

THE BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER OF VICTOR VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB
MAY 2006.



WE FIND 'EM THEN GRIND 'EM



I dropped by the club to get some pictures of our members in the workshop and saw our Recording Secretary, Pattie Deer polishing a piece of agate. It never ceases to amaze me that a rather innocuous rock that catches the eye in the field really comes to life when it is cut and polished. The skill and imagination of the individual puts a stamp of originality and creativity as a rock in the rough becomes a thing of beauty. Pattie has been a member of the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club for a little over two years and she shares her talents with us in a number of ways.

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, Joe Kosik and Yo Simpson.

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.

EDUCATION NIGHT



Mr. Eric Scott, the Curator of Paleontology, San Bernardino County Museum at Redlands was the guest speaker for April. He gave a fascinating lecture on Ice Age fossils from Victorville and the Mojave Desert. His interesting and informative lecture was enjoyed by all. Our guest speaker for May is Mrs. Joyce Fitzgerald of "Women in Mining."

FOR SALE

Lapidary: All you need for your garage setup.

- Pixie
- Drill Press
- Casting Equipment
- Oven with all attachments
- 7" stone cutter saw
- Foredom hand power tools
- Miniature mandrell
- Bristle disc and Brushes (all different kinds).
- All kinds of diamond cutter and steel.
- Rubystone point set
- Engraving Burr set
- Ultra Sonic cleaner

Everything you need - plus a lot of extras!

\$1,500 the lot!

Call Bill Fabrizio on (760) 952-1243

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

You've got to do your own growing, no matter how tall your grandfather was. Irish Proverb

Via The Tumble Rumble—March 2006.

THANKS TO YOU ALL

I would like to take this opportunity to all the clubs that send me their newsletters. Thank you to all you editors that put together such interesting publications. Keep it up!

FIELD TRIP TO THE YERMO EARLY MAN SITE



All of us are ready to go outside of Peggy Sue's restaurant.



Collecting Palm Root and other goodies on the road to Early Man site.



Outside the offices of the Early Man Site.



Pit #1 founded by L.Leahey.



A long climb to the dig site.



Sign posts to other archaeological digs



Inside the museum and lecture hall.



Artifacts and geologic samples from the area.



A painting of what "early man" might have looked like.



Nick and Jo Ann Beall taking their ease.



A wall of memories, achievements and personalities inside the lecture hall.

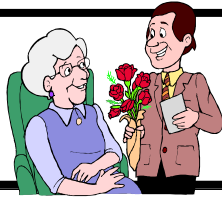
This field trip to the Yermo Early Man Site was on March 25th. Unfortunately, I do not have any photos of the Jasper Hill field trip on April 8th. If you go on a club field trip, please take photos—preferably digital photos and then e-mail them to me (with captions please) at amolineux@gmail.com so that I can include it in the upcoming newsletterEd



MA

Sun	Mon	Tue	W
	1 May Day Instructor's Mtg. 7p.m.	 2 Board Meeting 7p.m.	Wo 1-
7 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	8	9 Workshop 6-9p.m.	Wo 1-
Mother's Day  14 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	15	 16 Education Night 7p.m.	Wo 1-
21 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	22	 23 Pot Luck Dinner 6:30p.m. General Business Meeting 7:30p.m.	Wo 1-
28 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	 29 Memorial Day	30 Workshop 6-9p.m.	Wo 1-

AY



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 Workshop 9p.m.	4 Workshop 1-9p.m.	 5 Cinco De Mayo	 6 Field Trip to Opal Mountain
10 Workshop 9p.m.	 11 Wagon Masters Mtg—7p.m. Workshop 1-9p.m.	12	13
17 Workshop 9p.m.	18 Workshop 1-9p.m.	19	 20 Armed Forces Day
24 Workshop 9p.m.	25 Workshop 1-9p.m.	26	27
31 Workshop 9p.m.			

VICTOR VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

FIELD TRIP TO OPAL MOUNTAIN

Date: May 6, 2006

Time: 8:30 AM



Meeting Location: At the convenience store in Hinkley on Hinkley Road next to the Rail Road tracks

Wagon Masters: Janet Flecher

For additional information Janet Flecher at 760-949-0796

This trip is for Agate, Opal and Rhyolite. The rhyolite comes in a variety of patterns and colors and can be found with both opal and agate inclusions which make fantastic cuttings. The opal is common opal in white, tan, and various other colors. This is always a chance that any piece of opal collected can show flash. There are also opal seams requiring hard rock mining in the area for those interested. This trip is to a known and scouted location. The distance from the Club to the meeting site is approximately 45 miles. From the meeting site to the collecting site it is about 22 miles. The material is very plentiful and easily collected from the surface. The quantity of the material is extreme. Access for this trip is difficult. The total off road travel is approximately 30 miles in and out. This includes a 5 mile section of very rough washboard, a $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 mile section of soft (6-8" deep) sand, miles of rough desert road, and several steep hills with loose rock. 4X4's are strongly recommended. However, if you have a high clearance vehicle and experience in off road desert travel, the choice (and responsibility if you get stuck) are yours. Site conditions are for moderate hiking on the sides of hills. Distance from vehicles is 50 - 300 yards. Age limit for this trip is 8 years minimum. There are no known open mine shafts or mining pits in this region requiring caution. Other desert hazards including snakes, etc are present.

(Opal Mountain Field Trip continued).....

Please note: Although this is scheduled as a one day trip, some participants have indicated that they intend to spend Saturday night in the desert and continue to hunt on Sunday. The area we are going into is about 5-6 miles from Scout's Cove. The roads in and out of Scout's Cove are 4x4 ONLY. Also Black Canyon Road is a serious 6-8 mile soft and deep sand road and should ONLY be attempted by serious 4-wheelers capable of handling severe road conditions and emergencies.

The trip leaders recommend that you bring gloves, spray bottle (water), rock pick, lunch, safety glasses, and adequate drinking water.

No alcoholic beverages will be permitted on this trip.

SUNSHINE CLUB

Marie Gramata is our Sunshine Lady. April has been a very busy month for Marie.

Tom Laszlo's son, James recently passed away. Pat Estes had surgery.

William Fabrizio was hospitalized with pneumonia.

Nancy Flanders had an operation on her wrist and Val Costello's (our custodian) son has been very ill. To all of you in recovery or in bereavement, please know that the thoughts and prayers of all of the club members go out to you at this time.

If you know a member who is ailing or needs cheering up, please give Marie a call on (760) 245-3775.



GUESTS

AND NEW MEMBERS

The fourth Tuesday of the month is our club pot luck and general business meeting. It is also an opportunity to introduce new members.

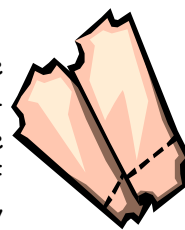
Philip Nelson and Mike Brothers became our latest members. We welcome them into our club and we hope that the club will fulfill your hobby interests for many years to come.

QUOTE FOR THE DAY

My second favorite household chore is ironing. My first being, hitting my head on the top bunk bed until I faint. Erma Bombeck

CLUB RAFFLE

Francis Gramata has graciously agreed to take over the club raffle from Mary Punchard. Francis asked me to solicit the membership. If anyone can donate prizes for the monthly raffle, the club would greatly appreciate it. If someone can donate slabs, then please identify what they are so that we can show others prior to the raffle. Last month, Chuck Forsyth and William Gurwell donated slabs of Oregon Petrified Wood and Maury Mountain Green Moss Agate. Once again, Francis, on behalf of the club, thank you for stepping up to the plate.



HERE'S A TIP

Need two cabs of exactly the same size? Glue two slabs together with paper between them. Cut to size. Separate by soaking in water. The Palomar Gem via Chips and Splinters—Feb. 2006.

Jackpot of Gems 2006. Gem, Jewelry & Mineral show. Weekend of May 13th & 14th at the Reno Livestock Events Center, 1350N. Wells Ave. Reno, Nevada.

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.



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.

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.

It's time to buy a faceted stone!
Tourmaline, Garnet, Chrysoberl, Topaz and others.

Wholesale prices!!

Call Carl Hollister (760) 240-1582.



WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND THE SHOP?



Tom Lazslo ensures the workshop is safe by continually maintaining the equipment.



Carole McMichael is standing by a sample of mint green chrysoprase.



Jo Ann Beall takes a moment from her paperwork.



Philip Nelson holds up a 2" sphere of Picasso Marble.



Featured on the front page, Pattie Deer works on the grinder.



Tom Lazslo and Nick Beall take a moment to relax.

**Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
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Victorville, CA 92392-3811.**

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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

