



THE POLISHED SLAB

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



March 2021

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUDS SINCE 1940

Volume 81 Issue 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 1st - General Mtg
- Apr 1st - Board Mtg
- Apr 5th - General Mtg
- Apr 27th - Board Mtg

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

SNGMS Contacts:

- sngmspresident@gmail.com
- sngmsvicepresident@gmail.com
- sngmssecretary@gmail.com
- sngmstreasurer01@gmail.com
- sngmsshowchair@gmail.com
- sngmspublicity@gmail.com
- sngmsnews@gmail.com
- www.snvgms.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MARCH 2021

To all SNGMS Members:

Hello fellow rockhounds

Our March General Meeting went well and I'm glad to see more of us participating as the Pandemic is winding down.

We had another great Parking Lot Sale on March 6th. I want to thank all the club members that came out in support of our event and I hope you all had a good time. Thanks to Peggy Sue and Sheri there were a lot of new members signed up.

The field thrip last month to Mercury for onyx was a success with every body getting lots of rocks.

This month's field trip on March 20th, has been changed. Instead of going to Arizona for chrysocolla, we are now going to the Lincoln Mine near Goodsprings. It's a good collecting site for chrysocolla.

We've had great interest in the new cab classes and they have been going very well.

We are now able to have show meetings and are looking for volunteers for both the 2021 Boulder City Spring Jamboree and the 2022 Rocky Mountain Federation Conference show. We need your support.

And as usual, I want to thank all the wonderful members that make this the Best Club in Las Vegas.

Lloyd Chayette, President SNGMS
March 2021

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Field Trips & Events

Boulder City Spring Jamboree: May 1st-2nd, 2021.

The American Federation (AMS) and the Rocky Mountain Federation (RMFMS) show scheduled for Sandy Utah in April has been rescheduled. The show will now be held in Big Piney Wyoming , June 17th –20th, 2021.

Outings Being Considered (Dates to Be Finalized):

Parking Lot Sale : Sat, Mar 6th 2021

Lincoln Mine: Sat, Mar 20th 2021

Bitter Springs: Sat, April 10th 2021

Spring Jamboree, May 1st-2nd 2021

Lund, NV: Sat-Mon, June 12th-14th, 2021

Cedar City, UT : Sat-Sun, July 10th-11th 2021

Goldfield, NV: Aug 2021

South Cady's, CA: Sat, Sep 11th 2021

North Cady's, CA: Sat– Sun, Oct 9th-10th 2021

Parking Lot Sale: Sat, Nov 6th 2021

Oatman, AZ: Feb 2022

Utah: July 2022

Sandcasting Brass, March 7th at Desert Art Supplies: Tracy Hassett Instructor



SNGMS Board Meeting minutes for February 25, 2021

On February 25, 2021, 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. All board members were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Treasurers Report: Account Balances were reported.

Shop report:

One saw is down waiting for parts. An electrician will be called in to see about replacing the bulbs in the lighted sign out front. An electrician will also be brought in to replace the ceiling fan in the bathroom which caught on fire. A motion was made by Peggy Sue 2nd by Gary Webb to approve \$200 for the replacement motion approved. The ceiling tiles will be repaired afterwards. Fire extinguishers will be either recharged or replaced. A motion by Wayne Muth 2nd by Bruce Martin to spend up to \$100 for either replacement or recharge of extinguishers. Motion was carried. A class on fire safety for the shop supervisors will be held at a date to be decided.

Unfinished business:

There are open committee chairperson vacancies that are in need of volunteers as well as some committees needing alternate chairs. Mary Beth has volunteered to be the hospitality chairperson as well as the alternate delegate to the federation.

New tri-fold brochures are in the process of being updated with new contact information.

New Business:

The next General Membership will be held March 1, 2021 at the Eagles Lodge.

March 6, 2021 is the parking lot sale in the Trader Joes parking lot at Sunset and Green Valley.

Upcoming field trips are March 20, 2021 for Chrysocola at the Lincoln Mine near Goodsprings. If more than 10 cars then a second group will leave approximately 10 minutes later. April 10, 2021 for purple agate at Bitter Springs near Lake Mead.

Bruce Martin motioned 2nd by Wayne Muth to extend the lease on the shop for three years motion carried.

Masks for use while working with toxic rocks (ex. Tiger Eye) are going to be ordered for sale in the shop.

The next meeting for the Spring Jamboree will be March 9th at 4:00PM at Desert Art Supplies on Sunset. One change this year is that unaccompanied minors will not be allowed. Also there will be less vendors as Boulder City has requested that booths be 10 feet apart.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Wayne Muth 2nd by Gary Webb the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.



SNGMS general meeting minutes March 1, 2021

On March 1, 2021, 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 8, 2021 meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer reported on account balances. Volunteers are needed to perform an audit on March 8, 2021 at the shop time is 2:00PM.

Reports:

Show report everything is on track for the 2021 Spring Jamboree. In order to be in compliance with Boulder City regulations there will only be 17 vendor spots available. Booths will be 10 feet apart and all vendors and volunteers must wear masks. There will be a show meeting on March 9, 2021 4:00PM at Desert Art Supplies on Sunset. New this year no unaccompanied minors will be allowed.

Classes:

- Silversmithing: Bob Belcher reported that all spaces are filled for his class but he is forming a waiting list.
- Beading class on March 8, 2021 information on it will be emailed at a later date.
- There will be a beginning cabochon class on March 21, 2021 at 10:00AM class is limited to 6 students please contact Peggy Sue to reserve a spot. Following at 12:00PM there will be a beginning wire wrapping class open to those wishing to attend.
- Faceting Class will be at 9:00 AM every Saturday at the shop.

o Shop report: Chops

- All equipment is running and good. The ceiling fan in the bathroom caught fire but the only damage was to the fan and a portion of the ceiling. A electrician will be called in to replace the fan and the ceiling will be repaired.

Sunshine: Del Walkenshaw is able to return to work after his illness. Jaen Rupprecht is at home under hospice and welcomes any calls, texts or emails. Bill Hogan fell but is doing fine. Jim Grothuesman is in the hospital with Covid.

Kids Club: the next meeting will be March 14, 2021 at 3:00 PM they will be working on the mining ghost town for the Spring Jamboree.

New Business:

Cabochon contest Great Basin Star Gazing Bruce Martin won and received 2 hours of shop time. For the April meeting the Cabochon contest will be Lehman Caves. A listing of all cabochon contests for the year is listed in the Polished Slab.

Del Walkenshaw is going to take over the membership duties while training another member how to maintain the list.

Chops presented information on the awards dinner to be held in December a vote was taken as to have it at Sunset Station or a potluck membership voted for Sunset Station. Tickets will go on sale in September until filled (limit of 120 attendees) or the November meeting which ever falls first. Cost will be \$25.00 for members and \$50.00 for guests.

There will be a meeting on March 8, 2021 at 10:00AM for the 2022 Federation show. Meeting will be held at the shop. Volunteers are needed for various areas.

McCaw School of Mines would like us to have an informational display at their facility, donations are welcome.

A motion from Wayne Muth seconded by Rob Madow was made to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM

Parking Lot Sale, March 6th:



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 2021 Meetings

Dec 28 Board	Jun 29 Board
Jan 04 General	05 General
28 Board	29 Board
Feb 08 General	Aug 02 General
25 Board	Sep 09 Board
Mar 01 General	13 General
Apr 01 Board	30 Board
05 General	Oct 04 General
27 Board	28 Board
May 03 General	Nov 01 General
Jun 03 Board	Dec 02 Board
07 General	Dec 5th (Annual Awards Banquet)

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

SNGMS General Meeting

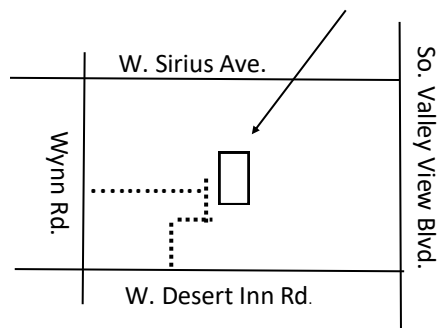
1st Monday of every month
 (2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) No meeting in December.

Non-members welcome!

Eagles Lodge 1601 E Washington Ave.

Show & Sell 5-6 PM
 General Meeting 6-8 PM

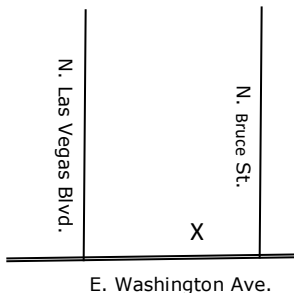
**3111 So. Valley View Blvd,
 Building E Shop Suite 125**



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.sngms.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

We had 14 Rock stars at our meeting this Sunday. We learned about all kinds of green rocks in honor of St Patrick's day. Special thanks to Ron Mazz for staying during the meeting to cut 14 slabs of malachite for our rock stars.

As always thanks to everyone for your continued support.

Mary Beth



Shop Talk : Brad's Bench Tips

SHARP KNIVES FOR CUTTING MOLDS

Cutting molds is easier and more precise with a sharp blade. A new Xacto blade is sufficient for cutting RTV molds but is usually not sharp enough for vulcanized rubber. For that it's best to use scalpel blades available from most jewelry supply companies.

The #11 blade is triangle shaped, and the #12 is hawksbill shaped. I find the hawksbill is particularly nice for cutting the registration keys of the mold.



USE YOUR THUMB

When using multiple bits in a Foredom, we often have to deal with several different shaft sizes - the usual 3/32 inch burs, the larger 1/8 inch shaft sizes and of course the many different sizes of drills. For some reason I really dislike having to turn the key multiple times to open or close the jaws of the handpiece chuck.

So I have two ways to speed up that task. For opening up the jaws, I just remember "four", the number of turns I have to make to open the chuck just enough from the 3/32 bur shaft size to the larger 1/8 bur shaft size.

For closing the jaws around a smaller shaft, there's a neat trick. Hold the new bit in the center of the open jaws of the chuck, put your thumb lightly onto the outer toothed collar of the chuck, and gently start up the Foredom. As the chuck turns, it will naturally tighten the jaws around the bur shaft or the drill bit. Then all you have to do is a final tightening with the key.



Learn New Skills with Brad's "How To Do It" Books
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)



Classes

Wire wrapping, led by Peggy Sue Moore meets on most Mondays (except for the General Meeting night). Hours for the class are 5 - 8 PM. The fee is \$7.00 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.

Silver Smithing: Bob Belcher will be teaching the silversmithing classes. They are scheduled for the forth Monday of the month at 5 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 \$ 20.00, \$15.00 for the class 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 \$10..00 per session, that goes to the club. Faceting class fee is \$15.00 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

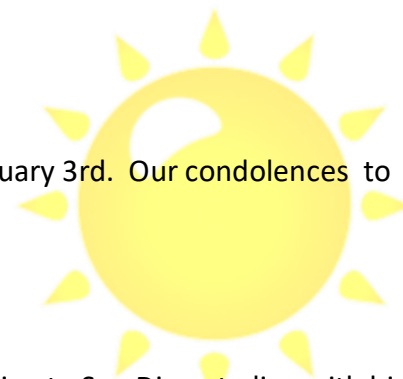
Please if you hear of any SNGMS member in need of a bit of sunshine due to accident, illness, death in the family or other need, call Beth Jones at 702-505-5819 or email her at Punkyjones@hotmail.com
(please put SNGMS Sunshine in the Subject)

We just learned we lost another member, Tom Gergits passed away on January 3rd. Our condolences to his family.

Frank Timbers had surgery on his ear to remove some cancer,

Jim Grotheusmann contacted Covid-19 and when he is able he will be moving to San Diego to live with his daughter.

Bill Kogan recently fell but is okay except for the stiffness and being a bit sore.



SHOP INFORMATION

"New" SNGMS Workshop Schedule

SHOP HOURS

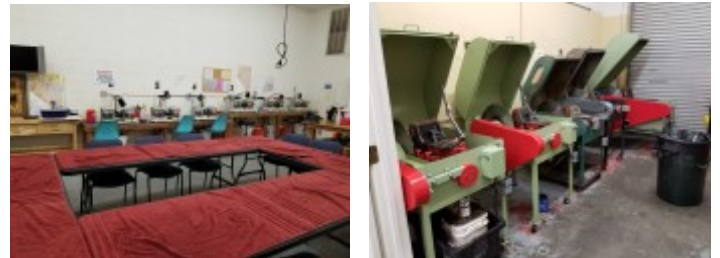
- Sunday 10 am to 3 pm
- Monday Closed for general use: Various Classes
- Tuesday 10 am to 7 pm
- Wednesday 10 am to 7 pm
- Thursday 12 pm to 9 pm
- Friday 12 pm to 9 pm
- Saturday 1 pm to 6 pm

SHOP CLOSED :

- 2nd Sunday of every Month For Kids Club
- 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



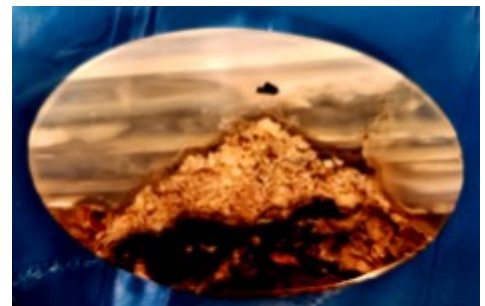
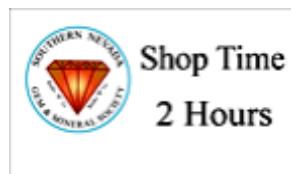
2021 Monthly Cabochon Contest: (Nevada Points of Interest)

- Apr** Lehman Caves
- May** Black Rock Desert
- Jun** Nevada Test Site
- July** Valley of Fire
- Aug** Virgin Valley Opal
- Sep** Boulder Dam
- Oct** Ichthyosaur National Park
- Nov** Cathedral Gorge

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE CABOCHON CONTEST YOU MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE HOUR OF SHOP TIME. THE WINNERS RECEIVE FREE SHOP TIME. A "*Lehman Caves*" cabochon will be the contest entry to be judged at **April's** general meeting. **Good Luck!**

'Great Basin-Star Gazing' Cabochon winner:

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

Marie Antonette Arient, Tina Bates, Aline Botts, Ken Bucknam, Riobin Cartwright, Nancy Crenshaw, Connor Dandridge, Sally Dandridge, Pedro De Jesus, Nancy Eash-Heyl, Tom Gergits, Diane Hale, Michael Heyl, Finn Hudson, Tina Kelley, Andrew Kerr, Debra Kerr, Marcus Lewis, Bode Ludens, Cheryl Milne, Elizabeth Nelson, Liam Norrbom, Elana Paladino, Dorene Saters, Corinne Slivia, Tavian Stutzman, Bennett Wing.

April

If you have a April birthday, Please bring something for the refreshment table at the April's meeting.

Sunday Ajayi, Nicole Amberson, Gordon Bagley, Barbara Belcher, Jim Callaway, Jose Canche, Eric Cifani, Kelly (Steven) Colwell, Deborah Daly, Sydney Davis, John Dvorak, Jason Fabbi, Sheryl Ganson, Glenn Hale, Dennis Harrigan, DiAnn Lawson, Jeromy Leugers, Treena Luchetta, Christie McLean, Jariath McNee, Ed Morken, Christopher Ovens, Lorrilee Stackhouse, Trev Stinnett, Leslie Sturek, Nancy Tatom, Beck Wellman, Jiyue Zhang.

Welcome New Members!

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

Madelyn Acosia, Ayotunde Ajayi, Olamide Ajayi, Sunday Ajayi, Ayla Amberson, Nicole Amberson, Scott Amberson Soraya Amberson, Marie Antonett Arient, Claire Asgarian, Dick Askew, Gordon Bagley, Karen Barrett, Joseph Boisvenu, Aline Botts, Dawn Bump, Michael Bump, Riobin Cartwright, Grady Clifford, Dylan Clifton, Jonathon Cline, Jana Cote-Cartwright, Deborah Daly, Jillian Davidson-Ajayi, Charles B. Davis, Maria Demeo, Mike Devine, John Dvorak, David Dziadon, Ruth Dziadon, Kymiah Eckersley, Billie Fecher, Calvin Foos, Corla Ford, Shannon Funk, Alexander Gelotte, Michelle Germel, Dian Gooditle, Chase Green, Jim Grothuesmann, Melanie Guzman, Lawrence Halle, Maraux Hansberry, Noel Helwig, Bryan Huber, Nancy Huffine, Randy Huffine Danny Huxford, Kae Huxford, Jill Jaeger, Leesa Kidwell, Tom Kidwell, Louis Laffin, Alois Lamprecht, Clayton Lewis, Marcus lewis, Maria Lewis, Sarah Marks, Gloria Martinez, Edith Marty, Donna Mau, Christie McLean, Kathryn Mundine, Alejandro Muniz, Anatalia Muniz, Livyana Muniz, Michelle Muniz, Morgana Muniz, Nelson Muniz, Amanda Munson, Edward Munson, Sophia Munson, Tsukiko Nakano, Henrik Navasartian, Richard Nell, Frank Ozuna, Kelly Parker, Ted Poston, Danny Prince, Jeremiah Richardson, Bella Romero, Sherry Scheiding, Stephen Scheiding, Amber Stutzman, Emagin Stutzman, Shane Stutzman, Tavian Stutzman, Cameron Swanson, Jillian Szymanski, Robert Szymanski, L.D. Tripp, Tyra Tripp, Paul Watterson, Carolyn Webb, David Webb, Lillyan Webb, Madelyn Webb, Philip Wilt, Andrew Wong, Cookie Wong, Jennelle Zajac, Larry Zajac, Jiye Zhang.

SNGMS 2021 Board of Directors

President: **Lloyd Chayette** chayette.lloyd@yahoo.com 714 474-6384
 Vice-President: **Wayne Muth** rimwayno@outlook.com 702 285-7878
 Secretary: **Debbie Bucknam** grandmadeb10@gmail.com 805 415-1870
 Treasurer: **Gary Webb** SNGMSTreasurer@gmail.com 702 876-2592
 Parliamentarian: **Ananaka Rau** aarau3@yahoo.com 775 400-6511
 One Year Board Remaining: **Bruce Martin** brucemartinlv@yahoo.com 725 400 1472
 Two Year Board Remaining: **Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl** ~~kheffner@levi.com~~ 702-378-2205
 Three Year Board: **Ron Mazz** zman8229@gmail.com 586 914-4130
 Past President: : **Peggy Sue Moore** moorepeggysue@gmail.com 702 348-9600

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..... Open
 Field Trip.....SNGMS Board
 Shop Foreman Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl
 Historian..... Jack Toogood
 Hospitality..... Mary Beth Paladino
 Inventory.....Gary Webb SNGMSTreasurer@gmail.com
 Librarian..... Mario Luchetta
 Membership..... John Stackhouse 702-239-0437
 New Member Liaison... Joann Sprott
 Program..... Cindy Allison
 Publicity..... Andrea Packo
 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
 Sunshine..... Beth Jones punkyjones@hotmail.com
 702-505-5819
 Webmaster..... Lorrilee Stackhouse lorrilee@cox.net

SNGMS Contact:

sngmspresident@gmail.com sngmsvicepresident@gmail.com
sngmssecretary@gmail.com sngmstreasuer01@gmail.com
Sngmshowchair@gmail.com sngmspublicity@gmail.com
sngmsnews@gmail.com www.sngvms.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.

Boulder City Spring Jamboree: May 1st & 2nd, 2021

AMS & RMFMS: Big Piney, WY, June 17-20, 2021

Some links that you may find helpful:



<https://www.rockandmineralshows.com/>

American Federation Of Mineralogical Societies-

<http://www.amfed.org>

Rocky Mountain Federation -

<http://www.rmfm.org>

and the Rock & Gem website -

<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