

THE BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER OF VICTOR VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB
JUNE 2006.



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?



The May 6th field trip to Opal Mountain. See inside for pictures (courtesy of Jim Fosse). Good rock samples and indigenous wildlife were also seen. See pages 4 & 5.



Joyce Fitzgerald of Women in Mining was our Education Night speaker. She was both knowledgeable and entertaining. Read about her lecture on page 10.



The club board meeting is on the first Tuesday of the month and is held at 7p.m. These members bring experience and expertise in many areas to the table. Read more about this on page 11.

YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2006

2006 executive Committee

President..... Nick Beall246-7117
1st V.P (Membership).. Tom Laszlo.....247-5369
2nd V.P (Education)..... Mary Lou Flecher949-9347
Recording Secretary... Pattie Deer.....952-2019
Treasurer..... Loren Beebe.....242-8584

Board Members

John Printz..... 252-5699
JoAnn Beall..... 217-2628
Virgil Melton 948-2849
Janet Flecher 949-9347
Past President.....Gil Gilbert 868-6900
CFMS Representative...Bob Harper 947-6383

Standing Committee Chairmen

Wagon Master Janet Flecher..... 949-9347
Historian Faith Harper 947-6383
Maintenance Tom Laszlo 247-5369
Librarian Ralph Powers 951-2937
Newsletter Editor..... Alan Molineux 951-7064
Sunshine Lady..... Marie Gramata 245-3775
Displays Nancy Flanders 868-2148
Raffles..... Francis Gramata 245-3775
Scholarship Andrew Turner 962-0095
Legislative Rep..... Mary Lou Flecher 949-9347
Photography Bob Harper 947-6383
Hospitality JoAnn Beall 246-7117
Parliamentarian..... Dennis Harbison 247-5559

Instructors

Nick Beal, Janet Flecher, Jim Fosse, Gil Gilbert, Dennis Harbison, Tom Laszlo, and Joe Kosik.

THE VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB

was organized in 1947 and has been the focal point of High Desert rock hounds for the past 53 years. The club takes active roles in various civic activities. Membership is open to all persons interested in the gem and mineral hobby and lapidary arts. Meetings are held at the clubhouse located at 15056-B 7th Street (behind Kaman Bearing) in the center of Victorville.

Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call (760) 243-2330.

SNAKES ALIVE!



This is the time of year that snakes are starting to make themselves known. Rock hounds don't find their best rocks in parking lots or near freeways. We are often out in the desert, miles from anywhere. Once bitten, help could be a long time coming. It may even be too late. Be smart—go out with a group. Be wise and survive.....Ed.

SUNSHINE CLUB

Thank you, Marie Gramata for tending to those who need a card or a word of sympathy or concern. We hear that Wayne Flanders is at home after his heart attack. He underwent a series of tests at Kaiser Hospital. Our prayers and thoughts go out to Val Costello, whose son, Carl Fisher passed away recently. We also hear that Peggy Carpenter is due to have surgery soon and is also having trouble with her legs. If you know of anyone who is ailing or bereaved, please call Marie Gramata at (760) 245-3775.



GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS

It is always a pleasure to introduce new members into the club. At the April general meeting we saw three people become the newest club members. Jack Harris of Apple Valley, Charles Forsythe of Hesperia and Barrbara Pedrow also of Apple Valley, and Paul Sandoval of Victorville. We welcome you all to our club. We hope you find friendship and fellowship as you begin this exciting hobby. There are many in the club who have advice and experience to share with you as you enjoy our many resources.

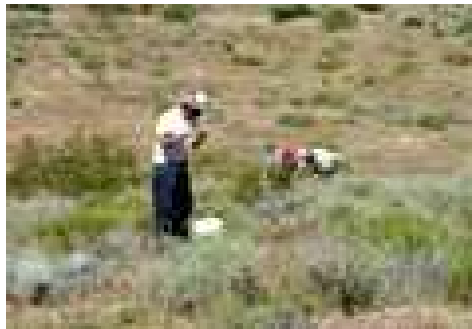
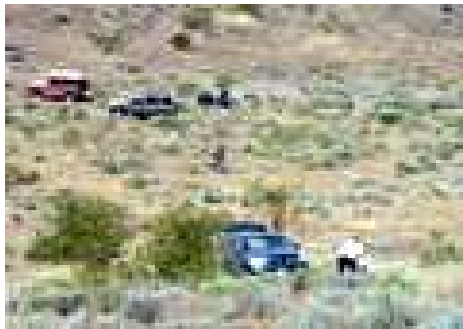
BEATING THE BUSHES AT OPAL MOUNTAIN



Here is a photo of Opal Mountain taken from a distance.



Some of the local terrain.



Here we see member's cars and some of the members stopping to examine examples of opal, agate and rhyolite. That bucket can start to get heavy!



Here we see Janet and Mary Lou.



Jim Fosse stops to have his picture taken.



Lois and Cyndy look for just that right rock.



Jim noted that someone came out here with a rod & chain in 1911.



Here's a good shot of the local wild-life.



Club members enjoyed a field trip to Opal Mountain on Saturday, May 6th. Janet Flecher was the wagon master and members gathered at the convenience store in Hinkley and then traveled a further 22 miles to meeting site. Once there, they searched for Agate, Opal and Rhyolite. The last 5 miles to Opal Mountain were rough but the journey was made worthwhile by some of the specimens folks brought home. As can be seen in these last three photographs, desert wildlife abounded and Jim Fosse took photos of the desert tortoise, the lizard and the rattlesnake.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Janet for the hard work she has put in to these outings. She does not just take a group of members out to a particular site. She scouts the location first and takes note of the rocks that site has to offer. She carefully notes driving conditions to the site and notes any possible dangers such as abandoned mine shafts. Finally she notes walking and driving distances and reports back to the club where the trip is finally considered before it is put on the club calendar. It is much, much more than a walk in the desert.



JUNE 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31  Silver Class orientation With Gil Gilbertson 6-9p.m.	1  Start of Hurricane season Workshop 1-9 p.m.	2	3
4 Workshop begins at 12noon	 5 Instructors mtg. 7p.m.	 6 Board Meeting 7p.m.	7 Workshop 1-9p.m. Silver class 6p.m.	8  Wagon Masters Mtg. 7p.m. Workshop 1-9p.m.	9	10
11 Workshop begins at 12noon	12	13 Workshop 6-9p.m.	 14 National Flag Day Workshop 1-9p.m. Silver class 6p.m.	15 Workshop 1-9p.m.	16	17
 18 Father's Day Workshop begins at 12noon	19	 20 Education Night 7p.m.	 21 Summer Begins Workshop 1-9p.m. Silver class 6p.m.	22 Workshop 1-9p.m.	23	24
25 Workshop begins at 12noon	26	 27  Pot Luck Dinner 6:30p.m. General Business mtg. 7:30p	28 Workshop 1-9p.m. Silver class 6p.m.	29 Workshop 1-9p.m.	30	

STERLING SILVER FABRICATION CLASS



This class is being led by our past president Gil Gilbert. Indoctrination will be held and a solder video shown on Wednesday, May 31st from 6-9p.m. The fabrication classes will be held on Wednesday nights—June 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th. All classes will begin at 6p.m. Three projects will be available—a bracelet, a ring and a necklace. The last I heard, 20 people had signed up for the class. Kits will be made up to incorporate the required silver to do the projects. The cost of these kits will be based on the price of silver at the time the kits are made up. These tools we've listed are suggested for this class. You may already have acceptable substitutes and you may use any tool, which will do the work we will be doing in this class.

(silver fabricating class cont.)

Here is a list of the tools needed for the class.

- Ballpeen hammer
- Bench pin and clamp
- Burnishing tool
- Jeweler's saw frame
- Saw blades 2/0 3/0 4/0 & 8/0
- File—6 inch mill
- Needle file set
- Pliers (smooth jaws), chain nose, round nose and flat nose.
- Diagonal cutters
- Vise grips
- Rawhide mallet
- Wire brush, small brass
- Portable bench vise
- Flux (paste)
- Buffing wheels—(3) three inch
- Buffing compound—Tripoli, zam and red rouge
- Tool box

FOR SALE

This could be your ad. Buy, sell or trade any lapidary products, tools or novelties. Call me for attractive yearly rates in this monthly newsletter.

Alan Molineux
amolineux@gmail.
Com or phone me
at (760)951-7064.



THE ANTELOPE VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL &
JEWELRY SHOW

My wife, Kerry and I enjoyed the show which was held at the fairgrounds in Lancaster on the weekend of April 22nd and 23rd.



GLENDORA GEMS

Gem and Mineral Show
June 3—4th, 2006
Sat. 10a.m.—5p.m. Sun 10a.m.—5p.m
GODDARD MIDDLE SCHOOL
859 East Sierra Madre, Glendora,
California.
Dealers, Demonstrations,
Over 100 Displays,
Competitions, Door Prizes & Food.

Rocks, Rocks, Rocks,

Buy slabs, cabs and rough from
Joe! Brazilian, Moss Agate,
Wood, Jasper, and Obsidian.
There is a sale on bolo cords.
Club members, (any club) 20%
off at my house or 10% off at
gem shows. I sell crushed
Agate, Wood, and Jasper for
tumbling at 75 cents per pound.
Call Joe Kosik (760) 241-0894.

ROCKATOMICS
ROCKHOUND ROUNDUP

Rockatomics Gem & Mineral Soc.
Friday through Sunday
June 2nd—June 4th 2006.

10a.m.—5p.m.

Gems, Jewelry, Tailgate Selling,
Dealers.

Free Admission, Free Parking
Boeing Recreation Center
8500 Fallbrook Avenue,
West Hills, California
Camping space for sellers
available, call for details
(818) 347-1234

It's time to buy a faceted stone!
Tourmaline, Garnet, Chrysoberl,
Topaz and others.
**Wholesale
prices!!**
Call Carl Hollister
(760) 240-1582.



JUMP FOR THE GOLD
CALAVERAS GEM AND
MINERAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS
67TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA FEDERATION'
GEM AND MINERAL SHOW
AT THE CALAVERAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
IN ANGELS CAMP
JUNE 9TH—11TH, 2006
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
 10a.m.—5p.m. Daily

JEWELRY
MINERALS
BEADS
FOSSILS

EXHIBITS
DEMONSTRATORS
SILENT AUCTION

GEMS
FIELD TRIPS
SNACK BAR
KID'S BOOTH

ADMISSION \$5.00
 KIDS UNDER 12 FREE (WITH AN ADULT)
 FREE PARKING

Select Rocks and Slabs for Sale!
 A huge selection of both local
 and "imported" rocks and slabs.
 Call for details—
 Janet Flecher (760) 949-0796.



EDUCATION NIGHT
 Joyce Fitzgerald from Women in Mining was the speaker for May. Ms. Fitzgerald is also the Production and Quality Control Manager for Elementis Specialties of Newberry Springs. She gave an hour long talk which fascinated the members, talking about Hectorite mining operations. Janet Flecher presented her with a pendant on behalf of the membership.

Next month's speaker will be from The Victor Valley Search and Rescue.

CLUB RAFFLE
 Francis Gramata runs the club raffle—which is held on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Francis is always looking out for prizes. If you have something to donate, then give him a call at (760) 245- 3775.

THE V.V.G.M.C BOARD



The board of the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7p.m. Around the table is JoAnn Beall, Virgil Melton, Gil Gilbert, Mary Lou Flecher, Janet Flecher, Tom Laszlo and Loren Beebe. I sat quietly in the room with a few other members as the board considered and worked on club business.

The board worked through a number of issues including field trips, building and equipment maintenance, upcoming events and future speakers for Education Night. All these people work hard on the members' behalf and all for little reward and little notice. Each member seemed to ably do their job and gave a considered and knowledgeable report when called upon. These folks not only enjoy the hobby of lapidary, but they take pride in providing quality facilities for the rest of the members.....Ed

**Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
15056-B Seventh Street,
Victorville, CA 92392-3811.**

Address Correction Requested

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Mail
Stamp**

BULLETIN is the official monthly newsletter published by VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB and is distributed free of charge to members and non members

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Another
BULLETIN

Expressly for

