



THE POLISHED SLAB

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



March 2019

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 79 Issue 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 28th - Board Mtg
- Apr 1st - General Mtg
- Apr 25th - Board Mtg
- May 6th - General Mtg
- May 30th - Board Mtg

See page 8 for details on scheduled classes and instructor contact information

SNGMS Contact :
 sngms2013@gmail.com
 702 561-3086
 www.snvngms.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To all SNGMS Members:

We've had several great outings since the first of the year. Quartzsite in January had a good turn out, Rosie's Den in February and Burro Creek this month. Our club was well represented at the Burro Creek field trip but the Arizona Clubs' members turnout was a bit low. We all had a great time. We collected some blue ,purple, banded agate, opalite and lizard rock . There was more to be collected but that's all I brought home. We will be sending out emails forecasting our up coming trips, trying to give folks some time to plan.

Our first Annual SNGMS Tailgate show is set for Saturday, March 30th, 9 am to 4 pm. Contact Del Walkenshaw (desertartsupply@aol.com) for details.

We have the Spring Jamboree coming up the first week in May and we need help from the members to make the show a success.

I was down at the shop Tuesday night it looks great, all the saws and cabochons machines were all up and running. The shop was nice and clean. **Thanks** to all those who helped.

We have a lot of plans for this year, just have to get the dates set up. It's going to be a busy year .

Got home Monday to find out my stepmother is in the hospital and not expected to live. I may end up going back to see her if the weather allows. Pretty nasty weather across the nation. Need your prayers, we're waiting to see what going to happen .

Bob Belcher, President, SNGMS, March 2019

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Field Trips & Events

March 6-11: Burro Creek, AZ Field Trip. Camp grounds reserved.

March 30th: SNGMS' Rocks & Crafts Tailgate Fair, Henderson NV 9 am – 4 pm

May 4th- 5th: Boulder City Spring Jamboree

May 11th: Wickenburg, Az for fluorescent minerals, contact Cliff Jackson for details.

October 2019, Fallon, NV area for agates, jaspers and wonderstone.

Burro Creek Field Trip: We arrived on Tuesday the 5th of March to set up our spot for the RV and shared Site #2 with Bill Kogan. Chops was manning the group campground for the rest of the crew.

On Wednesday, Bill and I pre-ran the Burro Creek Road for accessibility and found the creek impassable. The day before, a truck had become stuck in the middle with the water up to their windows, so crossing was out of the question.

Thursday, we gathered the group and went down Burro Creek Rd to collect at the pipeline crossing, the Bacon Agate Hill and the pastelite deposits. With the springs in our cars groaning from the extra weight, we returned happy to the campground.

Friday, we drove down to Nothing and accessed the south side of the creek, which we could not get to the day before due to the creek height. We went in search of the elusive Burro Creek Purple agate. There was not as much collectible material on that side of the creek but we had to give it a try. The road into that side of the creek was a challenge to the longer wheel based vehicles but everyone make it through OK.

Saturday, we drove down 17 mile Road to the McCracken mine. We arrived at the last ford of the creek on the way and found a 4 foot drop and 100 feet of creek. We took a class photo and turned around to go to the Lizard Rock site off of Cholla Canyon Ranch Road.

Sunday, many of our rockhounds had to return home so we returned, with the few folks left, to Burro Creek Road for some collecting high on Bacon Agate Hill.

Although the weather in Las Vegas was rainy, we were never rained out during any of our trips, and a grand time was had by all. To my knowledge, there were no flat tires during this multi day trip. What more could you ask for?



SNGMS Board meeting minutes for 02/28/19

On February 28th, 2019, the regular Board of Directors meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 6 PM by the President. The Secretary was present. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited.

The minutes of the January 31st, 2019 meeting were approved as read.

The treasurer reported balances.

Shop Report: All equipment repairs and maintenance must be coordinated with Del or Chops. Chops presented a three year plan for the shop and discussed filing of shop logs.

March Activities: Burro Creek Field Trip. The tailgater sale will be held on March 30th. Del Walkenshaw will co-ordinate and take sign-up of vendors.

Sheri Johnson proposed, seconded by Peggy Sue Moore, and accepted by the Board, that "up to \$250 be allowed for purchase of tri-tips for Burro Creek cook out."

Peggy Sue Moore proposed, seconded by Del Walkenshaw, and accepted by the Board, that "proposed By-Law changes, after discussed clarification, be presented to the general membership."

Bill Moore proposed, seconded by Bruce Martin, and approved by the Board, that "the meeting be adjourned."

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Shop Talk: Brad's Bench Talk

PROTECTING FINISHED SURFACES

I figure that any accidental scratch I make on a piece means about 15minutes of extra sanding and polishing. So after finishing major surfaces I typically cover them with some masking tape to avoid any scratches when doing final work like cleanups and setting of stones. The blue masking tape used by painters works particularly well because it doesn't leave a sticky residue.



MAKE A TEXTURE HAMMER

An inexpensive hammer can be easily turned into a great texturing tool by grinding a pattern of narrow lines into its face. The tool I like to use to grind the pattern is a thin separating disc in a Foredom or Dremel. Be sure to hold the hammer and separating disc steady as you carve, and wear those safety glasses to protect your eyes.

For the pattern to work well, a major part of the face needs to be ground away leaving only small areas of high points. That way the high points will have enough force to emboss the pattern into your sheet metal.

My preference is to use small ball peen or cross peen hammers. They are quite inexpensive from tool dealers at swap meets and rock & mineral shows. There is no reason to buy an expensive hammer to experiment with creating your own textures.

And BTW, if you don't like the first pattern you create, simply file or grind it off and try again.

This is just one of the many tips in the new book, "More Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" See a sample chapter at <https://amzn.to/2KCygh4>



Discounts Available with your SNGMS membership

All the establishments featured on page 4 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!

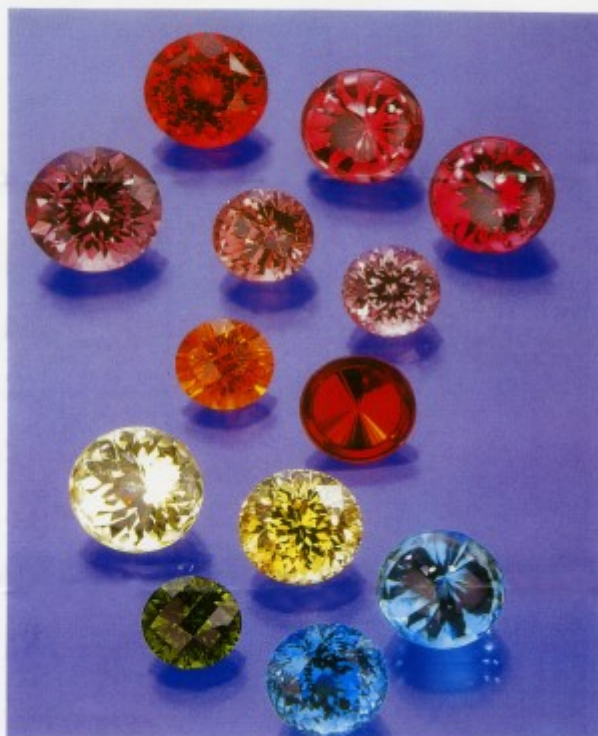


Just A Hobby
 Jewelry Gemstones
 App Only
 Henderson
 727-542-3144

GEMSTONES FOR SALE

RICHARD (727)542-3144

- TANZANITE
- SPESSARTINE
- SPINELL
- AMETHYST
- GARNETS
- AMETRINE
- EMERALDS
- SAPPHIRES
- RUBYS
- CITRINE
- OPALS
- KUNZITE
- LAZURITE
- MOONSTONE
- ONYX
- SUNSTONE
- RHODOLITE
- TOPAZ
- ZIRCON
- AND MANY MORE AVAILABLE.....



17,000 Carats

SNGMS General meeting minutes for 03/04/2019

On March 4th, 2019, 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 4th, 2019 meeting were approved as read.

The treasurer reported account balances.

Committee Reports:

The field trip for March is the trip to Burro Creek.

There will be a SNGMS Tailgaters sale on March 30, 2019 in a parking lot in the Sunset/Green Valley area. There are 20 spots for vendors and the club will provide porta potties. Vendors need to bring their own pop ups, tables, or vehicle to sell from. Apply to Del Walkenshaw to reserve a spot.

Sunshine: Beth Jones reports that former member Craig Tremmel passed away, Jack Toogood had a hip replacement, Kathy Mundine and Barbara Belcher both had knee surgery.

Ananaka Rau reported that proposed By Law changes will be posted In the Slab and emailed. The membership will vote on them at a future meeting.

Shop: All shop equipment except one saw are up and running. Come down and use the shop!

Kids Club: Mary Beth Paladino reports that there will be a meeting this Sunday, and there will be the annual egg hunt in May.

Cliff Jackson will lead a field trip for fluorescents May 11 to the Wickenburg AZ area.

Membership: John Stackhouse reports 319 adult and 31 child members.

Sheri Johnson reported that there will be judged cases in the Spring Jamboree show. Contact Orville and Lisa Weimers to reserve a case. Volunteers are needed for the show and more information will be published in the Slab.

The American Federation show will be in Cedar Rapids Iowa in March this year. The Rocky Mountain Federation show will be in August in Prescott Valley.

Bill Moore proposed, seconded by Scott Edwards, and approved by the membership that, "the meeting be adjourned." The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.

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 2019 Meetings

Jan 03 Board	Jul 01 General
07 General	Aug 01 Board
Jan 31 Board	05 General
Feb 04 General	Sep 05 Board
28 Board	09 General
Mar 04 General	Oct 03 Board
28 Board	07 General
Apr 01 General	24 Board
25 Board	Nov 04 General
May 06 General	21 Board
30 Board	Dec (Annual
Jun 03 General	Awards Banquet)
27 Board	

Board Meetings at Shop, 3111 Valley View Blvd. Bldg. E. Suite 125, General Meetings at Eagles Lodge, 1601 E. Washington Ave.

SNGMS General Meeting

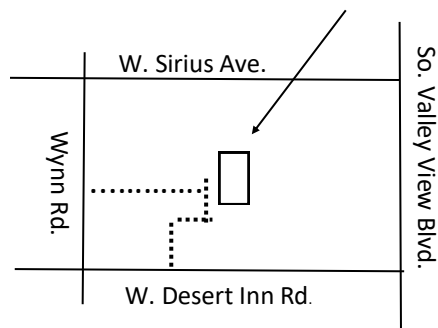
1st Monday of every month
(2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) No meeting in December.

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**

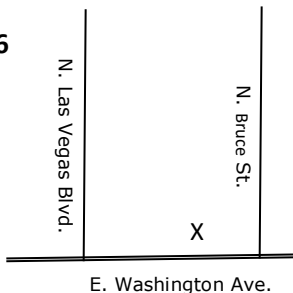


Finding the Shop Location

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: 702 561-3086
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

Slime

At the March's Kids Club meeting they learned about Borax (a crystalline form of Boron). They made "Slime" out of borax and glue. Looks like so much fun!!!



Boulder City Spring Jamboree Gem & Mineral Show, May 4th-5th

The SNGMS Show Band is getting back together!

Ok, so maybe not the musical type, but we are a great group of people getting together to spread the word about SNGMS.

We need your help.

The Spring Jamboree Gem & Mineral Show is right around the corner and there are lots of opportunities for members to help make the Gem Show a phenomenal success!

How can you help? Just sign up at the General Meeting or call / email Sheri to talk about how we can best use your skills. Some of the areas are:

Loading / unloading the UHaul (Thursday / Sunday / Monday)

Man the Geode Saw and be amazed with the new found treasures (During the show)

Celebrate with kids and parents at the Wheels of Fortune when the wheel lands on the prize they wanted (During the Show)

Show off your skills as a graffiti artist and spray painting footprints (early Saturday morning)

Help with the Dino Egg Booth and see the delight when a dinosaur egg is broken (During the Show)

Chat with guests about SNGMS in the Club booth (During the Show)

Show off your talent with wire wrapping and beading demonstrations (During the Show)

Start a child on the path to becoming a rock hound by helping them to identify a free rock (During the Show)

Walk around in the event in a Dinosaur costume and tell people about the Gem Show (During the Show)

The details:

Loading / Unloading the UHaul – Thursday, May 2nd, 10:00 am (SNGMS Shop / Boulder City Parks & Rec Building)

Booth set-up / Display cases - Friday May 3rd, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Spring Jamboree Gem & Mineral Show (Boulder City Parks & Rec Building)

- Saturday, May 4th, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

- Sunday, May 5th, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Show tear down – Sunday, May 5th, 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm (Boulder City Parks & Rec Building)

Truck unload – Monday May 6th, 10:00 am (Workshop)

Most of all come join us in Boulder City and lend a hand. The band is a lot more fun when there is a choir and you do not want to hear me to sing alone. Trust me on this one!

Happy Hunting,

Sheri Johnson, Show Chair

SherisRocks89121@gmail.com / 702-525-0256

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, Scott Edwards and Ananaka Rau have changed the Metal & Silver smithing class from Saturday mornings to Tuesday evenings from 5 pm to 8 pm. The class is suitable for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. The shop is now opened Tuesdays from 1 pm to 5 pm for regular shop usage.

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

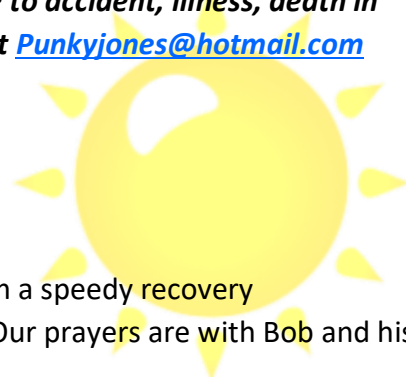
(please put SNGMS Sunshine in the Subject)

We're sad to heard former member Craig Tremmel past away.

Jack Toogood had a hip replacement, hope to see you soon Jack.

Both Kathy Mundine and Barbara Belcher had knee surgery . Wishing them a speedy recovery

Bob Belcher's Stepmother is in the hospital and not expected to recover. Our prayers are with Bob and his family.



SHOP INFORMATION

“New” SNGMS Workshop Schedule

SHOP HOURS

Sunday 12 pm to 5 pm

Monday Closed

Tuesday 1 pm to 4:30 pm

Wednesday 12 pm to 9 pm

Thursday 12 pm to 9 pm

Friday 12 pm to 9 pm

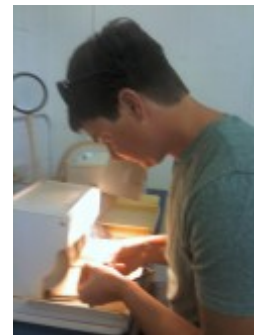
Saturday 12 pm to 6 pm

SHOP CLOSED :

- 2nd Sunday of every Month For Kids Club 2 pm to 5 pm
- Board Meeting: Various Thursday Nights 6 pm to Approx 7 pm
- Check Email and “Polished Slab” for possible date changes.



Photos courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse



2019 Monthly Cabochon Contest: (National & State Parks)

- Apr Everglades
- May Great Smokey Mountains
- Jun Red Rock Canyon
- July National Mall
- Aug Grand Canyon
- Sep Yellowstone
- Oct Redwoods
- Nov Channel Islands
- Dec (None - Awards Banquet)

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

Good Luck. Winners of the “Fossil Butte” Cabochon

1st Place: Caryn Crotty



2nd Place: Debbie Bucknam



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, Tina Bates, Aline Botts, Robert Brown, Ken Bucknam, Allison Chayette, Edie Fitzpatrick, Diane Hale, Cozette Hymer, Andrew Kerr, Debra Kerr, Cheryl Milne, Linda Murie, Elizabeth Nelson, Elana Paladino, Steve Pupp, Dan Reising, Rita Shin, Corinne Silvia, Gary Tuttle, Lee Weddle, Edith Welch, George Welch.

April

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


Richard Ameral, Gordon Bagley, Barbara Belcher, Jenni Collier, Susan Dagostino, Sydney Davis, Jason Fabbi, Glenn Hale, Donna Harper, Dennis Harrigan, Daune Hashimoto, Juliette Hymer, Alexandra Jimenez, Judy Judd, Johnny Law, DiAnn Lawson, Treena Luchetta, Jarlath McNee, Ed Morken, Mabel Quinto, Lorrilee Stackhouse, Leslie Sturek, Nancy Tatom, James Wendel.



Welcome New Members!

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

Susan Ayers, Linda Ball, Robert Bennett. Claudia Crouse, Karim Dad, Terry Davis, Alex DiDomenico, Tom Gergits, Dennis Golden, James Groesbeck, Stephanie Groesbeck, Marc Gurney, Shane Hayes, Brent Judd, Judy Judd, Brett Kishkis, Alyssa Miles, Candy Munkres, Dave Munkres, Richard Nations, Lilian Prather, Linda Rusk, Anthony Viacava, Bill Wright, Jolena Wright.



2019 Board of Directors

President: Bob Belcher 702 210-9612
[bbecher75@gmail.com](mailto:bbeccher75@gmail.com)
 Vice-President: Sheri Johnson 702 525-0256
sherisrocks89121@gamil.com
 Secretary: Lorrilee Stackhouse lorrilee@cox.net
 Treasurer: Bill Moore SNGMSTreasurer@gmail.com
 Parliamentarian: Ananaka Rau aarau3@yahoo.com
 One Year Board Remaining: Jason Fabbi
jhfstones@yahoo.com
 Two Year Board Remaining: Del Walkenshaw
desertartsupply@aol.com
 Three Year Board: Bruce Martin
brucemartinlv@yahoo.com
 One Year Board: Peggy Sue Moore
moorepeggysue@gmail.com

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

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.

April 3rd– 7th Glass Craft & Bead Show: South Point Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

2019 Anthem Gem & Mineral Show: March 16th -17th, Anthem, Az

Colorado Mineral & Fossil Show: April 12-14, Denver, CO. www.rmgmpromotions.com

Texas Mineral & Fossil Show: April 26-28, Conroe, TX. www.rmgmpromotions.com

May 4th—5th Boulder City Spring Jamboree

Rocky Mountain Federation Show: Aug 2-4, Prescott, Az

Some links that you may find helpful:

American Federation Of Mineralogical Societies-

<http://www.amfed.org>

California Federation -

<http://www.cfmsinc.org/>

Rocky Mountain Federation -

<http://www.rmfmts.org>

and the Rock & Gem website -

<http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?>

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

Committee Chairperson

Bulletin.....Del Walkenshaw & Deb Koladziej
desertartsupply@aol.com
 Communications.....Del Walkenshaw sngmsnews@gmail.com
 Federation.....Sheri Johnson 702 525-0256
 Alt. Federation.....Peggy Sue Moore
 Field Trip.....Peggy Sue Moore & Bill Wertz
 Shop Foreman Kerry “ Choppers” Wenzl
 Historian.....Jack Toogood
 Hospitality.....Deb Bucknam grandmadeb10@gmail.com
 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 memuldt@yahoo.com
 Raffle.....Barbara Belcher & Kerry Wenzl
 50-50 Raffle.....Orville and Lisa Wiemers
 Refreshments..... Pat Skeary
 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.....Sonya Edwards film4christ@gmail.com

SNGMS Contact: 702 561-3086
sngms2013@gmail.com
www.snvms.org

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