

The Polished Slab

VOLUME 66, ISSUE 6 A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUDS SINCE 1940

JULY 2006

President's Message

I hope that everyone enjoyed a safe 4th of July holiday. Attendance was down for the July meeting as it usually is this time of year. Maybe we should revive one of the old traditions of the Clark County Club of having a pot luck instead of a meeting for July. So many members are usually out of town. I would like to know your thoughts on this idea. Also, on the subject of food; I think a picnic/barbecue/campout at the Ore Car Mine this fall would be a good idea. The road is in good condition so far this year, and is passable without a four wheel drive vehicle. For those of you that have never been out there before here are the directions. Go to Lake Mead Recreation Area, pay the entrance fee of \$5 or show your pass. (Lake Passes are \$20 for a calendar year). Ask for a map if it's your first visit. Head towards Overton on the North Shore road. After you pass the turn off to Callville Bay, you are getting close. At Callville Wash, you will come to mile marker #16. Turn left immediately into the large dirt parking area and continue slowly to the far end where the road slopes down into the wash. This is the main area that washes out during flash floods, so make sure the road doesn't literally *DROP* into the wash. For those of you equipped with GPS units the co-ordinates of our claim area are: 36,12',30" N ; 114,41',46" W. There is a sign for the Anniversary Mine with the road designation 94A to point the way *after* you cross the wash. Don't follow road 94 that goes up the wash. There is one more sign post for 94A at the next wash you come to; this is the road to take. As you continue up the road; on the left will be an orange park boundary marker. Once you pass this you may legally collect rocks. (Collecting is not permitted in the park.) A little farther up you road you will see

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POB 94744 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193

the large sign for the Ore Car Mine and also the tailings dumps from the Anniversary Mine farther in the distance to the west. You have arrived; happy collecting! Stay well and I hope to see everyone at the August meeting. Respectfully, *Jack Toogood*

THANK YOU & FAREWELL

Former members Art & Grace Patton have donated two 1/2 HP electric motors to the club and they will soon be relocating to the East Coast. Best wishes!

UNLV SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Our \$1000 Scholarship donation to the Geology Department at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas has been awarded to 2 students for the semester that begins this fall. The recipients are: Lora Griffin and Rae-Anne McKinley. We will try and contact them in September to see if they would like to join our club.

submitted by *Priscilla Messenger*


CFMS SHOW REPORT

The Federation show was held in June in Angel's Camp, California this year and had 120 rock clubs represented. Mary Beth Paladino was recognized for her contributions to the Junior Rockhounds. Issues discussed were the rising cost of liability insurance and more BLM land closures. A suggestion was made that clubs put their newsletters for each year on CD. Next year's show will be a little closer in Palmdale, California, June 16 & 17th. They would like us to bring our display case next year along with specimens of rocks from our area. Thank you to Carolyn Chervenak for representing us this year. *JT*

July Board Meeting Notes

The JULY board meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM. Board members present were; President Jack Toogood, Secretary Clare Breneman, Treasurer Pat Skeary and Tom Skeary. Absent were Vice President Sharon Rogow, Dave Rogers, Frank Auerswald, and Larry Foutz. A quorum not present; no business conducted. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM

JIM GROTHUESMANN
SNGMS member



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RUBY
JULY BIRTHSTONE

Like a perfect red rose, the Ruby's rich color speaks of love and passion. Called the "Rajnapura" or King of Gems by ancient Hindus, July's birthstone is among the most highly prized gems throughout history. The Ruby was considered to have magical powers, and was worn by royalty as a talisman against evil. It was thought to grow darker when peril was imminent, and to return to its original color once danger was past - provided it was in the hands of the rightful owner!

Rubies were thought to represent heat and power. Ancient tribes used the gem as bullets for blowguns, and it was said that a pot of water would boil instantly if a Ruby was tossed into it. Ground to powder and placed on the tongue, this crystal was used as a cure for indigestion.

The word Ruby comes from the Latin "ruber" meaning red. It is a variety of the mineral Corundum, and is found as crystals within metamorphic rock. Corundum is the second hardest mineral, after Diamond. It comes in a variety of colors, and is considered a Sapphire in any color except red, which is designated as a Ruby.

Rubies range in hue from an orangey red to a purplish red, but the most prized gems are a true red in color. Large sized Rubies are very rare and valuable.


The history of Ruby mining dates back more than 2500 years ago. The most beautiful crystals are thought to be from Burma, but quality Rubies are also found in India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Kenya, Tanzania, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the United States.

It has been said that the Ruby's red glow comes from an internal flame that cannot be extinguished, making a gift of this stone symbolic of everlasting love. With its hardness and durability, it is a perfect engagement gem. And if worn on the left hand, ancient lore has it that the Ruby will bring good fortune to its wearer, too!
.....from ABOUT BIRTHSTONES

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What's Happening ? UPCOMING EVENTS

NEVADA - CALIFORNIA - ARIZONA - UTAH Show Schedule

- Jul 21-23 Gem Faire San Rafael CA \$5 weekend
Marin Center / Exhibit Hall
10 Ave. Of Flags, 503-252-8300
- Jul 29-30 Bead Faire Santa Monica, CA
Barker Hangar 3021 Airport Ave
503-252-8300 \$5 weekend
- Aug 4-6 "Rainbow Of Gems" Orcutt Mineral Club
free admission, demos, exhibits, etc
St Joseph Church 298 S. Thompson Ave
Nipomo, CA 805-929-3788 Wes Lingerfelt

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

- August pending TBA - SNGMS Tonopah NV
- August 21,22 - Co-op field trip - Virgin Valley for Opals
sponsored by Stockton Lapidary Club
Jim Dunlap 209-478-0747 for details
- September TBA - Kokoweef
- ** CFMS 4 Day Cruise to Mexico for Jade **
- January 19-22 \$255 to \$310 per person
limited space - must book ASAP - \$100 deposit
Lester Wong 323-223-6888 for more Info

A SPECIAL THANK YOU goes out to
Sue Lofaro for her last minute help with
refreshments at the July meeting . ☺☺☺

**Our next meeting is Monday, August 7th. If your
birthday falls in August, please don't forget
to bring some goodies for the refreshment table.**

ORE CAR MINE - FIELD TRIP

Wednesday evening, June 21st, a check of the road up to the Ore Car Mine claim was conducted by Roy Beeson, myself, Doris Currington, and Clare Breneman. We were happy to find that the road is in surprisingly good condition; so the trip was on. I contacted everyone who had called with an interest in attending. 7 AM Saturday morning, June 24th. Mile marker 16 on North Shore road was designated as the meeting place. Doris brought samples of the various agates that could be found there, so everyone would know what to look for. Roy brought samples as well, including some that he had slabbed and cabled from our Wednesday evening trip. We got an early start to beat the heat. A total of 19 stout hearted rockhounds, including 4 kids showed up to brave the summer heat. By 11 AM, everyone had found something good enough to make the trip worthwhile and was on their way back into town with their treasures. A short trip, but a fun one. Thanks to those who were able to attend.

.....JT PREZ

KIDS CLUB - Pebble Pups

Saturday, August 12th. Meeting will be at my home at 3740 Moss Ridge Court. Call for directions. 702-255-1647 Mary Beth Paladino



SUNSHINE REPORT

by Priscilla Messenger


Mary Beth's mother passed away in Pennsylvania.

Judi Auerswald is home and is recovering from her knee surgery.

Doc Blanchard is recently home a lot, as his wife now needs constant care.

Ed Rupprecht is having good days and bad, but will be visiting relatives again this year.

Jack Toogood's wife Diana, recently lost her father in Florida.



*Feeding the Hungry,
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Offering Hope in Jesus' Name.*

City Mission

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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The **July 3rd** meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM. Clare Breneman read the minutes of the June meeting. Motion to accept by Jim Switalla. Seconded by Erica Hamilton. The minutes were approved as read.

Pat Skeary gave the Treasurer's report. President gave a report on the field trip that went to the Ore Car Mine.

Kids club report given by Mary Beth. Jack Toogood gave editors report and asked for news items. Also the website will soon have a new look.

Workshop update - still waiting for construction permits. No news at this time.

Priscilla Messenger gave the sunshine report. Awards Banquet report - We still need donations for door prizes, etc.

Federation Report given by Carolyn Chervenak
Old business: None brought up.

New business: Mary Beth brought up that there are about 100 mines in Nevada and she would like to write letters to find out what is available for possible field trips. Club approval given.

Break at 7:45 PM for munchies.
Program - Mary Beth gave a presentation on a trip to Garnet Hill and the Ruby Mountains. Craig Edmonds on a trip to Delta, Utah.

Announcements were made. Co-op field trip in August to Virgin Valley for Opal & Petrified wood.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM
Submitted by*Clare Breneman* , Secretary

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WE'VE MOVED: TO 1616 LAS VEGAS BLVD

SOME AREA HISTORY

In late 1921, few miles East of Las Vegas near the Muddy Mountains, a couple prospectors named Lovell and Hartmann discovered a very large deposit of Colemanite, a calcium bearing borate mineral. Geologists believe the Colemanite was formed as a sedimentary mineral about 25 million years ago during the Tertiary Period. Following this discovery; the West End Chemical Company started digging on the Anniversary Mine and built the town of West End.

In 1925, production was at it's peak and was going strong until 1928. From miles of tunnels, an estimated 200,000 tons of ore had been removed. It was then that another huge discovery located at Kramer, California put most borate operations out of business. West End miners were paid off and mining operations shifted to the western Mojave about 200 miles away. West End quickly became a ghost town. Up until 1964, the company maintained a watchman on the property. The mine owners then dismantled the town due to the taxes on the surface property. The equipment and buildings were sold to promoters who planned to erect much of it as an Old West exhibit in nearby Las Vegas. The Borate ore is far from exhausted and someday it may become economically feasible to reopen the mine. The pink colored tailings dumps, above Lovell Wash, can be seen easily from the Ore Car Mine claim. Take a hike up the Lovell wash, the scenery is quite impressive. *JT*

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USED EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

No equipment this month; but Frank Auerswald has some nice rough Opal for sale. 365-8306

Club Members only - call the Editor to place a free ad here

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:

JULIEANN CLEVINGER
ALAN SCHALLER

WELCOME BACK RETURNING MEMBERS:

JOSETTE DELAITTRE
LANNY PHILLIPS

RIDESHARING PROGRAM

Anyone who would like a ride to the monthly meeting should call 222-1946 and we will try and arrange for you to be picked up. Please call about a week in advance of the meeting to allow for arrangements to be made.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Bruno Syzdek	Phyllis Syzdek
Ivan Erwin	Eddie Hill
Vicki Jones	Wayne Kinzer
Rod Maxwell	Tom Skeary
Kathy Sullens	Priscilla Messenger

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM SNGMS !

A DO IT YOURSELF FIELD TRIP

The Oceanview Mine in Pala, California is a working gem mine that produces some beautiful pink Tourmaline. Also to be found there are green and bi-colored Tourmaline, smoky Quartz crystals, Garnets, Kunzite, purple Lepidolite, Morganite, Beryl, Aquamarine and more. Bring gloves, a sun hat, lunch, drinking water, and a backpack or bucket. A liability release form must be signed. This is a fee site and the charge is \$50 per person or \$185 for a family four pack. Reservations must be made in advance. Pala is south of Corona and north of San Diego. Call Lisa for more info at 760-489-1566 Mon. thru Fri. or check their website at www.digforgems.com

this tip from Priscilla Messenger

Belated **Thank You's** to **Tom Skeary** for donating a cordless drill/driver and also to **Dave Seidner** for donating a metal detector to the club.

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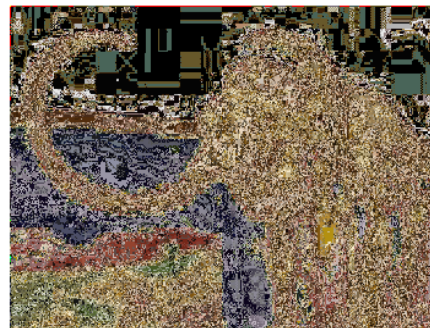
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SECOND TIME AROUND, OUR PAST from July 1969 POLISHED SLAB
 Courtesy of Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek ; Our Club Historians

Mini-Notes (Meetings in Miniature) etc.

INSTALLATION DINNER

The INSTALLATION CEREMONY, brief & to the point, was the same . . . different was the place--DANNY'S OLD RANCH HOUSE . . . different was the atmosphere--DIM LIGHTS, FIREPLACE & DINNER . . .

JINK COCHRELL, outgoing & incoming Treasurer, was missing, as was MARIAN SCHARLEVILLE, who worked to repay time taken off for JULY 4th WEEKENDER FIELD TRIP. STIRLING WRYE, wasn't there, either, & we missed him & IVA, too!

HOWARD RIGGS introduced all the "IN'S" & "OUT'S", then handed the gavel to BOB (MISTER ROBERT) SMITH, who promised to appoint committee heads, etc., & let us know all about it later. Asked for a joke, Bob replied: "You can call me 'President' or 'King', whichever you prefer" . . . we all laughed!

ONYX SPHERES

JONCE (HONEY-ONYX) CLEMENT had three beautiful spheres, each a different size, & of his lovely Honey Onyx, on display at our Installation Meeting. They were certainly the most gorgeous we've ever seen! (AND ROCKY SEZ: "HONEY-ONYX FOR HONEY MARY -- VERY INTERESTING!")

With Dinner & the short "NO-MEETING-MEETING" over, some of us adjourned for a social hour at Smitty's Bar & Pool Room (MR. & MRS. SMITH'S RECREATION & FAMILY TV ROOM) which just happened to be "down the road a piece"--from Tonopah at Cheyenne to Sandhill Road & Tropicana, only! MIKE WHEAT brought his braggin' rocks--the latest of his collection of crystals--for us to drool over--most of all the recently acquired PINK CALCITE!

WHEAT'S MOVE!

MIKE & BETTY WHEAT move soon to DENVER. (AIR FORCE) Mike has been transferred & reports there the 31st of July. Rather short notice for getting rid of both a car & house, but Betty has high hopes! IF you know someone who is looking for a 3-bedroom house, let Betty & Mike know.

* *** * *** * *** * *** * *** *

Send a CARD to:

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our next meeting: 7:30 PM
 AUGUST 12
 teachers' credit union bldg.
 (up the stairs)
 325 Maryland Parkway

VISITORS WELCOME
 the CC Gem Collectors
 is a member of both the
 AFMS and CFMS

*Dorsey is your
 Bulletin Editor*

See you in San Diego
 then at our next
 MEETING! OK?

THIS ROCK MARKS PAGE NO. 7
 & IS A REGULAR FEATURE OF
 YOUR POLISHED SLAB!



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ANNUAL DUES ARE: ADULTS \$20 _____ FAMILY \$30 _____

MAIL IN OR TURN IN AT THE MEETING

2006 Officers - Board of Directors - Committee Chairpersons

Elected Officer	Name	Phone
President	Jack Toogood	222-1946
Vice president	Sharon Rogow	656-1144
Secretary	Clare Breneman	452-0175
Treasurer	Pat Skeary	459-2649
One Year Board	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
Volunteer Chairpersons		
Parliamentarian /Sgt at Arms	Craig Edmonds	838-0012
Editor	Jack Toogood	222-1946
Webmaster	Theresa Bower	837-0522
Website Liason	Carolyn Edmonds	838-0012
Federation Director	Carolyn Chervenak	274-2867
Show Chairman	Sharon Rogow	656-1144
Hospitality	Carolyn Chervenak	274-2867
Historian	Bruno & Phylis Syzdek	876-3861
Financial Planner	George Messenger	733-6578
Awards Banquet	Nancy Tatom	

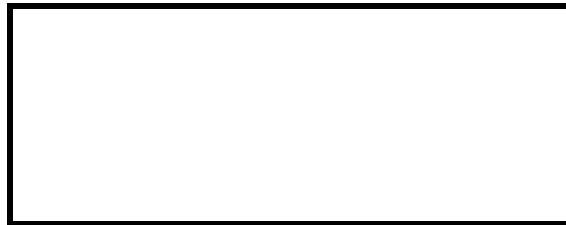
Elected Officer	Name	Phone
One Year Board	David Rogers	260-6344
Two Year Board	Tom Skeary	459-2649
Three Year Board	Larry Foutz	896-7757
Field Trip Chair	OPEN	
Volunteer Chairpersons		
Refreshments	Melinda Cohen & Paula Newman	
Door Prizes	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647
Inventory		
Sunshine	Priscilla Messenger	733-6578
Publicity	Erica Hamilton	364-1400
Program Director	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647
Class Coordinator	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
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The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit corporation, organized to educate ourselves and the community in the science and arts related to rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, and nature in general. Fostering an understanding and appreciation of the physical world, we can use it and protect it for future generations. We are incorporated for the purpose of promoting an interest in Geology, Gemology, the Lapidary arts and related fields. We began in Las Vegas in 1932, and became the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society in 2003 with the merger of the Las Vegas Gem Club and the Clark County Gem Collectors. The first Polished Slab was published in 1940 by Paul Mercer.

<p>Club Gemstone:Turquoise Colors:Turquoise & Silver Club Logo: Faceted stone Club Motto: Rocks-R Us Membership is open to anyone with an interest in; Rocks, Gems, Geology, Lapidary, Beads, Fossils, or Silversmithing</p> <p>Annual Dues - Individual: \$ 20.00 Family: \$ 30.00 Club Name Badges available at \$ 10.00 each</p> <p>Meetings: 7:00 PM the first Monday of the month at the Senior Center at 451 Bonanza just west of Las Vegas Blvd. Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada. 702-229-6454 for location info. No meeting is held in December - Annual awards dinner Visitors are always welcome - Bring a friend or two.</p>

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