

SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY

Las Vegas, Nevada



The Polished Slab

Volume 65, Issue 2

February 2005

President's Message

David Rogers, President

Welcome members it's 2005. Where did last year go. I am excited about a new year of rock hunts and meetings. As we enjoy our winter months in Las Vegas we do have time indoors. I would like to invite our members to look at their old pictures and rocks and reminisce of field trips from the past. I know our new and old members would enjoy hearing about them as well.

I would like to challenge our members to create a presentation to be presented at one of our meetings. Take this time to prepare your presentation for our membership to enjoy. If you do not have a story to tell at our meeting think about sharing that tale in the Polished Slab. Lets make our news letter the best read paper in Las Vegas.

In closing I hope we all have plans to visit Quartzsite Az rock show. Have fun and I will see all our you at our February meeting.

United States Gem, Rock, and Mineral Postage Stamps

David Rogers

The United States Postal Service has produced postage stamps depicting rocks, minerals, and gems. Here are some examples.:

Ice

4 cents: 18 Feb 1960



**Petrified Wood
10 cents : 13 Jun 1974**

Tourmaline

10 cents : 13 Jun 1974



**Amethyst
10 cents : 13 Jun 1974**





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(Continued on page 2)

Stamps (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

Rhodocrosite
10 cents : 13 Jun 1974



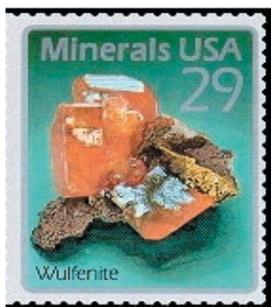
Azurite
29 cents : 17 Sep 1992

Copper
29 cents : 17 Sep 1992



Variscite
29 cents : 17 Sep 1992

Wulfenite
29 cents : 17 Sep 1992



Annoying Little CD

Charlotte Robinson, Sunshine Chair

How many time a year do you get that precious little CD from AOL wanting you to upgrade, add more hours and more money? What is a scream, they mail them to everyone at every address they get from the telemarketers whether you have a computer or not. H A L T- don't throw that gem away!

I have been reading a little everyday since my back surgery and I don't know where I found this bit of information but it said to put a CD in your storage compartment in your automobile in case you become lost you can use it as a reflector for search parties. Now did those fools who mail those to you know how useful they would be? Several hung together like a wind chime on fishing line also scare the pigeons away so when it arrives put it in the auto or take a blank one as it may be your lifesaver someday.

Today we want to give special thanks to Ron Antoku who takes care of our thirst and hunger needs at all our meetings, shows and outings. Without Ron we would be parched and hungry.

Our prayers go out to Mark Breneman, Clare's husband who had a head injury from a fall after Christmas and has had to grace Sunrise hospital for his serious injuries. After surgery he is improving slowly. JoAnne Corbin passed away December 09, 2004 and our prayers and thoughts go out to her family, she will be missed.

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SNGMS Loses Long-time Member and Dear Friend

On December 9th the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society lost a dear friend, JoAnne Corbin.

JoAnne was a member of both the Las Vegas Gem Club and the Clark County Gem Club. She and her husband, Bob, donated much time and structure to both clubs; and after Bob passed away, JoAnne continued to support our club although she was unable to attend the meetings. JoAnne was passionate about everything she did and was definitely passionate about rocks. JoAnne not only appreciated rocks and minerals for their beauty and uniqueness, but for the powers they possessed. If you were ever sick, JoAnne would make you a necklace of turquoise or give you a healing crystal. Her enthusiasm for rocks was contagious and she enlisted many of us in projects to spread the knowledge of rocks and minerals to children. JoAnne had an aunt make rock bags and

members of the club gathered and washed rocks to put in these bags. JoAnne was adamant that we couldn't give dirty rocks to kids. Many of us sat on JoAnne's back porch and scrubbed rocks with toothbrushes. When the rock bags got low, JoAnne suggested boxes that we made at work parties at her house.

JoAnne and Bob were extremely generous—they always donated rocks and other items to the club. JoAnne served as Secretary for the club and always worked overtime in our shows. JoAnne and Bob loved to work at the fluorescent exhibit guiding children through. She went to many schools sharing her knowledge. JoAnne was always making us laugh. One memory of JoAnne at Quartzite—Bob would be one step behind her with his wallet ready and JoAnne would have her hands full of all sorts of treasures and Bob would dish out the cash and they'd move to the next booth.

JoAnne was a devoted wife, daughter, sister, club member, and friend. She leaves a void in the SNGMS that will never be filled.

What's even bigger than a 13-foot high Columbian Mammoth with 10-foot long tusks?



A 48 foot long Ichthyosaur, of course.



The Nevada State Museum's natural history galleries tell the violent story of Nevada—volcanoes that is, and include minerals, gems, and paleo specimens.

The history galleries explore the human side of the shaping of Nevada.

**Visit the Nevada State Museum
700 Twin Lakes Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89107 (702)486-5205
www.nevadaculture.org**

In loving memory of JoAnne S. Corbin

July 9, 1945



December 9, 2004

*Welcome me into the peace and tranquility of eternity.
Goodbye my friends and loves.*

February 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Club Meeting	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Board Meeting	15	16	17	18	19 Field Trip
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

Class Schedule

- Cabochon** Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 12 until 4; and Monday and Wednesday from 7 until 9
Call Ed Rupprecht at 459-8747 to schedule
- Beadng** Every other Monday from 7 until 9. Call Jaen Rupprecht at 459-8747 to schedule
- Silver Smithing** Every Tuesday from 7 until 9. Call Mona Howells at 645-3587 to schedule
- Wire Wrapping** Saturdays. Call Jaen Rupprecht at 459-8747 to schedule.

February Birthdays

Julie	Lewis
Sheldon	Mittman
Nicholas	Sherrod
Barbara	Sines
George	Watrous
Craig	Edmonds

Shop Schedule

Monday: 12 to 4, and 6 until 9
 Tuesday: 12 until 4
 Wednesday: 12 to 4, and 6 until 9
 Saturday: By appointment. Call 459-8747 to schedule.

Instructors

Cabochons: Ed Rupprecht 459-8747
Faceting: Larry Grillett
Wirewrapping: Jaen Rupprecht 459-8747
Beadng: Jaen Rupprecht 459-8747, Maxine Riggs 431-4523
Silver Smithing: Mona Howells 645-3587

Welcome New Club Members

Dennis	Barnett	Candi	Faust
Lynn	Bush	Linda	Lobel
Rafael	Arteaga	Laura	Lobel
Linda	Cauble	Carol	Mittman
Ben	Constantino	Sheldon	Mittman
Elana	Constantino	Larissa	Oanessian
Ernest	Cumberledge	Barbara	Szabo
Mary Ann	Cumberledge	George	Watrous
Gereldene	Deagen	Jonathon	Watrous

Upcoming Field Trips

Bruce Wingate, Field Trip Chair

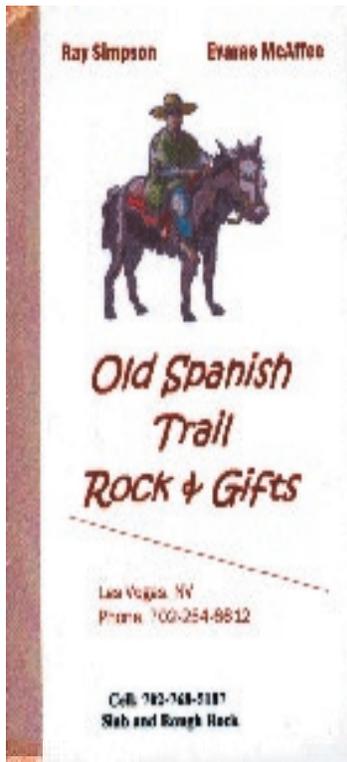
Date	Destination
February 19	To Be Determined
March 19	Lida Junction, Nevada, North of Beatty. Agate, wood, and chalcedony.
April 13-17	Burro Creek, Arizona.
May 21	Sperry Wash, near Tecopa, California. Agate, palm, wood, talc mines.
June 18	Enterprise, Utah. Indian Blanket Jasper. This is a fee site.

This schedule may be subject to change due to the availability of access, and to changing weather conditions.

If you are unable to make the club meeting, you can call me at 702 547-6590 to sign up or find out about the next field trip.

If you are unsure about making a trip, you can call the day before, or show up at the meeting site on the day of the trip.

If any member has a suggestion for a field trip, please contact me.



DUES ARE DUE

The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society is now collecting membership dues for year 2005. You may find you dues to



SNGMS
P.O. Box 94744
Las Vegas, Nevada
89193-4744

OR

Give your dues payment at the next scheduled club meeting.

History Museum and BLM Offer SNGMS Members Field Trip Opportunities

Bruce Wingate, Field Trip Chair

A California museum and the Bureau of Land Management offer field trips to sites throughout central California.

The Buena Vista Museum of Natural History and the BLM have a non-technical program for anyone high school age or older with an interest in recent history, really ancient history (paleontology), minerals, or geology.

The schedule:

Feb. 26: Cerro Gordo

Investigate the ecology, geology, mining activity and mining history of the southern Inyo Mountains, with stops at Little Lake, Lone Pine, Olancho, Keeler, the mining camp of Darwin, Darwin Canyon, and the Crystal Springs mining district.

Mar. 11-12: Old Mojave Road

This program investigates the geology and mining history along the Old Mojave Road from Needles (Ft. Mojave) to Baker (Zzyzx). Camp overnight at Mid-Hills Campground on Saturday night.

Apr. 22-24: Mojave Desert Symposium, Zzyzx

The San Bernardino County Museum is sponsoring a 3-day symposium and a Saturday-Sunday field trip through the mining districts of the Mojave Desert. Members of the BVNHM and BLM employees will be presenting papers at that symposium. For more information, contact: Bob Reynolds, (909) 781-9318 or bobreynolds@lsa-assoc.com; or William Presch, wpresch@exchange.fullerton.edu.

Jun. 11: Johnsondale — California Hot Springs This program examines the history of the western face of the Sierra Nevada and the roof pendants in the Johnsondale area, the North Branch of the Kern River and the Kern River Fault. Return to Bakersfield by way of California Hot Springs.

Sept. 10-11: Southern Death Valley

Start at Searles Lake and the Trona Pinnacles,

(Continued on page 6)

Board Meeting Minutes for January 2004

Charlotte Robinson, Secretary

President David Rogers opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and stressed tonight's meeting would be "budget" night. We dedicated most of the evening to said budget and after much discussion; the budget is still work in progress.

The need for more volunteers was emphasized and each member of the board and all the various committee chairman are asked to commit to writing at least one column for the Polished Slab for the coming year. Please call Charlotte and me know what month you will take and the subject of your article.

Bruce Wingate reported the internet is a good source of information for articles. He is currently working on a presentation of Petrified Wood and encourages members to use all resources available to us. He is also planning a second weekend trip in September or October.

Larry Foutz our Polished Slab editor sent a letter stating he is donating any fees he made during 2004 to the Las Vegas City Mission for the homeless. Check has been sent in honor of Larry Foutz. Thank you Larry, there will be food for a few more hungry souls. Our refreshment chairman, Ron Antoku relies on donation in our jar to help him with supplies so let's keep that jar full.

Frank Auerswald will be making contacts concerning the Heritage show to inquire about the high insurance problems also the Taste & Tunes management. The December show will be at the same place but on the second floor so cases will be limited.

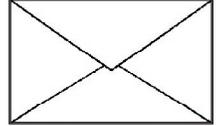
We have 50 new pamphlets with information about our club ready to give to new members or others interested in joining our club so those will be passed out.

We received a late message that Both Mr. And Mrs. Smalley, long time members passed away in 2004.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10

The Polished Slab, February 2005

Letters



This letter is addressed to me as the Editor of the Polished Slab. Applause goes to Mary Beth Paladino and the generous members who have remembered to bring donations to the club meetings to support this worthy cause.



RONALD McDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES
OF GREATER LAS VEGAS
Web: www.mhkv.com

October 22, 2004

Larry Foutz
Gem Club
4301 Lorna Place
Las Vegas, NV 89107

Dear Larry,

On behalf of the Ronald McDonald House of Greater Las Vegas, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to you for your recent donation of pop tabs made on 10/18/2004. Your effort and support of our House is greatly appreciated. The Ronald McDonald House recycles the pop tabs and the funds received are used to serve families of seriously ill children.

The Ronald McDonald House of Greater Las Vegas serves as a "home away from home," a temporary lodging for families of ill children who must travel to Las Vegas for critical medical treatment. These families face great hardships while their children undergo hospitalization or outpatient treatment for cancer, heart disease, premature birth, or other serious illnesses or trauma. The House provides an environment of emotional support for parents, siblings, and ill children through a loving, caring, stable place they can call "home."

Again, we thank you for your very generous personal commitment to the Ronald McDonald House.

Sincerely,

Jo Ann Malone
Jo Ann Malone
Executive Director

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Meeting Minutes and Notes for January 3, 2005

Charlotte Y. Robinson, Secretary

The first meeting of 2005 was opened by President, David Rogers with the Pledge of Allegiance. We had 44 members and one guest present who braved the stormy streets. Charlotte Robinson was introduced as the club's new Secretary and given a certificate of appreciation as Sunshine Chair for the year 2004. Dave Finch, Treasurer reported on financial activities for the month and Bruce Wingate, Field Trip Chairman reported on upcoming field trips. Sharon Rogow, Show

Field Trip Opportunities

(Continued from page 5)

take 4x4 roads over the Panamint Mountains into Shoshone for an overnight stay. Includes a stop at Tecopa Hot Springs and a visit to the Amargosa Opera House.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2: Mother Lode-Part 1: Southern Mines

This 3-day field conference examines the mines, geology and mining history between Maricopa and Jackson. There will be a Friday Evening Lecture Series in Jamestown at the Community Hall from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday's trip will be from Jamestown through Columbia, then on to the Hidden Treasure Mine and to the Westpoint Mining District via the Chaw Se Historic Park (petroglyphs, grinding stones). Sunday's field trip starts in Coulterville and examines the mining areas of La Grange, Homitos, Bear Valley and Mt. Bullion. The Sunday field trip ends with a stamp mill demonstration in Mariposa and a visit to the State Mining and Mineral Museum.

The fine print:

You must complete a registration form, which is

available online at www.ca.blm.gov/bakersfield/georeservationform.htm.

Fees are \$10 per person per day, or \$25 per vehicle per day, whichever is less. Please make your check payable to Buena Vista Museum of Natural History and mail with your form to: BVNHM, 2018 Chester Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301. Credit card payments can be made by calling (661) 324-6350, which is the general information number.

The point of contact is Dr. Gregg Wilkerson, BLM, 3801 Pegasus Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93308. (661) 391-6081 or (661) 391-6070. Gregg_wilkerson@blm.gov.

Chairman gave us a report on the show held at the Convention Center. Mary Beth Paladino reported on the children's group "The Pebble Pups" and invited any adult to their meeting if they would like to make something the children are doing.

There was a discussion that to join and pay your money is great but what would then really make you a member of the club would be to help volunteer just a few hours a month to make our club even greater.

We need a volunteer and a helper to keep track of our inventory and rearrange it all at our storage facilities. Our shop foreman Ed needs another shop foreman and some assistants to help him teach classes. They will also do maintenance on our present equipment and help keep the new machinery in good running order. It is quite a job to keep things running smoothly and safely and it is time for some of our experienced member to help Ed out. We want to ensure that all our members who enter our shop leave with a knowledge of safety and know how before they return again.

We need a Publicity Chairman to help get out information to the general public and help recruit new sponsors for our newsletter. The club has published a new pamphlet with information regarding our organization and our Membership Chairman, Larry Grillett is working with the members on compiling an additional way to welcome new members to our club so they will be in the know. Larry is also teaching a new faceting class at the workshop for eight weeks on Wednesday nights. Please call Larry for specific information, or refer to the January Polished Slab.

If you renew or buy a new subscription to Rock and Gem magazine, we receive \$6.00 for our club plus you have a magazine that will give you many informative articles to go back and refer to for years. Will the member that needs 2 back issues give me a call?

Don Casey invited members to his home on Saturday, January 08, to partake in his private collection to choose some gems for themselves. The rest of his collection will be moved out to the Ore Car Mine.

Our presentation was a very informative video from the California Federation on minerals. Doris Currington will be doing our presentation in February bringing 75 specimens to display and a video on fossils.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society

P.O. Box 94744, Las Vegas NV 89193

HTTP://www.sngms.org

E-mail: admin@sngms.com

The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was organized to educate ourselves and the community in the science and arts related to rocks, mineral, 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 active interest in Geology, Gemology and facilitate an improvement in knowledge of the art of cutting, polishing, collecting and displaying gems. We began in 1932, and became the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society in 2003. The very first Polished Slab was published in 1940 by Paul Mercer.

Officers - Board of Directors - Committee Chairmen

Elected Officer	Name	Phone	E-Mail	Elected Officer	Name	Phone	E-Mail
President	David Rogers	260-6344	dkdk9900@earthlink.net	One Year Board	Clare Breneman	838-0012	b25clare@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Larry Grillett	656-0262	larry_grillett@yahoo.com	Two Year Board	Frank Auerswald	365-8306	frankauerswald@sprintmail.com
Secretary	Charlotte Robinson	658-1120	originalsbycharlotte@earthlink.net	Three Year Board	Jaen Rupprecht	459-8747	jekazrock@aol.com
Treasurer	Dave Finch	655-6344	lovit@cox.net	Field Trip	Bruce Wingate	547-6590	
One Year Board	George Messenger	733-6578	gpmessenger@cox.net				
Volunteer Committee Member				Volunteer Committee Member			
Parliamentarian & Sargent at Arms	Craig Edmonds	838-0012	c1edmonds@cox.net	Refreshments	Ronald Antoku	579-4759	
Polished Slab Editor	Larry Foutz	896-7757	lfoutz@excite.com	Raffel	Open		
Webmaster	Ellen Reeves	242-4105	smithreeves@yahoo.com	Inventory			
Website Liaison	Carolyn Edmonds	838-0012	c1edmonds@cox.net	Sunshine	Charlotte Robinson	658-1120	
Federation Director	Bruce Wingate	547-6590		Publicity			
Show Chairman	Sharon Rogow	656-1144	sharon@beadloveronline.com	Class Coordinator	Jaen Rupprecht	459-8747	jekazrock@aol.com
Hospitality	Pat Grillett			Programs	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647	
Historian	Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek	876-3861	bsyzdek@mac.com	Shop Forman	Ed Rupprecht	459-8747	jekazrock@aol.com
Librarian	Tom Ainsworth	384-9935		Shop Forman	Carl Richwine	263-4846	clrichwine@aol.com

Polished Slab Advertising Rates			
Ad Size		Six Months	Year
2" by 3½"	Business Card	\$18	\$30
4¼" by 5½"	¼ Page	\$48	\$90
5½" by 8"	½ Page	\$90	\$170

First month free for club members.

All ads are to be paid prior to publication.

Make checks payable to: SNGMS, P.O. Box 94744, Las Vegas, NV 89193.

Editors: Please send exchanges to: Polished Slab Editor P.O. Box 94744 Las Vegas NV 89193

The Polished Slab, February 2005

Club Gemstone: Turquoise

Club Colors: Turquoise and Silver

Club Logo: Arrowhead

Club Motto: Rocks-R Us

Annual Dues

Individual: \$15.00

Family: \$20.00

Club / Membership Name Badges are available at \$10 each

Meetings: 7:00 PM the first Monday of each month at the Senior Center 450 Bonanza at Las Vegas Boulevard Las Vegas, Nevada 702-229-6454

Visitors are always welcome. Please bring a friend or two.

The Polished Slab
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