

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
15056-B Seventh Street
Victorville, CA 92395-3811.



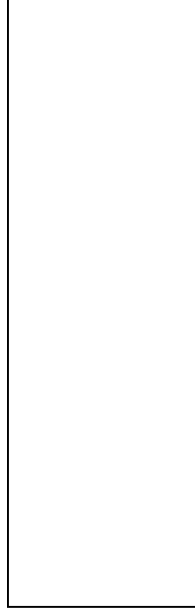
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Another
BULLETIN
Expressly for



THE BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER OF VICTOR VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB
JANUARY 2007



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



As I look back on 2006, I have to say it was a good year. In my mind's eye I look back at the good times at the club. I've enjoyed the friends I've made there and always appreciate the time they give me, their smiles and their warmth. 2007 looks like it's going to be a good year. We are starting with a new board, willing and helpful instructors and members who show a real interest in lapidary. When you see me, smile for the camera and show me what you're making. You're probably going to be in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.....Ed

YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2007

2007 Executive Committee

President.....Tom Laszlo.....247-5369
 1st V.P (Membership)...Jim Fosse.....245-8644
 2nd V.P (Education).....Mary Lou Flecher.....949-9347
 Recording Secretary...Patti Deer.....553-6550
 Treasurer.....Janet Flecher.....949-9347

Board Members

Don Buhr.....244-9512
 Joe Kosik.....241-0894
 Vacancy.....

Past President.....Nick Beall.....246-7117
 CFMS Representative..Bob Harper.....947-6383

Standing Committee Chairmen

Wagon Master, Historian, Maintenance, Librarian, Newsletter/
 Editor, Sunshine Lady, Displays, Raffles, Scholarship, Legislative
 Representative, Photography, Hospitality, Parliamentarian.

(All of the above positions will at the January General Meeting)

Instructors

Nick Beall, Janet Flecher, Jim Fosse, Gil Gilbert, Dennis Harbi-
 son, Tom Laszlo, Virgil Melton, Oscar Delgado, Joe Kosik, and
 Chuck Forsyth.




Desert River

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Bob Coats
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Some of our sponsors are club members and others are vendors that you might find useful. In any case, support these vendors if you can. The club benefits from the advertising.

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



Select Rocks & Slabs for Sale!

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



Rocks, Rocks, Rocks,

Buy slabs, cabs & rough from Joel! 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 & Jasper for tumbling at \$1.00 per pound. Call Joe Kosik (760) 241-0894.



THE VICTOR VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

was organized in 1947 and has been the focal point of High Desert rock hounds for the past 59 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 further information, call (760) 243-2330.

MEETING DATES

The January general meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 23rd at 6:30p.m.

SUNSHINE CLUB

I was working on the newsletter on Tuesday, December 12th and I called Marie



Gramata, our Sunshine Lady. She told me that no-one was ill that she knew of. It was a relief to know that we were all hale and hearty and didn't need her services. Marie went on to say that she would step down in 2007 and although she has enjoyed working for the club, her health dictates she needs a rest.

I DON'T REMEMBER YOU.

I was chatting with member, Charles Toles the other day and I'm sure he won't mind me recounting our conversation. It started as Charles was cutting a rather handsome rock with a saw. The pattern on the rock was striking and Charles said he'd had many compliments on the rock from others that had admired it. He went on to say that unfortunately, he could not remember where or when he had collected it. Over the years, Charles has gone on many field trips and has consequently collected pounds and pounds of rocks. Many were put aside to be worked on when the opportunity presented itself. There's the rub. The rock was part of a huge collection that awaited attention. Unfortunately, memories and specifics have faded with time.

As Charles and I spoke, we agreed that it would be a good idea to inventory and label the rocks he had collected to prevent this from happening again. As for this particular specimen, pretty as it is, it is unlikely he will find more of it. It's a lesson to be learned for next time. However, if this story helps anyone else avoid the same problem then maybe it was worthwhile.

In short, keep a diary of the places you collect specimens and then inventory your stock when you get home....Ed

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club

Field Trip

North Edwards Onyx Claim

Date: January 13, 2007

Time: 8:30 AM



Meeting Location: Burger King Parking Lot

in Kramer Junction off Rte 395.

Wagon Masters: Janet Flecher

For additional information Janet Flecher at 760-949-0796

This trip is for Colorful Travertine Onyx. The Onyx is highly banded and comes in a variety of colors in the range of reds, whites, browns, blacks and a host of additional colors. Each pit has different patterns and colors of Onyx. This material can range from hand sized chunks up to blocks weighing hundreds of pounds. This site is an active claimed owned by the Sierra Pelona Rock Club.

. The material is found in a moderately soft ash material in 2-7 foot deep pits. Digging in the soft material is required as collectors have removed all loose material on the surface. This is the easiest digging for any gemmy material in the region. This trip is open to children over the age of 8, however due to the nature of the site and the number of active pits; children must be under the control of an adult at all times. No running and/or horse play will be permitted. This trip requires about 2 miles of off road driving each direction. The road is desert sand and is in a relatively good condition.

AROUND THE SHOP



Tom Laszlo is our club president for 2007. He has been the V.P in charge of membership and maintenance for quite a while now. Whenever something needs fixing around the shop, Tom gets the job done. It's that "can do" attitude shown by many of our members who attend quickly and quietly to their appointed tasks that make the club run smoothly for the rest of us. In these photos, Tom is taking time out from his regular jobs to work in the shop. I caught him on the faceting machine bringing an amethyst to life with a combination of experience and patience.



I had a conversation with Charles Toles. In the first photo, he is in the saw room cutting a rock into slices. In this second photo is a picture of a rock that he has cut several times preparing it to become a rock sphere. Sphere making holds a particular interest for Charles and he would really like to meet up with someone else who shares the same interest. Charles left me his home phone number (760) 242-2240 and his cell number which is (760) 220-6738.

It is amazing how a piece of seemingly ordinary rock can be transformed after cutting and grinding into a wonderful, lustrous sphere.

IT'S THE SAME OLD GRIND



I caught both Gloria and Lloyd Guilliam at work in the club workshop when I arrived. Both are grinding cabs and concentrating on their work.



Chuck Forsyth is fitting some stones to a ring blank.



Resident instructor, Jim Fosse watches Lloyd Guilliam grind away.



Chuck Forsyth assists Bob Menelly with a project he's working on.



William Fabrizio is using a template to measure a cab for size.

(North Edwards Onyx Claim Field Trip continued.)

This trip is suitable for all types of vehicles, except vehicles with lower than normal clearance. Walking at the site is less than 500 feet. Caution, you will get VERY dirty. Shovels, picks, buckets (to remove waste ash), hammers, pry bars, gads, etc. are required. This is the only site scheduled for this outing.

There are no known mine shafts in this area. Even though this is a January trip, snakes may be present. The open pits include unstable working faces that require due caution.

NO TUNNELING IS PERMITTED.

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

No alcoholic beverages will be permitted on this trip.

I'm not often seen in front of the camera. In fact, it never happens. However, I stopped by the clubhouse tonight to take pictures for this issue of the *Bulletin*. Jim Fosse was the instructor on duty. I needed twelve pictures for this newsletter and I had photographed just about everyone there when Jim offered to take a picture of me.



Here is a picture of me feeling self conscious and trying to make it look like I'm doing something for the camera. I'm in the silver room—which was vacant at the time. This will teach me to remain behind the camera next time. It's a lot safer!



January 2007



Sun

Mon















Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 No instructor's meeting. New Year's Day 	2 Board meeting 7p.m. 	3 Workshop 1-9p.m. Alaska becomes a state in 1959 	4 Workshop 1-9p.m.	5	6
7 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	8	9 Workshop 6-9 p.m.	10 Workshop 1-9p.m.	11  Workshop 1-9p.m. Wagon Master's Meeting 7p.m.	12	13 North Edwards Onyx Field Trip—8:30am
14 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	15	16  Education Meeting 7p.m.	17 Workshop 1-9p.m. Desert Storm 1991. 	18 Workshop 1-9p.m.	19 Popcorn Day 2006 	20
21 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	22	23  Pot luck 6:30 p.m. General Meeting 7p.m. 	24 Workshop 1-9p.m. California Gold rush 1848 	25 Workshop 1-9p.m.	26  Australia Day 1788	27  Mozart's Birthday 1756
28 Workshop begins at 12 noon. Shuttle disaster 1986. 	29  Chinese New Year	30	31 Workshop 1-9p.m.			