

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
15056-B Seventh Street,
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



THE BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER OF VICTOR VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB
APRIL 2006.



T-T-T-TAILGATE, 2006



Looking at the way both vendors and customers are dressed, you could be forgiven for thinking this year's Tailgate was held in one of the northern states such as North Dakota or Minnesota. No, it was held in the usual place and these few hardy souls kept the yearly tradition alive. There were purveyors of books, stones—both natural and unfinished and a large supply of hot food and drink that kept us toasty on the inside. For more on this year's Tailgate, see pages 8 & 9 inside.

YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2006

2006 executive Committee

President..... Nick Beal.....246-7117
 1st V.P (Membership).. Tom Laszlo.....247-5369
 2nd V.P (Education)..... Mary Lou Flecher.....949-9347
 Recording Secretary... Pattie Deer.....952-2019
 Treasurer..... Loren Beebe.....242-8584

Board Members

John Printz..... 252-5699
 JoAnn Beal..... 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 Pattie Deer 952-2019
 Maintenance Tom Laszlo 247-5369
 Librarian Mary Lou Flecher 949-9347
 Newsletter Editor..... Alan Molineux 951-7064
 Sunshine Lady..... Marie Gramata 245-3775
 Displays Nancy Flanders 868-2148
 Raffles..... This position is vacant.
 Scholarship Andrew Turner 962-0095
 Legislative Rep..... Mary Lou Flecher 949-9347
 Photography Bob Harper 947-6383
 Hospitality JoAnn Beal 246-7117
 Parliamentarian..... Dennis Harbison 247-5559

Instructors

Nick Beal, Janet Flecher, Jim Fosse, Gil Gilbert, Dennis Harbison, Tom Laszlo, and Yo Simpson.

WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND THE SHOP?



Tom Laszlo is setting up the 18" saw to cut an aquamarine crystal for Philip Nelson.



Here's Chuck Scott using the Genie grinder to work on a deep blue Canadian Sodalite cab.



Oscar Delgado shows Chuck Scott a wax ring mold he is sizing to fit a stone.



Margie Mendoza is setting up a rock on one of the saws.



Two members are creating rather intricate designs using silver wire. Both Cyndy Mandell and Tom Laszlo are working on gorgeous silver bracelets.



SUNSHINE CLUB

Marie Gramata is our Sunshine Lady. She recently sent a condolence card to Mary Punched on hearing that Mary's mother passed away. Mary, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this terrible time. And thank you once again Marie.



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

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.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Sunday, April 2nd is the time for us all to leap forward one hour. It will be a little dark to start with in the mornings but then gradually, our hours of daylight will get longer and longer. Our hours of daylight will of course grow in proportion to the ever extending length of our "Honey-do" lists. Oh! While I think of it, change those smoke alarm batteries too.....Ed



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.



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

Wholesale prices!!

Call Carl Hollister (760) 240-1582.



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



Mary Lou Flecher organizes our educational nights. On Tuesday, February 21st, John Jones (Mojave John), the owner of the Lifestyle Store on I Avenue, Hesperia,

spoke to members about meteorites.

John spoke of the composition and where many of them came from and their impact on our earth. John fielded questions from the membership present and received a rousing applause.



Mr. Hugo Christiansen was our March speaker. He is the site manager at the Calico Early Man Site. Mr. Christiansen spoke of the history of the site as well as some notable archaeologists that have worked there. He talked at length about the geological make up of the site and fielded an array of questions from the membership. Mr. Christiansen gave an impressive talk which lasted for about an hour.

Our speaker for April will be Mr. Eric Scott, the Curator of the Paleontology Division of Geologic Sciences at the San Bernardino Museum. He will talk about fossils.

VICTOR VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

FIELD TRIP TO JASPER HILL

Date: April 8, 2006

Time: 8:30 AM

Meeting Location: At I-40 Rest Stop located on the eastbound side of the Interstate between Newberry Springs and Hector Rd.

Wagon Masters: Wayne and Nancy Flanders

For more information contact Wayne or Nancy at 760-868-2148

This trip is for Jasper and Agate. This trip is to a known and recently scouted location. The distance from the Club to the meeting site is approximately 65 miles. From the meeting site to the collecting site is about 10-12 miles. The material is very plentiful and easily collected from the surface. The quantity of the material is extreme. Your most difficult problem is to determine which pieces of jasper to collect. Access for this trip is difficult. For many years vehicular access to this section of the desert was closed by the railroad. Recent mining activity has forced the railroad to allow a private crossing at Hector Siding. We will be using this crossing. The road from the crossing to the collecting sites includes 3-4 sections of soft (4-6" deep) sand approximately 100 yards in length. Total off road travel is about 10-12 miles depending on exactly where we choose to collect. 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) is yours. Site conditions are for moderate hiking on the sides of hills. Distance from vehicles is less than 100 yards. Age limit for this trip is 8 years minimum. There are no known mine shafts or mining pits in this region requiring caution. Other desert hazards including snakes, etc are present.

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

No alcoholic beverages will be permitted on this trip.



The Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Society has set a proud tradition with its annual Tailgate. For a week or so before this yearly event, bad weather threatened to mar the day. That didn't stop the event planners from going forward and putting on a quality show. Nick and JoAnn Beal, Dana Brandon, Oscar Delgado, Jim Fosse, Tom Laszlo, Virgil Melton, John Printz, Ralph Powers and Brett Ward all put in a great deal of time and effort to ensure that no matter what, "The Show would go on!" I must say that those are the members that come to mind—there are probably many others that helped, who I have forgotten.

My wife, Kerry and I arrived at the Tailgate on Friday, March 17th around midday. The weather was cold (around the high 40's) with the sky, overcast and the camping site had few R.V's and campers. We found a place to park and then browsed amongst the several vendors that had already set up.

With camera in hand, I introduced myself to Virgil Melton and Ed Skidmore, to Robert Gabourel and Paul Loustau. Meanwhile my wife looked for some lapidary bargains and was very happy with a good dinosaur bone specimen she bought from one of the tables.

After walking up and down the road where the vendors had set up, snapping photos here and there, I headed off to the tent which housed the hot dog cooker and said hello to Nick Beal and Tom Laszlo. I went next door to get a very welcome cup of steaming coffee from JoAnn Beal and met up once more with my wife who was also doing some visiting. We stopped and chatted to Janet Flecher as she set up her table and then noticing a few snowflakes and an obvious cold front coming in, we hopped in the car and headed for home. For those who came it was an opportunity to catch up on old times and for everyone who couldn't make it—well maybe we'll see you next year.....Ed

TAILGATE 2006



My wife, Kerry and I drove up to the Tailgate on a bitterly cold Friday. Few people braved the cold—but we were made very welcome.



Hardy vendors pedaled their wares. There was certainly a lot to see!



Ed Skidmore and Virgil Melton set up a fine display!



Here is Robert Gabourel talking to a customer.



Paul Loustau has quite a comprehensive array of books, tools and stones.

ME AND THE DOCTORS

Thought I'd let my doctors check me

'Cause I didn't feel quite right.

Those aches and pains annoyed me

And I couldn't sleep at night.

He could find no real disorder,

But he wouldn't let it rest.

What with TennCare and BlueCare,

We would do a cuppla tests.

To the hospital he sent me,

Though I didn't feel that bad.

He arranged for them to give me,

Every test that could be had.

I was fluoroscoped and cysto-
scoped,

My aging frame displayed.

Stripped, on an ice-cold table,

While my gizzards were X-Rayed.

I was checked for worms and para-
sites,

For fungus and the crud.

Well, they pierced me with long
needles,

Taking samples of my blood.

Doctors came and checked me over

Probed and pushed and poked
around.

And to make sure I was living,

They then wired me up for sound.

They have finally concluded,

Their results have filled a page.

What I have will someday kill me,

My affliction is OLD AGE!

.....I need a nap!

A recently received E-Mail.

FROM THE EDITOR

I've been a member of the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club for about nine months now. During that time, it has been my pleasure to drop by the club whenever the whim takes me. I stop and chat to "the regulars". Those are the friendly souls I so often see. They're working away at some project or are gearing up to go out on the next field trip. They're always busy—but not too busy to stop and chat, trade stories or just give some advice on any number of subjects.

I've noticed that if you give people your time, then they're only too happy to give you theirs. Our club members network, they share information and often possessions. They are a friendly group of people. If you are not a member but have been given this newsletter or have maybe picked it up from the Lifestyle store, think about dropping by the club and saying hello. Maybe rocks have fascinated you for years—maybe now you have the time to find out a little more about them. Maybe now is the time to enquire about membership in the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club.....Ed.



April 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 April Fools Day
Daylight Savings Workshop begins at 12 noon. 2	3 Instructors meeting 7p.m.	4 Board Meeting	5 Workshop 1-9 p.m.	6 Workshop 1-9 p.m.	7	8 Field Trip to Jasper Hill
Workshop begins at 12 noon 9	10	11 Workshop 6-9 p.m.	12 Workshop 1-9 p.m.	13 Workshop 1-9 p.m. Wagon Masters Meeting 7 p.m.	14 Good Friday	15 Taxation Day
16 Easter Sunday	17	18 Education Night 7 p.m.	19 Workshop 1-9 p.m.	20 Workshop 1-9 p.m.	21	22 Earth Day
23 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	24	25 Pot Luck Dinner General Business Meeting 7 p.m.	26 Workshop 1-9 p.m.	27 Workshop 1-9 p.m.	28	29
30 Workshop begins at 12 noon.						