Jan Fitzgerald 503-781-7375, Barry Lawson 702-436-9455, Tom McClelland 702-370-7255, and Tom Skeary 702-459-2649. Please be courteous and contact them far enough in advance so plans can be made. Remember that non-4X4s will drive as close to the trip location as possible before transferring to 4X4s.

Don't forget to start planning for our annual trek to Burro Creek, now set for April 22nd thru 26th with a potluck for Sat. evening. Come prepared to have fun and find a lot of great rocks so we can keep on rockin'.

Regards,

Wes Bryant

E-mail - wdbryant@cox.net

A Note From The Editor...

I wish to express my apologies to everyone who receives The Polished Slab via hard copy. Last month I learned some valuable lessons regarding the printing and copying process. Office Max was having difficulty getting the emailed final PDF copy to print, so I took them a copy I printed from home. Unbeknownst to me, my paper is 20 lb. and Office Max uses 24 lb. paper. Almost every page bled through on my paper. There was nothing they could do to remedy the situation. Had I known this, I could have printed each sheet separately (and I will if I need to in the future). As you no doubt noticed, the photos are unrecognizable. Again—a lesson learned—for a newsletter containing photos, look at the first copy they print before going forward!! Had I known, I would have lightened them up considerably.

Again, my apologies to everyone...Sandy Cunningham

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IMPORTANT NOTICE:

For those of you who claim you are not receiving the newsletter via email, please check to make sure that "wrapsodylasvegas@gmail.com" is in your contact list or email address book. Also, check your Junk Mail or Spam Folder. Some email programs recognize a mass email as spam or junk and delete it, so check your folders and make sure you are set up to receive email from wrapsodylasvegas@gmail.com. This should alleviate any further problems.

LAS VEGAS ARTS DISTRICT FIRST FRIDAY

Next event is Friday March 6

- Demonstrators **must** contact Lorna
- 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 at 5PM.

**Volunteers for set-up, club fundraisers,
and greeters needed.**

Call Lorna Metz, Chairman 877-4258

OUR NEXT MEETING

March 2 at 6PM

at the Senior Center on Bonanza Avenue.

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

FEBRUARY Board Meeting Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM. Members present were President Wes Bryant, VP Tom Skeary, Treasurer Sue Lofaro, Secretary Diane Burgess, Board Members Richard Fyfe, Bob Lofaro, Frank Auerswald and Jack Toogood. Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS: The December vote was amended regarding sale of equipment. Sign-up sheet for equipment coming into the shop for sale, will be at the shop, and brought to each meeting. When equipment is available for sale, Shop Foreman will call the first name on the list. Equipment sells for ¼ of new cost. Any equipment not lapidary related will be put in the newsletter for sale. Richard made a motion to accept; seconded by Frank; motion passed.

Tom Skeary will donate a drill press to the shop. The shop drill press is missing. Wes will ask at the general meeting if anyone borrowed it; please return. Richard keeps account for any equipment donated, refurbished and sales.

George Messenger joined the meeting at 5:30 PM to discuss the audit. His observations include that the Treasurer needs a new computer and appropriate software programs. The Treasurer is not getting monthly reports from the bank. The Treasurer will receive reports on checking and investment account. A change of address to Treasurer's address to receive bills and Nevada State Bank Account information.

NEW BUSINESS: A letter was received from club member regarding Doris Currington's resignation. Wes will read the letter to the general membership.

Frank suggested refurbishing the cook trailer, and moving it from Tom's son's house. Tom will look into refurbishing it. Wes will ask members about volunteers to store it. Licensing, certification of operation, and re-registering the trailer needs to be looked into.

Bob made a motion to purchase a new computer, Quicken software and a printer, not to exceed a cost of \$1500.00. Seconded by Frank; motion passed. Jack's old computer will be used by the Membership Chair.

Seven discs for the flat lap at the shop were purchased by Sharon Rogow for \$1300.00.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Diane Burgess, Secretary

GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM. President Wes Bryant welcomed the new members. Wes read the email regarding Doris Currington's resignation, and discussed the conversation between them. The minutes from January were read by Diane Burgess. Minutes approved as read. Wes discussed the results of the audit, and who was present. The Treasurer's report was given by Sue. Cliff Jackson reported on the Saturday field trip. Richard gave the Shop report. Plans to refurbish the show cases for member to show off their work. Wes mentioned the sign-up sheet for equipment & asked that whoever borrowed the drill press from the shop, please return it. He thanked all the Shop supervisors for their work. Mary Beth Paladino gave the kid's club report. There is a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in going on a fossil trip led by Doris Currington. There is a sign-up sheet for anyone will to share seats in their 4-wheel drive for field trips. Lorna Metz gave the First Friday report, and information on the Jewelry Maker's class. Sue Lofaro read Sharon Rogow's Show report. Anita Zell gave the Sunshine report. Burro Creek dates are April 22-26 & the potluck that Saturday night, with the club providing the meat. Wes asked members if they wanted a program during the meetings. We need a Program Chair. A sign-up sheet was put out for volunteers and/or ideas. Faceting class starts at the end of February, and runs for 5-6 weeks. Four students per class @ \$75.00 each. The Board passed the purchase of a new computer, software and printer for the Treasurer not to exceed \$1500.00. Ray Vercillo made a motion, seconded by Marty Lange. Motion passed.

A 50/50 raffle table was suggested in addition the current raffle. Mike Kisner made a motion, and was seconded. Motion passed. Carri and Jim Holmes volunteered to run the 50/50 raffle table. Terri Beck has information for the kid's functions. She will email information for those who sign up. Break for refreshments at 7:10 PM. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM and drawing for door prizes & raffle followed.

Diane Burgess, Secretary

Rock&Gem

NEVADA - CALIFORNIA - ARIZONA - UTAH
Show Schedule

43rd annual "Southern Nevada Sons of Erin" St. Patrick's Day Parade & Craft Festival in downtown Henderson March 12-15. More info: 339-9455

Glass Craft and Bead Expo April 1 through April 5th, possible free booth space, need 12 people over the three day show time, 2 volunteers per shift, 2 shifts per day for Fri, Sat & Sun. Classes are on Wed & Thurs April 1st & 2nd & the show floor opens on Friday, April 3rd. Admission is \$15.00 and that will gain entry to the show floor for all three days. Look for a larger show floor more classes with new instructors! Contact: Patty Cerajewski- patty@lvmanagement.com or www.glasscraftexpo.com

Awaiting details Clark County Fair, end of April, attempting to get a reduced rate or free space and do not have an answer yet.

Ant Hill, Bakersfield, CA - March 21, 2009 (1-day trip) Come out for a fun day of digging for shark teeth fossils, the weather should be nice, cool. The dig site is a walk of 500 yards over semi flat ground, then up a hill 100 yards. Once there most of the time you'll be digging in small area. This time of the year there is always the chance of rain, bring the necessary clothing. If it is raining, we won't be digging. For further information, please contact: Adam Dean @ (909) 489-4899 or e-mail him: theagatehunter@verizon.net

Lavie Siding Area CA April 25—for jaspers and agates.

North Edwards Area, CA May 23 for "The Great Onyx Hunt"

Intergem Show, May 29-31, LV Convention Center North Hall 1 (this time only) then back to Cashman in December and thereafter. Need many volunteers, as usual! Exhibitors from around the world offer a huge selection of quality jewelry of all kinds including loose colored gemstones, fine finished jewelry, fashion jewelry, beads and more. If the huge selection is not enough incentive to visit our erasers, how about incredible savings? At the International Gem & Jewelry shows, you will enjoy discounts of 20% to 40% off of the regular retail price.

OTHER SHOWS MAY BE FOUND ON THE
ROCK & GEM WEBSITE



SUNSHINE REPORT

by Anita Zell

Marty Lange fell and broke her right arm. Broken bones hurt! We hope it heals fast Marty.

Michael Crandall his very ill and going through a very difficult time. Michael, we really do care. Hang in there.

While the east coast is suffering through ice and snow, we are enjoying gorgeous SUNSHINE and blue skies (1st week in Feb.) As SUNSHINE chairman do I get any credit for this? No? I thought not.

Remember: Just, be yourself, everybody else is already taken..... **Nita 876-1189**

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

6 foot Formica kitchen counter top with rolled back- \$20.

Lortone 8' Arbor NS8 Almost new. \$50

10" Craftsman Table Saw Missing knob \$50

Call Wes Bryant at 228-3331 or Richard Fyfe at 645-7553 on any of the above items at the workshop.

IBM Thinkpad Laptop Computer. Works very well but needs new battery. Has NIC card and wireless connection. No OS. \$150. Comes with nice case. Contact Sandy Cunningham at 806-0816.

Fisher M-Scope Gold Bug Metal Detector with operating manual - \$250.00

Desert Fox Gold Panning Machine with operating manual & battery, slightly used - \$175.00

Both for \$400.00...Call Diane Burgess @ 650-5285

SPACE IS FREE TO ADVERTISE HERE FOR ALL CLUB MEMBERS....Just call or email Editor.

Want to try something new and fun? There is a word in one of the newsletter articles that doesn't fit...it will be VERY OBVIOUS!! Be the first person to email me and tell me the word and where you found it, and I will give you one of my wire wrapped pendants as a prize! The earliest email gets the prize! Email me at wrapsodylasvegas@gmail.com. Good luck everyone!! **Sandy**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Leesha Abair	Cort Ancman
Eileen Ancman	Barbara Belz
Howard Blanchard	Maxwell DeHaven
Patricia DeHaven	Tony Felcho
Kimberly Henry	Karlene Kennedy
Faye Murphy	Richard Murphy
Jill Salinas	Dale Turnbull
Francisca Velez	Bonnie Walton
Richard Walton	Terry Wolfsberger

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*****SHOP REPORT*****

Over 140 people signed the log at the Workshop in January. The shop turned in \$881.25 for the month and the shop income for the year is \$1536.05. The display/sales cases are being redone and will be mainly for items made by club members. There are several sections available. For more information, contact Richard Fyfe at 645-7553.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Shirley Ayo

William Bennett

Richard Craven

Craig Edmonds

Tara Elliott

Richard Fyfe

Jerry Foster

Larry Grillett

Gene Hirte

Alice Hutchins

Cliff Jackson

James Karr

Shelley Karsnok

Rachelle L'Hommedieu

Mark Nickel

David Parkes

Leon Pruet

Daniel Reed

Chris Sakmar

Shelina Thomas

Harold Wilbourn

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM SIGNS!

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

JEWELRY MAKERS



We had a good time on Feb. 3. I did a wire wrapping demonstration and afterward, some worked on necklaces and some of us talked and worked on earrings. Later we handed out 6 door prizes and all seemed pleased with what they got. Our next class will be Tuesday March 3 at 3PM and is \$2, at the same place—the Senior Center at 451 E. Bonanza. Don't forget to register at the center...cost is also \$2. See you there!.....Sandy Cunningham

Bonus Pages for those who receive the Polished Slab via email:

Some photos that were taken at Quartzsite!



Ron Fecho hamming it up for the camera!



Ron & Ernie Parrish shopping for slabs...



Ron Fecho & Sandy Cunningham shopping...



That's me, your editor....."Hey I found some pliers..."



Judy Flaster shopping for beads...



Claudia Fecho looking at crystals...

Bonus Pages for those who receive the Polished Slab via email:

Some photos that were taken at Quartzsite!



Some pretty cool sculptures we saw...



So many interesting things to see...



Slabs everywhere...



Rocks everywhere..."



And more rocks...



And still more rocks...

KIDS CLUB - Pebble Pups

Kids club meeting will be Saturday
February 21st from 10 AM to 12 PM.
Meetings are held at my home at
3740 Moss Ridge Court. Call for directions.
702-255-1647Mary 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
ADVANCE 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: Richard Fyfe 645-7553
For class information

**SILVERSMITHING - \$5.00 per class
TUESDAYS - 6 to 9PM. & THURS-
DAY AFTERNOONS**

CONTACT: Frank Auerswald 365-8306
For location and space availability.

**WIRE WRAPPING - \$5.00 per class
CONTACT: Sandy Cunningham 806-
0816**

For class information and registration.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

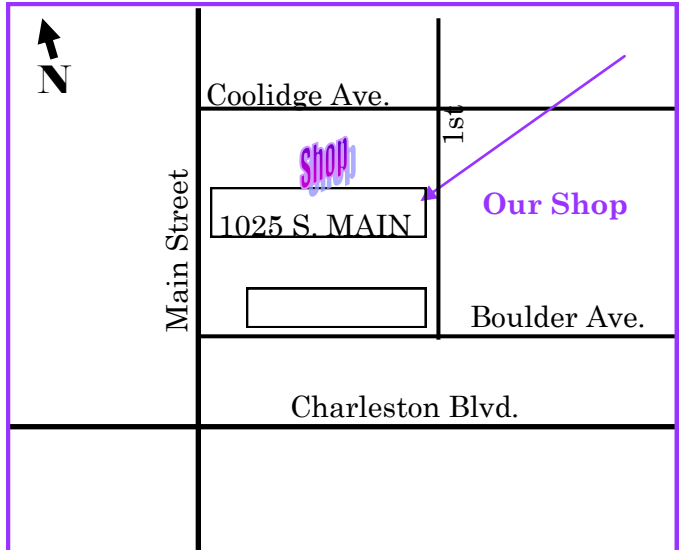
**LOCATION: 1025 South Main Street
(Use 1st Street Entrance)**

TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY 1 to 9PM

Contact Richard Fyfe
645-7553

Equipment Use Rates

Genie	\$3 per hr.	Slab Saws	\$3 per hr.
Trim Saws	\$1 per hr.	Flat Lap	\$5 per hr.



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President	Wes Bryant	228-3331	Three Year Board	Richard Fyfe	645-7553
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					
<u>Volunteer Chairpersons:</u>			<u>Volunteer Chairpersons:</u>		
Awards Banquet	Pat Skeary	459-2649	Publicity	Erica Hamilton	325-9877
Class Coordinator	Frank Auerswald	365-8306	Refreshments	Susan Dobson	564-2373
Door Prizes	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Show Chairperson	Sharon Rogow	499-0272
Federation Director	Sharon Rogow	499-0272	Sunshine	Anita Zell	876-1189
Financial Planner	George Messenger	733-6578	Webmaster/Liaison	Jack Toogood	642-4788
First Friday	Lorna Metz	877-4258	Zoo Display	Sandy Smith	290-2675
Historians	Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek	876-3861	Shop General Foreman	Richard Fyfe	645-7553
Hospitality	Jim & Carri Holmes	499-3869	Shop Supervisor	Howard Abrams	644-6960
Jewelry Makers	Lorna Metz & Sandy Cunningham co-chairs	877-4258 & 806-0816	Shop Supervisor	Wes Bryant	228-3331
Membership	Juanita Durham	561-9511	Shop Supervisor	Larry Grillett	656-0262
New Member Liaison	Richard Fyfe	645-7553	Shop Supervisor	Mike Kisner	285-2032
Newsletter Editor	Sandy Cunningham	806-0816	Shop Supervisor	Mike Kirk	433-4146
Parliamentarian/	Larry Grillett	656-0262	Shop Supervisor	Bob Lofaro	614-4351
Sgt. At Arms			Shop Supervisor	Lorna Metz	877-4258
Pebble Pups	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Shop Supervisor	Sharon Rogow	499-0272
Program Director	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	Shop Supervisor	Tom Skeary	459-2649
			Shop Supervisor	Sandy Smith	290-2675

Any changes in workshop schedule—contact Richard Fyfe—645-7553

SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIPS for 2009

JANUARY

FEBRUARY



FIELD TRIPS

We now have information on **Burro Creek**. We will be going from April 22 through April 26.

We'll be digging for agate and pastellite.

(4W DRIVE RECOMMENDED FOR ALL FIELD TRIPS)

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**FIELD TRIP
COMMITTEE PERSONS**
CLIFF JACKSON
292-7938

MICHAEL KIRK
433-4146

**TRIPS START AT
8 a.m.
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**IF IT HAS RAINED
WITHIN 24 hrs. OR RAIN
IS PREDICTED FOR THE
DAY
or
WIND IS MORE THAN
25 mph.**

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Happy Valentine's
Day!



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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
P.O. Box 94744
Las Vegas, NV 89193

Website: www.sngms.com
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5.5" x 8" Half Page	\$90	\$170
11" x 8" Full Page	\$150	\$275

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

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

Sandy Cunningham, Editor

Email: wrapsodylasvegas@gmail.com