



The Polished Slab

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



January 2011

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 71 Issue 1

Upcoming Events

Jan 29 - Rock Stars
 Feb 3 - Board Meeting
 Feb 7 - General Meeting

Wire Wrapping - each Monday except General Meeting night, 3 PM or 6 PM at the Shop, contact Peggy Sue Moore at 702-434-6072 for more information.
 (no Wire Wrap classes on Jan. 17th)

Silversmithing - each Tuesday, 5 PM at the Shop, contact Frank Auerswald for more information.

Inside this issue:

General Meeting Minutes	2
SNGMS Meeting dates & General Meeting location map	3
In Memoriam - Raymond Simpson	4
Shop Report	5
Birthdays	6
Vendor Opportunities	6
ZZyx and Show Info! Reminders	6
Quartzsite Dates & Upcoming Shows	7

President's Message

from Sue Moore

We are off and running for 2011. The shop is great and we figured out where our monthly meetings will be held. I am looking forward to taking all of the new classes being offered to the membership and encourage all of you to do the same. Let's take advantage of all of the combined knowledge of the club membership.

I am looking for an instructor for Flint Knapping, so if we have a member who is willing to teach this art, contact me.

Thank you, Bill Lemmon, for all of the great field trips in 2010. We will be expanding our trip access by going 2 times to the sites. Bill needs volunteer guides to assist him, so give him a call if you would like to become a field trip guide.

When my husband, Bill, and I joined SNGMS, we were complete novices, but were enthusiastic about rock hounding. Doris Currington put up with many, many questions and mentored us on identifying fossils and minerals. I also owe Bill Kogan for showing me how to properly use my 4 wheel drive in the jeep, along with his vast knowledge of rocks and minerals, has taught me and many others a great deal about lapidary arts.

Let's us continue to learn from each other in the coming year. Good Luck and Good Hounding.

Dues are due by January 31st



Board Meeting Summary - December 18, 2010

The Board Meeting was preceded by a Shop Foreman and Supervisors Meeting where hours of operation, supervisors, use of facilities, and classes were discussed.

The Board Meeting of December 18, 2010 met with the special purpose to set a new meeting hall location.

Committee volunteers are needed for a number of positions.

Reservations will be made at Burro Creek.

The meeting 3 Jan. 2011 is the last time we will have our meeting at the senior center. The senior center has restricted the hours of use to close too early for our members. A search for a new meeting location has resulted in an excellent location. Two doors north of the shop is a meeting hall that will seat 200. They have no business on Mondays. For the same price as current meeting hall, the hall may be rented from 4:00 PM till Midnight. The address is 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, building E #122. The committee moved to the hall to observe and ask questions of the owner and then returned to vote yes on the location.

General Meeting Summary - January 3, 2011

Old Business -

Committee Reports

Membership, Mary Brandt is helping with sign-in and correcting addresses today.

Rock Stars, Mary Beth Paladino gave report on Rock Stars. They will divide into two groups. The older group will be called the Rock Stars and the younger group will be called the Rockhounds. Mary Beth is going to stop working on the raffle table so she can devote full time to the Rock Stars. The raffle table will be done by Tom Skeary in the future. Their next meeting will be Jan. 29, 2011.

Raffle: Mary Beth Paladino gave the report. We will limit the table to twenty items in the effort to conserve time. Tom Skeary will take over the table.

Field Trip, Bill Lemmon gave the report. No trips will be scheduled in January because of the Quartzsite activities and Avi. Avi is a part of the Quartzsite program that moved to Laughlin. The indoor time for Avi will be 14, 15, and 16 Jan. 2011.

Bulletin, Lorrilee gave report. She reminded all members that the bulletin will be sent by e-mail to all who have it. Please assure your email address is correct if you are missing copies. Please share this information with friends, if they aren't getting the bulletin.

Guest appearance: Frank Walling is visiting the area and has been president of our previous associations

Shop Report given by Chuck Huebler. The shop needs a 55 gallon drum to store supplies used in lost wax classes. Carolyn Chervenak volunteered to donate the container. Thank you Carolyn.

New Business -

New location, our meeting location has been moved. The new address is 3111 S. Valley View Building E, Suite 122 Las Vegas NV 90103, phone 702-813-8221. This meeting hall is practically next door to the shop. This location will hold up to 200 persons, rents for the same price as the current hall, and the time for our meetings will not be limited. The meeting time will remain the same.

Call for Committee Volunteers: Please keep in mind most, if not all committees need back up. *See page 7 for current approved committee chairmen as well as open positions.* Two persons have volunteered for Federation, Sharon Rogow, and Doris Currington. Jan Fitzgerald has volunteered for Publicity and Marketing. The Show Chair is open, and Sandy Cunningham will research show programs. Bill Lemmon is Field Trip Chairman and requests help for week end trips. Historian is open and computer skills are needed for updating hard copy to digital files. Library is open, also the club is asking for donations of related materials to increase the service. Classes: we have sign-up sheets available for classes, and the chair is open.

Other Comments and Questions:

Everett Bartlett commented on our upcoming plans to consider the Federation's proposal to have the SNGMS sponsor their 2012 show in Las Vegas. He recommended caution. Discussion followed and much more planning will be done prior to any action.

Program - A talk was given by Doris Currington on the Geographical history of Nevada.

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 email, 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 email address. Please make sure your email and mailing address are kept up to date. **If you are in the local area and want to continue receiving the Polished Slab by mail, you may do so for an additional cost of \$6.00 per year, paid to the Membership chairman.**

February Program

The subject of the program to be presented at the February General Meeting is **Everything you ever wanted to know about 4-wheel driving and the off-road experience** by Darrel Wade, from the Vegas Valley 4 wheelers.

Tax Deduction Opportunity

Tax time is upon us! This year we have until April 18th to file our 2010 IRS returns. SNGMS is a non-profit, charitable organization, and any donations you would like to make to SNGMS this year can be claimed as deductions on your 2011 tax return next year, so plan ahead.

Prehistory of Southwest Program

There is a talk about the prehistory of the southwest, titled Mystery of the Ancient Ones, at the Boulder City library on Tuesday, January 11, at 7 pm given by Doug Bowman. The library is at 701 Adams Blvd. Doug Bowman is currently a volunteer docent at Lake Mead National Recreation Area and was a professional archaeologist for several years for various federal agencies.

SNGMS 2011 Meetings

February	03	Board Meeting	August	01	General Meeting
	07	General Meeting			
March	03	Board Meeting	September	08	Board Meeting
	07	General Meeting		12	General Meeting
	31	Board Meeting		29	Board Meeting
April	04	General Meeting	October	03	General Meeting
	28	Board Meeting			
May	02	General Meeting	November	03	Board Meeting
				07	General Meeting
June	02	Board Meeting	December	Open	
	06	General Meeting			
July	07	Board Meeting	All Board Meetings at Shop 3111 S. Valley View Blvd. E-125		All General Meetings at 3111 S. Valley View Blvd. E-122
	11	General Meeting			
	28	Board Meeting			

SNGMS General Meeting

1st Monday of every month

(2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday)

Non-members welcome!

3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-122

Las Vegas, NV

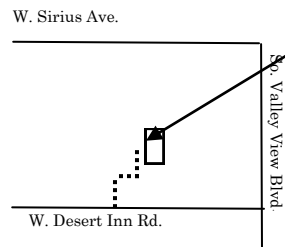
Show & Sell 5-6 PM

Meeting 6-8 PM

SNGMS General Meeting

3111 So. Valley View Blvd,
Building E

Unit 122



Finding the New General Meeting 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 and you will be in front of Building E.

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P.O. Box 94744

Las Vegas, NV 89193





In Memoriam – Raymond Gervan Simpson

was born in Grass Valley, Nevada County, California on May 1, 1916. He volunteered for service and signed up for the Army on January 23, 1941. He served in the First and Fourth Armored Divisions, and then Company B, 319th Engineering Battalion, 94th Infantry Division. He left for overseas duty aboard the Queen Elizabeth to Scotland in August 1944. From England, he crossed the English Channel to Normandy, Utah Beach, in France on September 4, 1944 and on to the European Theater of Operations.

He received decorations of three Battle Stars, Northern France, Ardennes, and Rhineland, also received the Purple Heart for wounds of both legs in action against the enemy, and the Bronze Star with the "V" for Valor. This took place January 30, 1945 in the Triangle of Germany (at or near Besch, Germany). The Bronze Star was awarded for his heroic achievement *"As the patrol ... was approaching the edge of a wooded area, and withering cross fire of small arms pinned the patrol down, wounding several members of the patrol in the sudden onslaught of enemy fire. Attracted by the moans of a wounded comrade a few yards ahead, Technician Simpson crawled, with fearless disregard for personal safety, to administer first aid to the stricken man's wounds.*

Waiting until the firing had subsided, he attempted to carry his wounded friend back to a first aid station, but was caught in a grazing fire which inflicted severe wounds in both of his legs. Technician Simpson's unselfish courage and exemplary heroism in attempting to get his comrade to an aid station for medical care are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service."

Raymond was rescued by Sgt. James (Jim) W. Taylor, and he named his first son "Jim" in remembrance of the man who saved his life. The death of the comrade and buddy Ray was trying to save, Robert R. Tardiff, lingered with great emotion in Raymond's memories throughout his life.

After recovery from his injuries Raymond was released from Active Duty, remaining in the Army Reserve. He took on job training in paint chemistry and manufacturing, later moving to Utah and working at BYU as foreman of the paint department. He studied art, geology, and genealogy. He spent time as a uranium prospector and many years as a silver and goldsmith in the jewelry business. He enjoyed rock hounding and lapidary arts associated with his rock club activities as president of three gem societies in two states. He moved to Las Vegas, Nevada where he became foreman of the paint department at Nellis AFB, and retired after 16 year of service there in 1980.

Little wonder Raymond found himself interested in rock hounding and other related fields of interest. He grew up as a small child in mining towns across the western states and panning gold in northern California as a teenager. His prospecting and mining uranium and cinnabar in the 1950's took him to areas of Wyoming, Nevada, Colorado, and Utah that in those days were still without roads. His studies and education were geology, topography map reading, mineralogy, art, and silver jewelry design at BYU and in the field.

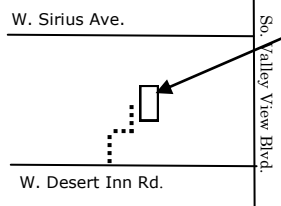
In 1955 Raymond was responsible for starting the Payson Rock Club in Payson, Utah, which became part of the Timpanogas Gem and Mineral Society at Provo, Utah. He was their fourth president, field trip, program, and show chairman.

After moving to Las Vegas Raymond and his family joined the Clark County Gem Collectors. Both Raymond and his wife, Evanelle were active in the club. Raymond was president in 1964 and held positions as show, field trip, and program chairman. About 1966 he joined the Boulder City and the Happy Valley Clubs. He was president of Happy Valley as well as serving as field trip, program, and show chairman. He joined the Las Vegas Gem Club and served as board member, field trip, show, and program chairman. The Nevada Federation was formed in 1966 and Raymond was the first president. He chaired or was involved in many large gem and mineral shows (1965 at the Flamingo, and an American Federation Show hosted by the Clark County Club), and organized a rock swap meet in Tonopah, Nevada with more than 2,500 attendees from several states.

Raymond passed away on Dec. 16, 2010 at the age of 94. He and his wife, Evanelle were married for 52 years, she passed away in 1991. He is survived by his daughter, Evarae McAfee of Kingman, Arizona and his two sons, Jim C. Simpson, and Ross G. Simpson and his wife Tammy of Las Vegas. He is also survived by five grandsons and a great-granddaughter.



Shop Report



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.

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

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 and Tom Skeary*

Supervisors will be glad to help anyone who is unfamiliar with the equipment to learn, and to get certified. No special knowledge or equipment is required to get started learning the lapidary arts. You don't even need to have a rock, as materials are available at the shop.

You can learn just cabochon making using the trim saw, Genie and a rock slab from the shop, or you can cut your own slab from a rock you bring in or purchase at the shop. You can learn to cut geodes, and they can also be purchased at the shop.

For safety, users of the shop equipment are requested to wear closed shoes and long pants or an apron. They also need to wear eye protection and a mask and/or hearing protection, depending on their activity. Goggles, hearing protection, and masks are available at the shop. Wearing old clothes is recommended

THINK 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 Tom or Chuck and they will try to accommodate your schedule, if a supervisor is available.

January is National Hobby Month

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Refrigerator Needed

The club needs a refrigerator, in working condition. If you can provide one, or for more information, contact Peggy Sue Moore at 434-6072



Birthstone:
Amethyst

Flower: Primrose or Violet

Happy February Birthday!

If you have a February birthday please bring something for the refreshment table at the February meeting. And if your birthday was in December, this is an excellent month for you to bring a refreshment!

Lane Barker, Maranda Brandt, F. J. Coache, Dr. Joseph DeBauchamp, Juan Decastro, Christian Diamandis, Craig Edmonds, Deborah A. Evans, Bonnie Evelyn, Carmen Harper, Cathy Hartel, Ralph Henderson, Cliff Jackson, Ada Joffrion, Kerin Landry, Steve Liguori, Makayla Lyons, Thomas Marshall, Adam Q. Miller, David Parks, Leon Pruet, Jackie Reinig, Barbara Sines, Shari Steffens, Hugh Ward, and Ryan Young

Vendor Opportunities

St. Patrick's Day: website is www.sosoe.com. Booths are between \$200 and \$300 inside the convention center. The event runs three days. Go to the website to download their forms. DEADLINE IS 2-1-2011!

Feast of San Genaro: Located at the Silverton this year. Vendor booths start at \$600.00. DEADLINE IS 4-21-2011. Google Feast of San Genaro and follow the vendor links.

Clark County Fair: website is www.ccfair.com. Go to website to download forms. DEADLINE is 2-15-2011

ZZyxx and Show Info/Reminders *by Sharon Rogow*

ZZyxx is just about sold out for March 27 to April 3, so if you are interested in participating, contact Sharon Rogow IMMEDIATELY at 499-0272 or Sharonrr@cox.net. The fee is \$350.00 per person and includes room, all meals and unlimited classes i.e. silversmith, scrimshaw, beading, wirewrap, metal clay, chainmail, soft stone carving, field trips and educational lectures. It's located only one and a half hours (depending how fast you drive) south of Las Vegas. If you cannot go for the whole week, they will prorate according to attendance and RV people get a \$50.00 discount per person!!! Its practically right in our own backyard so lets go!!!

Also, our society has been asked to apply to hold the 2012 Federation Show here in Las Vegas. A Federation Show Coordinator is willing to come here to talk to us about all of the important aspects of putting on a show. This would enable us to make an informed decision and we need to act quickly. There is no cost or obligation to our society for this meeting. I hope that we have the support of the members to at least thoroughly investigate this potentially significant money raising project. It is also a fun project with lots of work (you better believe it) and a terrific education. This could lead to a yearly show of our own which we used to do and it was a significant fund (and fun) raiser! Lets look at it!!

Jerry Hesch, MHS, PT
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www.heschmanualtherapy.com

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Treasurer.....Pat Skeary.....702-459-2649
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Parliamentarian.....Frank Auerswald

Three Year Board...Tom Skeary

Two Year Board.....Clare Breneman

One Year Board.....Sheri Johnson
 Bill Moore

Committee Chairmen

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Federation.....open
sngms_federation@yahoo.com

Field Trip.....Bill Lemmon.....702-443-7195
 or 443-7192
sngms_fieldtrip@yahoo.com

Inventory.....Ronald Fetcho

Membership.....open
sngmsmembership@yahoo.com

Raffle & Door Prizes.Tom Skeary.....702-459-2649
 Sue Dobson

Refreshments.....Sue Dobson

Rock Stars.....Mary Beth Paladino.....702-255-1647
sngms_rockstars@yahoo.com

Shop Foremen.....Chuck Huebler.....702-686-4186
 Tom Skeary.....702-459-2649

Sunshine.....Dottie Fusch

Webmaster.....Jack Toogood.....702-642-4788
sngms_webmaster@yahoo.com

Open Committee Chair Positions:

Classes, Federation, Historian, Librarian, Membership, Program, Publicity/Marketing, and Show

Contact any Board member to volunteer for a position, or a Committee chairman to offer to help on their committee.

Quartzsite

Pow Wow Field Trips—January 19-23.

Jan 19 - Fossils, Departure North, 13 mi; Desert Rose*, Departure East, 33 mi

Jan 20 - Willey's Well* (Red/Yellow Jasper), Departure East, 60 mi ; Green Banded Rhyolite, Departure North, 13 mi;

Jan 21 - Birdseye Rhyolite, Departure South, 28 mi; Purple Jasper Agate, Departure North, 58 mi;

Jan 22 - Jasper/Hematite, Departure North, 21 mi; Apache Tears*, Departure East, 79 mi

Jan 23 - Bacon Rock, Departure North, 13 mi; Palo Verde Pastelite*, Departure East, 48 mi

Temporary \$2 Roadrunner membership required for insurance purposes. No signup necessary. All line-up/departure times are 8:30/9:00 AM. Trips marked with an * are High Clearance Only, although high clearance vehicles are recommended for all trips.

Departure areas: East- meet north side of Kuehn St.-east of Riggles Ave (Exit 19); North- meet on Tyson Dr., 100 yds. East of the Fire Station off Hwy 95 north of Quartzsite; South- meet south on Hwy 95 near milepost 103 See Quartzsitegemandmineralclub.org site for additional information.

Upcoming Shows

January 1-31, Laughlin, NV - Cloud's Jamboree Gem & Mineral Show, Avi Resort and Casino, 10000 Aha Macav Parkway- outdoor show across from Avi Resort, 9AM—dusk every day. Indoor show Jan 7-16 from 10-6.

January 15-16 2011, Exeter, CA - Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Exeter Veteran Memorial Bldg., 324 N. Kaweah (Highway 65) Hours: Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-4

January 14-16, Globe AZ- 54th annual show Gila Co. Gem & Mineral Society, Gila County Fair Grounds, 3 mi. north of US 60-70 Junction; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4

January 28,29,30, Redlands, CA - Mineralogical Society of Southern California, Micromounters Symposium, San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Hours: Fri. 5-10PM, Sat. 9AM-5 PM

February 10-13, Tucson, AZ - Tucson Gem & Mineral Society; Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church St.; Thu. 10-6, Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5;

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society

P.O. Box 94744

Las Vegas, NV 89193-4744

Return Service Requested



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.

<p>Club Mascot: Rock Wren</p> <p>Club Gemstone: Turquoise</p> <p>Club Logo: Rocks-R-Us</p> <p>Membership is open to anyone with an interest in: Rocks, Gems, Geology, Fossils, Lapidary Arts or Silversmithing</p> <p>Annual Dues: Individual - \$20; Family - \$30</p> <p>Meetings are held the first Monday of the month at 3111 So. Valley View Blvd, E-122. No meeting is held in December. Instead we have our annual awards dinner.</p> <p>Visitors are always welcome and bring a friend or two.</p>	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			