



The Polished Slab

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



November 2010

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUDS SINCE 1940

Volume 70 Issue 10

Upcoming Events

Nov 13 - Field Trip

Nov 21 - Rock Stars Holiday Event

Dec 2 - Board Meeting

Dec 13 - Awards Banquet

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

Silversmithing - each Tuesday, 5 PM at the Shop

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Acting President's Message

from Sheri Johnson

Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

My parents were avid rockhounds and, as a family, we would go on a collecting trip every year. For the record, I grew up in Nebraska which is flat and rather uneventful, geologically speaking. Collecting trips usually involved camping two or more nights since the drive to get there was generally five or more hours. For those of us who live in Nevada, we are fortunate to live in such a geologically diverse area that a collecting trip could be as short as walking into your own backyard.

The club my family belonged to had approximately 25 active members that would meet monthly to exchange ideas and talk about rocks. The meetings were about communication and fellowship with people who shared a unique passion. The meetings may not have followed Robert's Rules of Order exactly, but that did not really matter. What was important was spending time with individuals who actually were interested when discussing agates, fossils, petrified wood, wirewrapping, silversmithing and other rock topics.

I know that I have mentioned several times that the club is in desperate need of volunteers. However, there is something that we need more – fellowship. By definition, the word means "A community of interest, activity, feeling, or experience". When I joined the club, a member talked with me at the meeting about the club and its activities, and we discussed our interests. I became more than a "number" on the SNGMS roster, I became a "member". All it took was one person who made me feel that I was a part of the community and it made a difference for me. So I am sending out a challenge to all SNGMS members – The next time you are at a club function, the workshop or field trip, talk to one person that you don't know. Say hello and introduce yourself. Let's work together to make this club a community of rockhounds.

Happy hunting!
Sheri

Board Meeting Summary - October 24

Unfinished business

Shop fees – the Board decided to allow the membership to determine how to structure the shop fees. New shop hours to be determined at the time of the general meeting based on the attendance for the Month of October.

Open House – Potluck with hamburgers and hotdogs provided by the club.
Donations for the Senior Center – TBD, Sue Dobson to talk to Letti to determine their needs.

New Business

The Board to research the limits of the CFMS insurance policy – what is covered and what isn't.

Lending Library – Since the last inventory in 2005, some of the books seem to have disappeared; Sue Moore suggested that we ask for donations to rebuild the library.

Zoo Display – Doris Currington requested that the club pay to upgrade the Club's display at the Zoo; Thanks to several members who made personal donations, the monies needed were raised at the Board meeting.

Mary Beth Paladino requested monies for the kids club to have a combination Thanksgiving/Christmas dinner for the kids at the shop; Chuck Huebler volunteered to work with a local restaurant in the Commercial Center for a discount on the food and the Board would close the shop to allow the kids to have the celebration; date TBD.

General Meeting Minutes - November 1

Recognition of Volunteers – Bill Lemmon, Frank Auserwald, Dotty Furcsch, Mary Beth Paladino, Sue Dobson, Clare Breneman, Bob Lafaro, Howard and Leigh Abrams

Wes Bryant read a brief statement to the membership about volunteers – are you're a "number" or a "member"?

Unfinished Business

2011 SNGMS Officers – An additional call was made for nominations, then the nominations were closed to allow members to vote.

Shows – Club members participated in two shows during the month of October – the Henderson Wild Fest and a Halloween gathering at Nellis AFB; both were a success and many polished rocks were given out.

December Awards Banquet – Tickets are on sale and items are still needed for the Chinese Auction.

Workshop – The membership voted on the hourly fees for equipment use at the shop; by membership vote, it was decided that the fees would be: \$5.00 hour/machine, pro-rated after the first hour to 15 minute increments; the trim saw fees are \$3.00 hour/machine, pro-rated after the first hour to 15 minute increments.

Workshop Open House – Saturday, Nov. 6th, potluck; Entertainment provided by Walter Waiter and Howard Abrams to provide rock identification using the XRF.

New business

Club membership is due by January 31st.

Rock Stars – Mary Beth Paladino needs member assistance with the after school program at Brown Middle School and had a sign-up sheet available.



Thanks to Walter Waiters for the music at the Shop Open House and for performing at the First Friday events. He can be seen at The Base, 3665 No. Nellis Blvd. #3 on Thursday evenings from 6 til ? Walter can be reached at 702-610-4920.
www.walterwaiters.com

The votes were counted and the results announced:

Three year board Tom Skeary
One year board Sheri Johnson
Treasurer Pat Skeary
Parliamentarian Frank Auerswald

Secretary Glen Beye
Vice-President Jack Toogood
President Peggy Sue Moore



So
Many
Rocks...

So Little
Time

SNGMS General Meeting

1st Monday of every month

Non-members welcome!

Las Vegas Senior Center

451 East Bonanza Rd.

Las Vegas, NV (702) 229-6454.

Show & Sell 5-6 PM

Meeting 6-8 PM



Topaz Fact and Superstition

Topaz occurs within igneous rocks of the granite and rhyolite types. It is a semi-precious gemstone and occurs in a variety of colors including colorless, gold, pink, brown, and red. Topaz is heated or irradiated to produce additional or deeper colors, including blue. Surface treatment even produces green topaz. Topaz is the official gem of Utah, and can be found at the Topaz Mountain in Joab county, as well as Beaver and Tooele counties in Utah. Topaz is 8 on the mohs hardness scale but can be easily split.

Superstition: Topaz is reputed to dispel enchantments and improve eyesight.

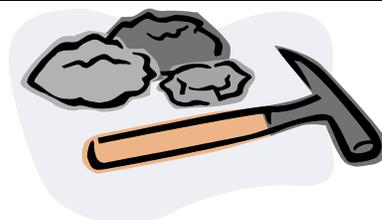
Ronald Antoku

Longtime SNGMS member and fellow rockhouser Ronald Antoku passed away on October 21st following a heart attack suffered while assisting an elderly person. He was known in SNGMS for his generosity and giving spirit. He helped many of our senior members during the last months of their lives. He will be sincerely missed.

Ronald's family invite friends to attend a memorial service on Saturday, November 20th at the American Legion, Post 8, 733 Memorial Drive, from 12 noon to 5 PM. A potluck will follow at the same location. The club will provide finger sandwiches, the family will provide fruit plates, and members are invited to bring finger foods and soft drinks to share.

Glenn Beye is assembling a photo slide show of Ronald to be shown at the memorial service. If you have any photos you would like included, please contact him at 702-354-9808

November Field Trip



The next field trip will be in honor of Art Lory. We will be collecting crystals, one of Art's favorites, in the Searchlight/Laughlin area. Meet at 8 AM on Saturday, Nov. 13th, at the Railroad Pass Casino parking lot. Four wheel drive vehicles are recommended for the final drive, and rides with 4-wheelers can be arranged at the meeting point for those who need them.

During field trips it is important that everyone stays out of fenced off areas. These can be very dangerous, especially the areas around mines which may have sudden, very deep drop offs. More safety information, what to bring on the field trip, etc. is available on the SNGMS website at www.sngms.com by clicking the Field Trip button. **Stay safe and enjoy your trip.**

DANGER

Awards Banquet

The Awards Banquet will be held on Sunday December 12th at the Las Vegas Hilton, 3000 Paradise Road. For reservations and tickets please call Clare Breneman at 702-452-0175. The deadline for reservations is Dec. 8th. Tickets are \$15.00 for members and \$30.00 for guests. Special dietary needs can be accommodated with advance notice.



Donations are needed for the Chinese Auction at the Awards Banquet. Items can be dropped off at the SNGMS Shop with notification to Diane Burgess (702-650-5285) or Mary Beth Paladino (702-255-1647), or you may make arrangements to get the items directly to them. The deadline for the donations is Dec. 3rd, and please include your name with the item.

Shop Report



W. Sirius Ave.

W. Desert Inn Rd.

So. Valley View Blvd.

SNGMS Workshop
3111 So. Valley
View Blvd, Building
E, Unit 125

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.

Hours are subject to change dependent on usage.

Fees

Trim Saw \$3.00 per hour

All other equipment is \$5.00 per hour, and after the first hour charges are pro-rated in 15 minute increments.

Finding the Shop

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.

Shop Talk *from Chuck Huebler*

Everyone is invited to come down to the shop and participate. Your support is needed to keep the shop successful.

If you aren't qualified on the equipment, a supervisor will be glad to help you. No special knowledge or equipment is required to get started learning the lapidary arts.

For safety, users of the shop equipment are requested to wear closed shoes and long pants or an apron. Wearing old clothes is recommended. Personal safety equipment (hearing protection, masks, and safety goggles) is available in the shop.

Be mindful of what you are doing in the shop, as equipment can be damaged. If you aren't sure of the equipment operation, don't be afraid to ask for assistance. The supervisors are there to help you.

The new shop hours were established based on the usage times since it has been open. They can be re-evaluated, based on usage times. If none of the listed times are convenient for you, contact Chuck and/or a supervisor and we will try to accommodate your schedule, if a supervisor is available.

Come in to have FUN & ENJOYMENT!

Jerry Hesch, MHS, PT
The Hesch Method Bodywork

YouTube: [jerryhesch](http://jerryhesch.com)
www.heschmanualtherapy.com

Hands-on care for acute and chronic injuries which oftentimes resolve in 1-3 sessions using a whole body approach.

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jerryhesch@cox.net

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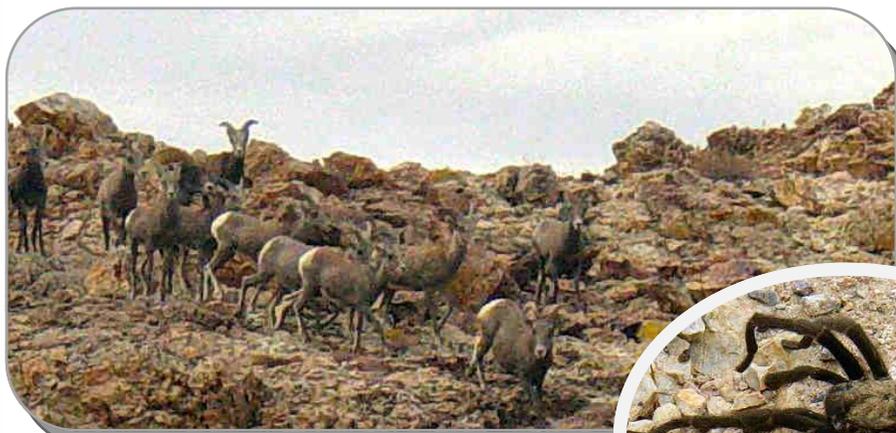


One of a kind or Limited Edition pieces

SNGMS Library



The SNGMS library includes books and videos on Rock Hounding, Lapidary, and Silversmithing. It is housed in the SNGMS Shop where items can be checked out for your enjoyment and education. Sadly, our library has become depleted and we are in need of more materials. If you have materials you checked out in the past, and haven't yet returned them, now is a great time to do so. If you have books or videos in your personal library that you would be willing to donate, they would be much appreciated. Please bring returns and donations to the shop or to the meeting. Thanks, and let's make our library great again!



Beatty Field Trip Wildlife

Thanks to Claudia Fetcho for the photos



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Rock Stars Holiday Event

On Sunday, November 21st we are going to meet at the shop and celebrate the season. We'll have arts and crafts, Rock and Roll music, games, and lots of food. Activities will start at 1 p.m. and the event is open to all children in the SNGMS. Don't miss out on the fun! Please RSVP to Mary Beth Paladino at 255-1647.

Upcoming Shows

November 12, 13, 14 2010, Sacramento, CA - Sacramento Mineral Society, Scottish Rite Center 6151 H Street
Hours: Fri & Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5

November 13-14 2010, Yuba City, CA - Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society, Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
(Franklin Hall) 442 Franklin Ave. Hours: Sat 9-5; Sun 9-4

November 13-14 2010, Victorville, CA - Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club, San Bernardino Co. Fairgrounds
14800 - 7th Street Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 9-4

November 13-14, Lake Havasu City, AZ - Lake Havasu Gem & Mineral Society, Aquatic Center, 100 Park Ave.
Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4

November 20-21 2010, Oxnard, CA - Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society Oxnard Performing Arts Center 800 Hob-
son Way Hours: Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-5

November 27-28 2010, Wickenburg, AZ - Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Society, Community Center, 160 N. Val-
entine St. Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5



Birthstone: Topaz

Flower: Chrysanthemum



Happy November Birthday!

Catherine Baca, Ron Baca, Daniel Bell, Edita Crick, Sheri Darling, Barbara Ermocida, Butch (James) Evans, Barrie C. Folsom, Dolores Gardner, Diane Gawura, Larry Grillett, Jim Grothuesmann, John Hefty, Randy Huffine, Patrick Leary, Kevin Leonard, Erica Marti, Tom McClelland, Peggy Sue Moore, Tony Peltz, Smitty Reeves, Jaen Rupprecht, Debbie Savoie-Comer, Byron Scott, Bobbi Thompson, Mary Walker, Michelle Whitaker, Melody Whittemore, Terry Whittemore, and Brenton Wingate

Happy December Birthday!



Birthstone: Turquoise

Flower - Holly or

Narcissus

Debra Altergott, Steven Altergott, Aaron Altergott, Terry Beck, Barbara Betz, Mary Boyle, Tish Cullen, Tony Duran, Christine A. Edwards, Pauline Eikel, Donald Evans, Ronald Fetcho, Shannon Funk, Jerry Hesch, Jenna Hoffman, David M. Hopkins, Mona Howell, Nancy Huffine, Stephanie Isaacs, Scott Kramer, Kevin Lewis, Mitch Mayhood, Mary McKinstry, John Miller, Sharon Noah, Ernie Parrish, Cathy Razor, Sharon Rogow, Bart Solomon, Martina Steger, Bruce Wingate and Bill Zell

Normally, if your birthday is in the month we ask that you bring something for the refreshment table, however we have the Awards Banquet in December instead of our General Meeting. So - December birthdays - Please bring an item to one of the Spring General Meetings. February and April have fewer birthdays, so those would be the most appreciated months. Healthy snacks are especially welcomed!

2010 SNGMS Officers, Board & Committee Chairpersons

President

Vacant

Vice-President

Sheri Johnson

702-525-0256

sngms@yahoo.com

Secretary

Patrick Leary

sngms_sec@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Pat Skeary

702-459-2649

sngms_treasurer@yahoo.com

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Bill Lemmon

702-443-7195 OR 443-7192

sngms_fieldtrip@yahoo.com

Board Members

Clare Breneman

Wes Bryant

Bob Lofaro

Bill Moore

Committee Chairpersons

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348-9600

sngmsmembership@yahoo.com

Federation

Sharon Rogow

sngms_federation@yahoo.com

702-499-0272

Rock Stars

Mary Beth Palladino

702-255-1647

sngms_rockstars@yahoo.com

Raffle & Door Prizes

Mary Beth Palladino

702-255-1647

Webmaster

Jack Toogood

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702-642-4788

Financial

George Messenger

Editor

Lorrilee Stackhouse

702-631-5291

sngms_editor@yahoo.com

Chairpersons Needed:

The following committees are currently in need of chairpersons. These committees are necessary for the club to fully function so if you are interested in serving, or just have questions about a committee's purpose, please contact Sheri Johnson as soon as possible. We're grateful for your time and we'll be happy to help you get started!

Education

Historian

Hospitality

Library

Programs

Shop

Show

Sunshine

Sunshine Report

Sad to say, Howard (Doc) Blanchard is back in the hospital. He will welcome all your good wishes and prayers.

Nita Zell is recovering at home and is doing very well.

Dhyane Swanson is slowly recovering. Your good wishes are appreciated.

Bill Kogan had a heart attack and bypass surgery. He is recovering at home and will welcome your good wishes. If you want to send cards his address is P.O. Box 100, Lund NV 89317.



October Volunteers

A special thanks to October Volunteers: Bill Lemmon, Frank Auserwald, Dotty Fursch, Mary Beth Paladino, Sue Dobson, Clare Breneman and Bob Lofaro.

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society

P.O. Box 94744

Las Vegas, NV 89193-4744

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Return Service Requested

Happy Thanksgiving!



Remember your dues are due by January 31st. Don't forget to pay! Keep your membership uninterrupted. Contact the membership chairman, or pay at the SNGMS Shop.

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 - \$20; Family - \$30

Meetings are held the first Monday of the month at the Senior Center at 451 Bonanza Road, on the southwest corner of Bonanza Road and Las Vegas Blvd. No meeting is held in December. Instead we have our annual awards dinner.

Visitors are always welcome and bring a friend or two.

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

SNGMS Web Page Ads and Links to your Web Page are available for additional fees.

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.

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