



The Polished Slab

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



July 2011

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 71 Issue 7

Upcoming Events

July 25 - Nevada Test Site tour

July 28 - Board Meeting

Aug 1 - General Meeting

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

Silversmithing - each Tuesday, 5 PM at the Shop

Beading - Every other Thursday, at 6 PM at the Shop. Next class Aug 11.

See page 8 for more class information

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President's Message

from Sue Moore

Woe is me. It's too hot to rock hound!

This is the annual doldrums for all of us here in the south west, however, this is a good time to do some scouting for sites. In fact, there are a few places that I have wanted to check out.

We are planning on taking a few Jeep trails to see what we can see. If we don't spot any collectables, then no loss, we had fun exploring. For example, I always wanted to take the Jeep trail over the top into the Pahrump Valley from Cold Creek. It is a pretty rough trail with wash outs and the last time we went out there, we were in the truck and we felt the truck was too wide for the trail. We plan on going over the top in the Jeep. The other trail we want to check out is the Corn Creek Trail from West to East.

Having said all that, we have some precautions to take:

1. File a plan via email with a neighbor so that they know that we are going out, where we are going, and what time we expect to return. If we don't return on time or call them with a change of plans, they will know to blow the whistle and send help.
2. Bring as much water as we can carry, along with the first aid kit and off-road safety kit.
3. Make sure the camera battery is fully charged.
4. Go with another Jeep.
5. Top off the fuel at the last gas station we pass before going off road.
6. Pack a good lunch (include trail mix since that woman lasted a month on it last winter)
7. Do a last minute weather check to confirm whether or not we have to worry about monsoons. Conditions can change quickly during this time of the year.

We had our Jeep lifted this year, so we now have higher clearance for these kinds of trips. We also keep the Jeep in top condition, but we know to prepare for the unknown, as much as we can. If we do have a break-down, and are with another 4 wheel vehicle, our options are greater.

We love living in Las Vegas, but the best part is the fact that we can be in the great outdoors within 30 minutes. We respect the land, so we drive on the existing trails, heed the closed road markers, and watch the trails for the desert tortoise.

Go out and have some fun!

Board Meeting Summary - July 7, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P. M. The pledge of allegiance was given.

The minutes from the board meeting on 2 June were read by Glenn Beye and approved without change.

The Treasurer's report was given by Pat Skeary. A profit of \$631.00 was made last month. It was noted here that Cliff Jackson made the purchase for the saw lubricating oil through his company, Eagle Promotions.

Unfinished Business:

County Business License, Peggy Sue Moore will continue to work on this. There is no fee for the license however it could affect our taxes.

Nevada Test Site trip on 25 July 8, 2011 still needs more to sign up to complete the trip we must have 25. So far we have 13.

Bylaw committee: Clair Breneman has a list of suggestions and will be presenting them to other committee members.

Discussion about the board meeting followed, Should the board meeting be open or closed. The board agreed to keep it open with controls. Persons wishing to present items to the board should send request to a board member at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Peggy Sue will make a written statement to clarify this rule.

The fees for the lockers were discussed, a rental fee per month was agreed on as a time of use. Transferring to another locker does not transfer the fee. A new fee would be paid for another locker.

Clean up after classes, the instructor should assure area is cleaned up after a class. Persons using the area are expected to clean up the area and equipment prior to leaving.

A nominating committee needs to be formed. Volunteers are needed. Remember, members of the nominating committee may not run for office.

December pot luck: We will confirm the building is available at Washington and Bruce. Volunteers must open the nominations in September, Nominate in October, Vote in November, and Install in December at the Pot luck.

Discussion about having a show followed. Problems such as cost, vendor list, and location were discussed.

A web site called, Craft Master News.COM, can give a listing of Locations of shows in advance, subscription is \$49.00 yearly. Peggy Sue will follow up.

A question about guest on field trips was made. Can a non-member get an insurance waiver, or one day coverage? We will ask the federation.

The Tri-fold for the club hand out was presented by Lorrilee Stackhouse. The concept was approved and a bid will be made by Lorrilee to make an initial purchase. Glenn will donate the paper.

Home Depot has a program that will give a discount to non-Profit organizations. They may give direct donations to some groups. They need a letter from SNGMS listing our needs. Fans, air conditioners and UV Lights from Holland were among the suggestions. Pat Skeary will make a letter.

Glenn Beye will try to bring a speaker to the August meeting. Subject will be solar energy and lighting. He will ask about UV lighting and devices for off road applications.

We need a budget committee. Pat Skeary will give a year to date summary.

Students, in all classes must be self sufficient. It is understood that a new student may need to buy some supplies from the SNGMS; however, SNGMS does not intend to be a store or a supplier.

We need a scanner, Pat Skeary made a motion to purchase a flat Scanner for up to \$300.00 Glenn seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P. M.

General Meeting Summary - July 11, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. and the pledge of allegiance recited.

The minutes of the June general meeting were read and approved without correction.

Pat Skeary gave the treasurer's report noting a profit for the month. The report was available for review in front during the meeting. The treasurer also has a silver inventory.

Membership: John Stackhouse reports 394 members today.

Rock stars/ Rock hounds: Mary Beth Paladino reports more instructors are needed for 6 to 12 Kids. The new web site will be ready 23 July.

Field Trips: The Ely trip was successful, despite the cold nights and the daily mosquitos.

Test Site: The trip is July 25, 2011. There are 36 who have signed up and there is room for 10 more to sign up. Remember this trip is free. Bring your own food and snacks.

Sunshine report: Dottie Fusch reports Barbara Heim is in the hospital with pneumonia.

Federation Report: Doris reports more road closures.

Web master: Jack Toogood reports the web site is working: SNGMS.COM.

Library Report: We need more books; donations are welcome.

New members and five guests were present, one of which is a flint knapper.

Birthdays for this month were acknowledged. July birth stone is ruby.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Reminder, the stencil patterns are still available for three dollars each.

Time is here to prepare for the award dinner on 11 December 2011. This year the pot luck is the normal routine. We discussed the options of having pot luck or to have another catered event. Both the Hilton and the Eagle's club are available. A general vote from the membership was requested. A mail in form will be sent to the membership with an option to check for potluck or catering. Please send in your vote.

CLASSES: Please let the instructor know if you are not coming to the class. Class members and workers, please clean your area after your project is done.

Wire wrapping will be on Mondays at 6:00 PM only.

Silver class will be held with Bill Lemmon over July and August.

Beading will be held on Thursday with Pat Skeary at 6:00 P.M.

Clock Making will be with Tom Skeary 23-24 July.

Cabs will be made with any shop supervisor.



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P.O. Box 94744

Las Vegas, NV 89193



General Meeting Summary - cont.

Wheel Repair: It will cost \$700.00 to repair the Genie wheels. Please be attentive to the proper use of the wheels.

Safety: Watch out for the washes. This time of year is when water can surprise anyone. Do not park in low areas, use bright colors, and carry communication. One example is a GPS Message called Find Me Spot.Com

Meeting adjourned at 7:10

Nevada Test Site Tour

The date for the tour is Monday 25 July 2011; Start time is 7:30 AM returning at 3:30 – 4:PM. Meeting point is at the Atomic Testing Museum 755 East Flamingo road near Terrible's Casino. You must be a citizen over 14 years of age to go on this tour. I will need 25 minimum and 46 maximum participants, so please be sure you will go when you sign up. We will have a handicap accessible bus.

Everyone needs to bring their own lunch and snacks. Bring plenty to drink as well.

NO phones, cameras, or other devices are allowed. No Pets. No Booze.

Call me, at 702-354-9808, email To Beyedad@cox.net, I will need to know your: Full name, date and place of birth, citizen ship, your phone number and Street address. Please sign up with me or send the form to me. I must have them all complete by 18 July 2011 to deliver as a batch.

Prohibited Items: Cameras, Cellular phones, Weapons, Explosives, Any Item Prohibited by Law, Controlled Substances, Ammunition, Incendiary Devices, Binoculars, Optical Devices, Transmitting& Receiving Devices (PDA, BlackBerry, etc.), Laptops & Associated Media, Alcohol, Chemical Irritants. Pets & Animals, Global Positioning System (GPS), Recorders, Portable Data Storage Devices



Photo Courtesy of Mary Brandt

The Fearless Faceter Strikes Again!

Aka President Peggy Sue Moore

Annual Award Banquet Preference

Everyone is encouraged to vote on their preference for the Award Banquet to be held on December 11th. The choices are: a catered event at the Hilton, like last year, or a pot luck. You can vote by emailing me at lorrilee@cox.net, or by mailing the following coupon to Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125, Las Vegas, NV 89102, or by bringing the coupon into the Shop at the same address.

My choice for the Award Banquet is:

Catered

Pot Luck



Lifetime Member Spotlight

Life membership is a distinguished and privileged title extended to an adult member with a minimum of ten years membership in the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society, or it's preceding clubs, who has held office as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director, Show Chairman, or Editor and has held three committee chairs; whose nomination has been presented by an SNGMS member to the Board of Directors in a written statement of qualifications and attributes, and whose application has been approved by the Board of Directors and presented with previous notice to the membership and approved by a majority vote.

Starting with this issue, we will get to know more about this group who have done so much for SNGMS.

George and Priscilla Messenger joined to participate in the field trips, and they have amassed their own specimen collection as well as collecting for their grandchildren. Additionally, they have been of great service to SNGMS. George currently serves as the club financial advisor and his management of the club's building fund has yielded a nice return that is used to offset current club expenses. This has allowed the club to maintain very minimal dues for a number of years.

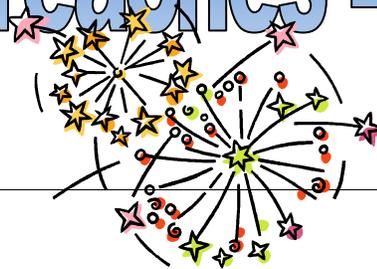
George grew up on the east coast. He received his B.S. in physics from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1951, his master of science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania in 1957, and his Ph.D. in engineering from California Coast University in 1986. He worked for several years as a scientist on many aspects of solid-state device electronics. In 1968, he founded Messenger & Associates, a company operating in three areas- engineering and research consultation, real estate, and financial management. Dr. Messenger is the co-discoverer of the Messenger-Spratt Equation for damage in bipolar semi-conductor devices and discoverer of the Kirk Effect in bipolar transistors. He holds a number of patents in the microwave diode and hardened semiconductor field. He has co-authored several books, contributed numerous articles to various technical journals, and has received many prestigious awards in recognition of his work.

Priscilla also grew up in New England. She attended Ursinus College in Pennsylvania from 1953-1955 and received her B.A. in history from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas in 1981. She has been an integral part of Messenger & Associates, serving as president 1987 to 2007, and real estate manager from 1967 to 1978. She has been a member of several community service organizations, including a leader, trainer, and troop consultant for the Girl Scouts of America. She can trace her ancestry back to the Pilgrims.

Dr. and Mrs. Messenger have been married for 57 years and have three children - two sons and one daughter - and several grandchildren. All the Messengers are avid skiers and also love to run, bike, and hike. They enjoy traveling, and make an annual trip to China where they have an apartment. They are, obviously, avid rock and gemstone collectors.

SNGMS Membership reaches 400!

During the July meeting the 400th member joined SNGMS.



All the establishments featured in this section 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 you!

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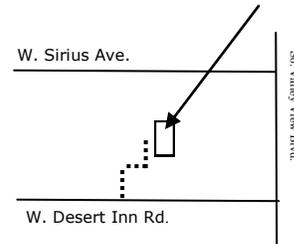
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SNGMS 2011 Meetings		SNGMS General Meeting	
Mar 03 Board	July 28 Board	1st Monday of every month (2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) <i>Non-members welcome!</i> 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-122 Las Vegas, NV Show & Sell 5-6 PM Meeting 6-8 PM	
07 General	Aug 01 General		
31 Board	Sep 08 Board		
Apr 04 General	12 General		
28 Board	29 Board		
May 02 General	Oct 03 General		
June 02 Board	Nov 03 Board		
06 General	07 General		
July 07 Board	Dec Open		
July 11 General			
All Meetings at 3111 S. Valley View Blvd. Bldg. E. Board Meetings at Shop, Suite 125, General Meetings at Suite 122.			

3111 So. Valley View Blvd, Building E
Meeting Location Suite 122
Shop Suite 125



Finding the Shop and 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.

Please, **under no circumstances**, park in front of Unit 124 (the unit next to the Shop). The owner of the unit comes in at odd hours and needs access to his parking spaces. There is ample parking across from the Shop that is not in front of any unit.

Lockers Now Available

Two sizes of lockers are now available for rental in the shop. Provide your own lock and enjoy the convenience of storing tools and materials between classes or lapidary sessions. Large lockers - \$10.00 and small lockers - \$5.00 per month.

Donations are always needed for the raffle at the General Meetings. Don't forget there will be a Fall Garage Sale, so start saving your donations. Let those whosits and whatsits earn some money for SNGMS. Remember, items don't have to be rock related, any household items are fine, as long as they are in saleable condition.

Sunshine Report

from Dottie Fusch



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 me—Dottie Fusch at 648-5886 (recorder on). Cards will be sent to let the member know that we care and wish them well.

Barbara Heim is in the hospital with pneumonia.

Don Evans was hospitalized with a minor stroke, but was well enough to attend the July meeting.

Classes, Classes, Classes!

The summer heat is here, and class attendance has suffered. If you usually attend a class and will not be doing so, please let the instructor know so that they will not be waiting for students who do not show up. Remember, the shop is nicely air conditioned, so come out, have some fun and learn new skills.

Wire wrapping, led by Sue Moore and Sheila Tremmel, meets on Mondays (except for the General Meeting night) at 6 PM (the 3 PM class is discontinued for the summer). This month there is only one class on July 18th due to holiday and Test Site trip. The projects will be: July 18 - participant choice of either Reef Knot Bangle or Tropical Fish Pendant. Sign up with Sue Moore at 702-434-6072 to get on the email list to receive wire wrapping class information.

The beading class is still working on their individual projects. The next meeting is Aug 11th at 6 PM. The class is currently working on their choice of two bracelets, or finishing their ornaments. Contact Pat Skeary at 702-459-2649 to sign up for beading or for more information.

Silversmithing meets every Tuesday at 5 PM. Bill Lemmon is leading the class during July and August, giving Frank some well earned time off. He is doing some project classes, or will help you, as needed, as you complete your own individual projects. The class is experimenting with using copper as well as silver to create jewelry.

The faceting class is meeting on Tuesdays for this session. The next class is being formed, and the time and day will depend on the need of the students. Sign up sheets are available at the SNGMS Shop, or at the meeting. The donation for the faceting class is \$20.00 per session, with an expected length of at least five sessions. The current class is extended well beyond the five sessions, but the next class will be limited to four students so it should progress more quickly.

A class in Clock Making with Tom Skeary will be held in the shop on Saturday and Sunday, July 23-24. You can sign up in the shop for this awesome class!

A class in rock tumbling is going to be held on a Wednesday evening. If you are interested be sure you are on the sign up sheet so you will be notified. Again, the sheet is available in the Shop.

Chuck Huebler is offering a drop in shop maintenance class on Saturday mornings. Come in at 10 AM and he will teach you about maintaining your lapidary equipment.

Examples of the wire wrapping and beading projects are displayed in the SNGMS Shop, so come down and take a look. Wire wrapping, beading, and silversmithing classes have a very modest donation of \$5.00 per session, that goes to the club. Other class donations may vary, depending on what is included in the class and the expected wear to the shop equipment. All classes are held in the SNGMS Shop.



Photos Courtesy of John Stackhouse

Shop Report

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.

Donated lapidary equipment is available for purchase in the Shop. Stop in and take a look!

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.

For safety, users of the shop equipment are requested to wear closed shoes. 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

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 at 702-630-6796 or Chuck at 702-686-4186 and they will try to accommodate your schedule if possible.



Photo courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse



Photos Courtesy of John Stackhouse

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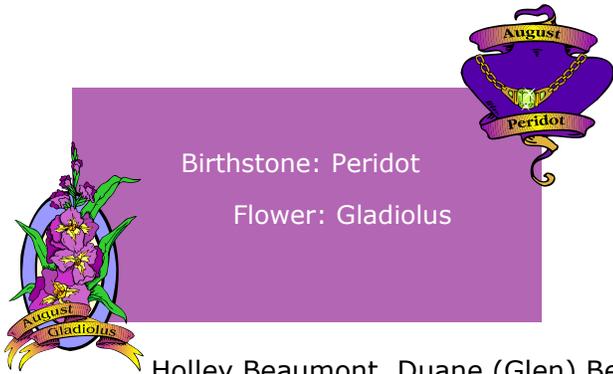
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Clean Up!

Be sure you clean up after yourself in the shop. If you don't know how to clean the equipment after use, ask a Supervisor to show you. Wipe off your table space, throw away any trash, sweep up any mess you make on the floor. Let's all keep our Shop space neat and tidy.



Happy August Birthday!

If you have an August birthday please bring something for the refreshment table at the August meeting.

Holley Beaumont, Duane (Glen) Beye, Mary Brandt, Theresa Brooks, Judy Carlin, Valeri Cline, Sharon Cohen, Ivan Erwin, Dottie Fusch, Marieon Gaines, Brent Greer, Kathy Grew, Angelus Johnson, Vicki Jones, Priscilla Messenger, Michelle Muniz, Tom Skeary, Joann Sprott, Terry Stockman, Bruno Syzdek, Phyllis Syzdek, Ward Wasson, and Steve Wilson

Welcome New Members



A hearty welcome to members who joined or rejoined SNGMS during July. We look forward to getting to know you better!

Deanna Costello, McKinzy Custer, Irene McLaughlin, Barbara Montgomery, Mike Northrup, Frank Shourds, Heather Shourds, Johnathan Shourds, Ronnie Smith, James Steffens, Shari Steffens, Cheryl Thompson, Nathaniel Thompson, and Ward Wasson

Peridot Facts & Fancy

Peridot is the gem variety of olivine, and is a green stone, ranging between yellowish green and dark lime-green. It is between 6.5 and 7 on the moh scale of hardness. It occurs in a number of locations including Arizona, New Mexico and Hawaii in the United States. It is formed during volcanic eruptions. Peridot is a French word derived from the Arabic word "faridat" which means gem

Peridot has been found in ancient ruins in Egypt and Greece. It was one of Cleopatra's favorite gemstones, and was called the "evening emerald" by ancient Romans.

It is rumored to bring the wearer good luck, peace and success. Alternatively it has been thought to bring power and influence. Ground peridot was taken internally as a remedy for asthma at one time.

Jerry Hesch, MHS, PT
The Hesch Method Bodywork

YouTube: jerryhesch
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 Vice-President.....Jack Toogood.....702-642-4788
sngms@yahoo.com
 Secretary.....Glenn Beye *sngms_sec@yahoo.com*
 Treasurer.....Pat Skeary.....702-459-2649
sngms_treasurer@yahoo.com
 Parliamentarian.....Frank Auerswald
 Three Year Board...Tom Skeary
 Two Year Board.....Clare Breneman
 One Year Board.....Sheri Johnson
 Bill Moore

Committee Chairmen

Bulletin.....Lorrilee Stackhouse.....702-631-5291
sngms_editor@yahoo.com
 Education.....Mary Beth Paladino & Doris Currington
 Federation.....Doris Currington
 Alt. Federation.....Sheri Johnson
sngms_federation@yahoo.com
 Field Trip.....Board of Directors
sngms_fieldtrip@yahoo.com
 Financial Manager..George Messenger
 General ShopChuck Huebler.....702-686-4186
 Foremen Tom Skeary.....702-630-6796
 Historian.....Terry Beck
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 Inventory.....Ronald Fetcho
 Librarian.....Kevin Ware
 Membership.....John Stackhouse & Mary Brandt
sngmsmembership@yahoo.com
 Program.....Board of Directors
 Raffle.....Tom Skeary
 50-50 Raffle.....Bill Moore
 Refreshments.....Sue Dobson
 Rock Stars.....Mary Beth Paladino.....702-255-1647
 Rock Hounds *sngms_rockstars@yahoo.com*
 Sargeant at Arms...Craig Tremmel
 Show Chairperson...Board of Directors to manage shows;

Committee Chairmen continued

Sandy Cunningham is show information compiler
 Sunshine.....Dottie Fusch.....702-648-5886
 Webmaster.....Jack Toogood.....702-642-4788
sngms_webmaster@yahoo.com
 Open Committee Chair Positions: Publicity
 Contact any Board member to volunteer for a position, or a Committee Chairman to offer to help on their committee.

Upcoming Shows

July 27-30 - Prescott, AZ, Prescott Gem & Mineral Club, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, 3700 Willow Creek Rd., Prescott, AZ 86301, Hours: Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4

August 5-7 - Nipoma, CA, Orcutt Mineral Society, St. Joseph's Church Recreation Hall, 298 S. Thompson Ave., Hours: 10-5 daily

August 6-7 - San Francisco, CA, San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society, Golden Gate Club, 136 Fisher Loop, The Presidio of San Francisco, Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5

August 6-7—Orangevale, CA, Annual show, "Treasure Trove of Gems"; Orangevale Community Center, 6826 Hazel Ave.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5

These are only a sampling of shows that are fairly close to the Las Vegas area. 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.



Some links that you may find helpful are:
 California Federation - <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>,
 Rocky Mountain Federation - http://www.rmfm.org/rock_shows_by_date.htm,
 and the Rock & Gem website - <http://rockngem.com/showdates/>

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society

3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125

Las Vegas, NV 89102

Return Service Requested



Rocks-R-Us

www.sngms.com

Come visit your SNGMS Shop and join in the fun.!

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	
<p>SNGMS Web Page Ads and Links to your Web Page are available for additional fees.</p> <p>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, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125 Las Vegas, NV 89102</p>			