



THE POLISHED SLAB

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



March 2020

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 80 Issue 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 2nd - General Mtg
Apr 2nd - Board Mtg
Apr 6th - General Mtg
Apr 30th - Board Mtg

See page 8 for details on scheduled classes and instructor contact information
SNGMS Contact :
sngms2013@gmail.com
www.snvgs.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To all SNGMS Members:

President's Message, March, 2020

Greetings to all of our SNGMS friends. We had a great meeting Monday night but noticed absences due to the flu. I hope that everyone feels better soon. Another subject of our meeting was field trips. We have some great field trips this month and I wish to take the time to reiterate the guidelines for field trips.

- Always bring plenty of water, no matter the time of the year.
- Always leave on the trip with a full tank of gas.
- Bring chairs, lunch or snacks, hats, sunscreen, and even EZups if you are planning on being out for long.
- When following the field trip guide, stay close enough to the car in front of you that you can see them and they can see you, at all times. If you have a flat tire or another problem, turn on your emergency blinkers and pull to the side and stop. The vehicle in front of you should notice and also pull to a stop. This stopping should go forwarding the line until the entire caravan stops. At this time the problem can be identified and decisions made. In short, you are in charge of the guy behind you.
- When driving on unpaved roads be mindful of sharp rocks sticking up. These can go through your side walls easily, so avoid them.
- If you get stuck in sand, air down to as far as 15 pounds of air in your tires. You should be able to proceed easily. Normally we do not go though sand, but you need to be able to deal with it in that event. You can get portable compressors that are small to put into your emergency kit.
- If you have 4-wheel drive, USE IT. In most vehicles, switching to 4-wheel drive is as easy as pushing a button or moving a handle. I always like to think of it as getting my money's worth out of my Jeep.
- If you collect with buckets and/or bags, put your name on them. There are a lot of similar buckets, so we don't want to pick up someone else's collection.
- Finally, you have your tools to collect with: rock hammers, pry bars, chisels, etc. You will usually be told what the collecting conditions are so you can plan accordingly.
- Last, but not least, do not over collect! It is not good for your Karma to over collect.

Good Luck and Good Hunting!

Peggy Sue Moore, President, SNGMS, March2020

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Field Trips & Events

Lincoln Mine, Sat, Mar 7th

Beatty, NV, Sat, Mar 14th, (Night Trip-Fluorescents)

Parking Lot Sale, Sat, Mar 21st

Spring Jamboree, Sat-Sun, May 2nd-3rd, Boulder City, NV

2020 Outings Being Considered (Dates to Be Finalized):

US 95 (Mercury)-Travertine (Red Onyx), Sat, April 18th

Silver Park/Caliente, NV, Sat-Sun, May 16th-17th

Tonopah, NV: Sat-Sun, June 13th-14th

Holt Canyon, UT, Sunday, July 12th

Goldfield, NV: Goldfield Days, Aug 1-4

Pahrump Winery: Sat, Aug 22nd

Delta, Ut: Sep 18th-19th

Geocaching (Local): Sat, Sep 26th

Tule Springs, NV: Sat, Oct 10th

Parking Lot Sale: Sat, Nov 7th

Wickenburg, AZ: Feb 2021

Hinkley, CA: Sep 2021

Oatman, AZ: Feb 2022

McDermitt, NV: July 2022

Photos form the Lincoln Mine Field Trip, Saturday, March 7th



SNGMS Board meeting minutes for February 27th, 2020

On February 27 2020, 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 following board members were present.

Board Members Present: (check all in attendance)

President: Peggy Sue Moore

Vice President: Sheri Johnson

Secretary: Debbie Bucknam

Treasurer: Gary Webb

Parliamentarian: Ananaka Rau

Director: 1yr – Del Walkenshaw

Director: 2yr – Bruce Martin

Director: 3yr – Kerry Wenzl

Past President – Bob Belcher

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting read by Secretary were approved as read.

Treasurers Report Account Balances were reported.

Three Bills were presented and approved for payment. They were for club vests, patches and business cards.

Shop report:

All equipment is up and running well.

The shop lightning project is completed.

Unfinished business:

Ongoing show report: everything is on track and going well. The first meeting was held for the 2022 Federation Show and Convention.

New Business:

Committees confirmed:

Bulletin: Del Walkenshaw and Deb Koladziej

Webmaster: Lorrilee Stackhouse

Program: Cindy Allison

Hospitality: Open

Sunshine: Beth Jones

Historian: Jack Toogood

Publicity: Scott Edwards

Raffle: Steve Chavez

Refreshments: Fran and Allen Stratton

Inventory: Treasurer and Frank Timbers

General Shop Foreman:

Management: Chops Wenzl and Beth Jones

Equipment and repairs: Del Walkenshaw and Mel Nishiuchi

Membership: John Stackhouse

Federation Director: Sheri Johnson

Field Trips: Board of Directors

Show Chairperson: Sheri Johnson

Junior Members/Rock Stars: Mary Beth Paladino

New Member Liaison: Joann Sprott

March Field trips: March 7th to Lincoln Mine near Goodsprings. March 14th a nighttime trip to Beatty/Rhyolite.

March 21st Parking Lot sale in front of Desert Art Supplies, Green Valley Pkwy and Sunset Rd.

March Cabochon Contest: Wood Duck

March special contest will be for any project members wish to display.

Any Further New Business:

Suggestions for fundraising opportunities. The club booth at the parking lot sale March 21st, will have donated items for sale. Other ideas to be looked into.

Volunteers are needed for the Audit committee.

Ideas are needed for future programs for the general meeting.

Tuesday's will now be open shop from noon until 9:00 silversmithing will be held once a month.

The awards banquet will be held at Sunset Station again for this year times and pricing to be announced at a later date. There will be a limit of 130 people.

Adjournment Sheri Johnson proposed seconded by Del Walkenshaw and approved by the board that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.



Spring Jamboree Gem & Mineral Show, Boulder City, May 2nd & 3rd

Hello fellow rockhounds,

The Spring Jamboree Gem & Mineral Show is only a few months away, May 2nd & 3rd in Boulder City. I'm very excited, it's going to be another great year!

I'm looking forward to what Peggy Sue and Bill have planned for the club booth with live demonstrations and a silent auction. Joanne and Mick will have the adult and kids wheels spinning with some great prizes to win. Carol and Jerry have the eggs ready for the kids break and discover a baby dinosaur. Beth and Jim have the saw running like a dream and I can't wait see what treasures will be found inside this year's geodes. Cliff will have a world class Fluorescent display that is awesome. And the Rockstars, under Mary Beth's guidance, are putting together a miniature replica of a old mining town with houses and other buildings.

With all of these awesome activities **we need your help** to make the show a success. **Volunteers are needed.** This year, anyone who volunteers for 4 or more hours to help with the Show related tasks will get an exclusive SNGMS T-shirt. I will be sending out an email with the different volunteer opportunities in the next week for people to sign up early to make sure that we have your size of T-shirt available.

I can't wait, it's gonna be another **fantastic** Gem & Mineral Show. See you there!

Sheri

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 General Meeting Minutes for March 2, 2020

On March 2, 2020, 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 3rd, 2020 meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer Gary Webb reported on account balances.

Reports:

Show report: Everything is on track for the 2020 Spring Jamboree. The next meeting will be held the 5th of March 2020, at 6:00 PM at Desert Art Supplies in Henderson on Green Valley Pkwy & Sunset. There will also be a meeting on the 26th of March at 6:00pm at Desert Art Supplies in Henderson. The next meeting for the 2022 RMF convention will be held on the 12th Of March 2020, at 6:00 PM at Desert Art Supplies in Henderson.

Field Trips in March: Lincoln Mine on March 7, 2020 with Chops leading will meet at 8:30am at the Chevron station on the west side of I15 at Jean. Beatty on March 12th, 2020. This will be a night trip led by Cliff Jackson. Meet at the smoke shop at the Snow Canyon exit off of Highway 95 north at 2:00pm. March 21st, 2020 will be the SNGMS' Parking Lot Sale at Desert Art Supplies parking lot from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Classes:

- Metal Smithing: on hiatus until further notice.
- Beading class on March 9, 2020 will be a necklace supply list already emailed.
- Wire Classes for March will be held on the 16th and 23rd and the 30th. Supply lists will be emailed prior to date of classes. All classes are held at the shop.
- Faceting Class will be at 9:00 AM every Saturday at the shop.

Shop report: Chops

- All equipment is running and good. The lighting project is finished.

Membership: there are 359 adult members and 50 junior members.

Contests:

Cabochon contest Wood Duck – 1st place was Del Walkenshaw with 2 hours shop time, 2nd place Bruce Martin with 1 hour shop time.

General Lapidary crafts: 1st place was Tracy Hasset with 2 hours shop time, 2nd place was Del Walkenshaw with 1 hour of shop time.

For the April meeting the Cabochon contest will be a Mountain Bluebird.

Kids club meeting will be held on March 8th, 2020, 3:00PM - 5:00PM. They will be working on the ghost town for display at the Spring Jamboree.

Unfinished Business: the lighting project is now finished.

A motion from Wayne Muth to adjourn the meeting was 2nd by Orville Wiemers meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

SNGMS 2020 Meetings

Jan 02 Board	Jul 02 Board
06 General	Jul 06 General
30 Board	30 Board
Feb 03 General	Aug 03 General
27 Board	Sep 10 Board
Mar 02 General	14 General
Apr 02 Board	Oct 01 Board
06 General	05 General
30 Board	29 Board
May 04 General	Nov 02 General
28 Board	Dec 03 Board
Jun 01 General	Dec 13th (Annual Awards Banquet)

Board Meetings (site to be announced)
 General Meetings at
 Eagles Lodge, 1601 E. Washington Ave.

SNGMS General Meeting

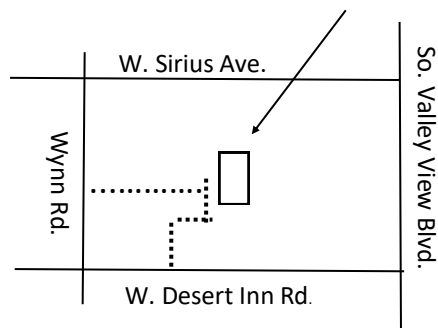
1st Monday of every month
 (2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) No meeting in December.

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**

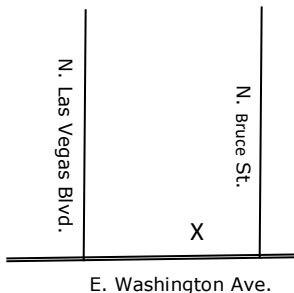


Finding the Shop Location

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 and you will be in front of Building E. Another option is to enter off of Wynn Rd. Go

west on Desert Inn Rd. to Wynn Rd., turn right onto Wynn Rd. and go to the first entrance on the right (past the BIG white Commercial building sign) turn right and straight in front of you is Building E #125.

SNGMS Contact:
sngms2013@gmail.com
www.snvgms.org



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

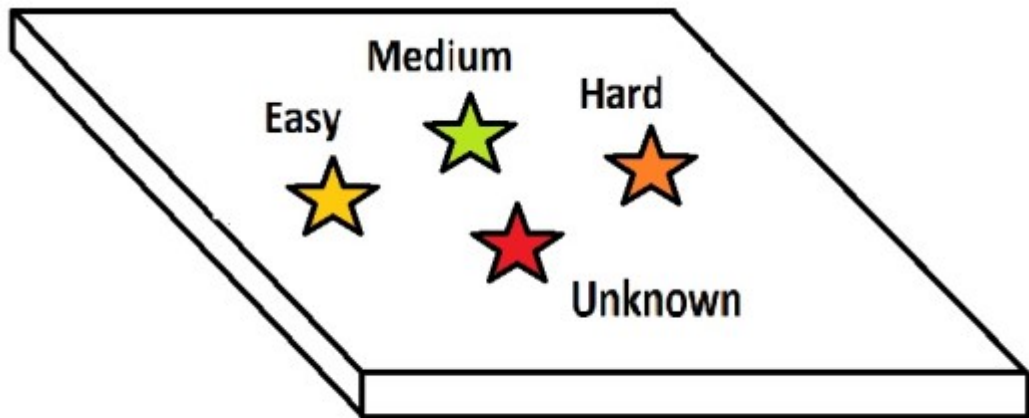
Kids Club Project: Building a Ghost Town for May's Spring Jamboree



Shop Talk : Brad's Bench Tips

IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS:

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify. The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known solder. What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.



INEXPENSIVE ELECTRIC WAX PEN:

You can make your own wax pen from a small soldering iron plugged into a light dimmer switch for heat control. Both components are easily found at a big hardware store or at Harbor Freight. As an example of the components, see items # 43060 and # 47887.

File the tip of the soldering iron into the shape you prefer or even better get a soldering iron with replaceable tips. Then you can make several tip shapes for different tasks. Set the dimmer control just hot enough to melt the wax without producing any smoke. A tip design that I find ideal for some work is a length of small gauge wire that lets me reach in around the model to melt some wax. The wire is 18ga and about 15mm long. I use Sterling wire to conduct heat easily to the tip, and I silver solder it into a hole on the end of a copper or brass rod that fits into the soldering iron.

Discover New Jewelry Tricks in Brad's "how To" Books
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

Classes

Wire wrapping, led by Peggy Sue Moore or Scott Edwards and Ananaka Rau, 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.

Beading: Gary Webb and Sue Dobson will be hosting the beading class. Classes will be the 2nd Monday of the month at 5 pm.

Metal and Silver Smithing : The Tuesday scheduled classes are temporarily on hold. Tuesday shop hours are now noon to 9 pm.

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.

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)



Mel Nishiuchi's mother recently past away. She was 94 years old. Plans are being made for the service to be held in Hawaii.

Scott Edwards was admitted into the hospital for high blood pressure. Get well soon Scott!

Jaen Rupprecht is doing better after her treatments. We wish her a speedy recovery.

SHOP INFORMATION

“New” SNGMS Workshop Schedule

SHOP HOURS

- Sunday 12 pm to 5 pm
- Monday Closed
- Tuesday 12 pm to 9 pm
- Wednesday 12 pm to 9 pm
- Thursday 12 pm to 9 pm
- Friday 12 pm to 9 pm
- Saturday 1 pm to 6 pm

SHOP CLOSED :

- 2nd Sunday of every Month For Kids Club
- Check Email and “Polished Slab” for possible date changes.



Photos courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse



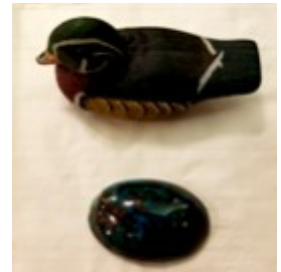
2020 Monthly Cabochon Contest: (Birds)

- Apr Mountain Blue Bird
- May American Gold Finch
- Jun Cardinal
- Jul Bald Eagle
- Aug Road Runner
- Sep Ring-Neck Pheasant
- Oct Raven
- Nov Peacock
- Dec (None)

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

March’s “Wood Duck “ Winners:

1st Place: Del Walkenshaw



2nd Place : Bruce Martin



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 Antonette Arient. Tina Bates, Aline Botts, Ken Bucknam, Allison Chayette, Nancy Crenshaw, Tom Gergits, Diane Hale, Joy Justice, Tina Kelley, Andrew Kerr, Debra Kerr, Marcu Lewis, Cheryl Milne, Linda Murie, Elizabeth Nelson, Kayla Niriega, Liam Norrbom, Elana Paladino, Karen Patching, Dorene Saters, Corinne Slivia, Cole Smith, Jeff Smith.

April

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

Nicole Amberson, Richard Ameral, Gordon Bagley, Rita Ballejos, Barbara Belcher, Janice Campbell, Deborah Daly, Sydney Davis, Jason Fabbi, Mary Figueras, Elizabeth French, Dave Greco, Ed Grounds, Glenn Hale, Julie Hall, Dennis Harrigan, Kae Huxford, Alexandra Jimenez, DiAnn Lawson, Jared Loudin, Treena Luchetta, Jarlath McNee, Ed Morken, Colton Perdue, Mabel Quinto, Lorrilee Stackhouse, Leslie Sturek, Nancy Tatom, Becky Wellman.

Welcome New Members!

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

Anthony Alverson, Samanna Alverson, Ayla Amberson, Nicole Amberson, Scott Amberson, Soraya Amber-son, Richard Ameral, Dick Askew, Laura Backus, Janine Carruth, Steve Chavez, Celeste Cobbs, Marla Dem-low, Leander Demlow, Elizabeth French, Thomas Garcia, Jaqueline Gerideau, Catherine Harris, Lynn Har-ris, Shane Hayes, Evan Helmuth, Jonny Helmuth, Nancy Ann Helmuth, Wendy Higel, Jonathan Hollaus, Jenelle Hopkins, Steve Hopknis, Danny Huxford, Kae Huxford, Jeffery A. Justice, Jerrett Justice, Joy Justice, Arrow Karella, Indigo Karella, Micah Karella, Maria Martinez, Gayle Mason Madeleine Masters, Tami Mohr, Alejandro Muniz, Anatalia Muniz, Livyana Muniz, Morgana Muniz, Nelson Muniz, Jane Nicholson, Daniel Norrbom, Elizabeth Norrbom, Liam Norrbom, Wyattt Norrbom, Karen Patching, Suzanna Pearson, Michael Pineda, Deanna Radabaugh, Linda Rusk, Konner Skougard, Dorene Sateers, Sam Walden Darren Welsh, Jennings Welsh, Webster Welsh, Jessica Winslow, Jennifer Zangger, Madilynn Zangger, Mark Zangger.

SNGMS 2020 Board of Directors

President: Peggy Sue Moore moorepeggysue@gmail.com 702 348-9600
 Vice-President: Sheri Johnson sherisrocks89121@gmail.com 702 525-0256
 Secretary: Debbie Bucknam grandmadeb10@gmail.com 805 415-1870
 Treasurer: Gary Webb SNGMSTreasurer@gmail.com 702 876-2592
 Parliamentarian: Ananaka Rau arau3@yahoo.com 775 400-6511
 One Year Board Remaining: Del Walkenshaw desertartsupply@aol.com 702 451-8040
 Two Year Board Remaining: Bruce Martin brucemartinlv@yahoo.com 725 400-1472
 Three Year Board: Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl 702 378-2205 Kheffner@levi.com
 Past President: Bob Belcher f35fighterman@yahoo.com 702 210-9612

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

Committee Chairperson

Bulletin.....Del Walkenshaw & Deb Koladziej
desertartsupply@aol.com
 Communications.....Del Walkenshaw sngmsnews@gmail.com
 Federation.....Peggy Sue Moore
 Alt. Federation.....Sheri Johnson 702 525-0256
 Field Trip.....SNGMS Board
 Shop Foreman Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl
 Historian.....Jack Toogood
 Hospitality.....Open
 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 memultd@yahoo.com
 Raffle.....Steve Chavez
 50-50 Raffle.....Orville and Lisa Wiemers
 Refreshments..... Fran & Allen Stratton
 Rock Stars.....Mary Beth Paladino.....702-255-1647
 Show Chairperson.....Sheri Johnson 702 525-0256
 Sunshine.....Beth Jones punkyjones@hotmail.com
 702-505-5819
 Webmaster.....Lorrilee Stackhouse lorrilee@cox.net

SNGMS Contact:
sngms2013@gmail.com
www.sngms.org

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.

Atlatl Competition, March 18th thru 23rd: Atlatl Rock, Valley of Fire. www.worldatlatl.org

Colorado Mineral & Fossil Spring Show: April 10th – 12th
www.coloradomineralandfossilshows.com

Spring Jamboree, May 2nd & 3rd, Boulder City, Nv:

Big Piney, WY, June 19th –21st, 2020: Gem & Mineral Show, Contact pres@wsmsg.org

**Gem & Mineral Show
 2020**

June 19th, 20th, & 21st

Big Piney, Wyoming

Contact pres@wsmsg.org



Some links that you may find helpful:

American Federation Of Mineralogical Societies-

<http://www.amfed.org>

Rocky Mountain Federation -

<http://www.rmfmf.org>

and the Rock & Gem website -

[http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?](http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL)

[ShowState=ALL](http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL)

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**

<i>Ad Size</i>	<i>Six Months</i>	<i>Yearly</i>
<i>Business Card</i>	\$18	\$30
<i>Quarter Page</i>	\$48	\$90
<i>Half Page</i>	\$90	\$170
<i>Full Page</i>	\$150	\$275