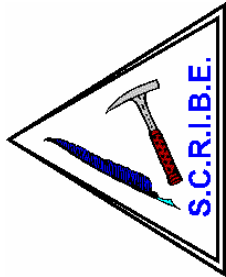


Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
15056-B Seventh Street  
Victorville, CA 92395-3811.



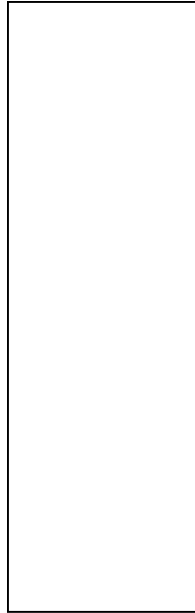
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BULLETIN is the official monthly newsletter published by VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB and is distributed free of charge to both members and non members.

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## Another BULLETIN Expressly for



# THE BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER OF VICTOR VALLEY  
GEM AND MINERAL CLUB  
PH. (760) 243-2330  
FEBRUARY 2008



I was in the clubhouse over the Christmas/New Year's break and met up with Claude Williams in the casting room. Claude and I had a long chat and he took the time to explain to me just what he was doing. He was casting a silver tree with three stones of Turquoise and Agate. He said he cast the stones on a tree for both economy and time. The cast would set in a day or so and then he would heat the cast in a furnace to remove the wax and this would reveal his finished work. We spoke for quite a while and Claude patiently explained to me the process he was using.

## YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2008

### 2008 Executive Committee

President.....Tom Laszlo.....247-5369  
 1st V.P (Membership)..Jim Fosse.....245-8644  
 2nd V.P (Education).....Patti Deer.....553-6550  
 3rd V.P (Gem & Mineral Show chairman  
     Gil Gilbert.....868-6900  
 Recording Secretary....Alan Molineux.....951-7064  
 Treasurer.....Janet Flecher.....949-9347

### Board Members

Joe Kosik.....241-0894  
 Lloyd Guillian.....962-6844  
 Pat Estes.....948-7324  
 Charles Toles.....242-9240  
 Past President.....Nick Beall.....220-1215  
 CFMS Representative..Carole Mc Michael.....961-7659

### Standing Committee Chairmen

Wagon Master.....Janet Flecher.....949-9347  
 Historian.....(Vacant)  
 Maintenance.....Charles Toles.....242-9240  
 Librarian.....Mary Lou Flecher.....949-9347  
 Newsletter.....Alan Molineux.....951-7064  
 Sunshine Lady.....Carol Laszlo.....247-5369  
 Displays.....Kate Waterman.....946-5881  
 Raffles.....Charles Toles.....242-9240  
 Scholarships.....Andrew Turner.....962-0095  
 Legislative Rep.....(Vacant)  
 Photography.....Bob Harper.....947-6383  
 Hospitality.....(Vacant)  
 Parliamentarian.....Dennis Harbison.....247-5559  
 Gem Show Chairman...Gil Gilbert.....868-6900  
 Tailgate.....Committee

### Instructors

Nick Beall, Joann Beall, Janet Flecher, Jim Fosse, Gil Gilbert,  
 Dennis Harbison, Tom Laszlo, Virgil Melton, Oscar Delgado, Joe  
 Kosik, Lloyd Guillian, Kate Waterman, Cyndy Mandell and Chuck  
 Forsyth. **Club Website—[fosse.schema-root.org/vvgmc/](http://fosse.schema-root.org/vvgmc/)**

## Wanted—Rocks, Lapidary, Materials & Equipment.

**Call Charles Toles.**

**Home (760) 242-9240**

**Cell (760) 220-6748.**



## 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.



**Micky Coats**  
 Loan Officer

15316 Dos Palmas Rd.  
 Victorville, CA 92392

Office: (760) 241-7620  
 Fax: (760) 241-6292  
 Cell: (760) 475-1756

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR.....**

**THE 32ND ANNUAL  
STODDARD WELLS  
"TAILGATE"**

**VICTORVILLE, CA**

**MARCH 7TH, 8TH AND 9TH.**

**9-5:00P.M. DAILY**

**OPEN TO ALL ROCKHOUNDS & WANNA' BEEES**

**ALL SPACES ARE FREE  
ON A FIRST COME BASIS**

**(ABSOLUTELY NO HOLDING SPACES FOR A FRIEND)**

**FINDINGS, BOOKS, JEWELRY, SLABS,  
CABS, EQUIPMENT & TONS OF ROUGH!**

**RESTROOMS, DRY CAMPING, FOOD SNACKS, FIELD TRIPS,  
PRIZES (AND BEST OF ALL...)**

**ROCKS, ROCKS & MORE ROCKS**

**HWY 15 NORTH THRU VICTORVILLE- RIGHT  
AT DALE EVANS EXIT THEN LEFT ON  
STODDARD WELLS ROAD**

**FOLLOW THE SIGNS ABOUT 7 MILES (DIRT ROAD  
ALL MOTOR HOMES, CARS & R.V'S CAN MAKE IT WITH EASE)**

**IF YOU'RE A ROCK HOUND OR LIKE HIKING IN THE DESERT  
THIS IS A TRIP YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS.**

**SEE YOU THERE!**

**SPONSORED BY THE VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB  
CALL (760) 243-2330 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society's

**SPRING TAILGATE**

When: Friday through Sunday, March 14th, 15th & 16th.

Location: Little League Regional Ballpark  
6707 Little League Drive  
San Bernardino, CA

What: Two dozen (or more) tailgaters.  
Open 9a.m., to dusk.  
\$50 fee to tailgate.

Contact: Lyle Strayer, (909) 887-3394  
Free Admission & free parking.

**WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?**

Club Officers.....P2.  
Sunshine News.....P3.  
Christmas Party Photos.....P4 & 5.  
February Calendar.....P6 & 7.  
Around the Shop.....P8 & 9.  
Upcoming Events.....P10.

**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 61 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**

Our January meeting was held on Tuesday, 22nd at 6:30p.m. and the February general meeting will be held on Tuesday the 26th.

**SUNSHINE REPORT**

Another year has zipped by us once again. Hopefully 2008 will be a healthier and prosperous one for all and their families.

Unfortunately there were a few

who were under the weather during the holidays and they are as follows: Connie Weinberg not feeling well, Charles Scott undergoing tests on the best way of taking care of his health problem, and Joann Beall had surgery on her heart on Friday January 11, 2008. She had a Stent put in and is currently recuperating at her daughter's. Wayne Flanders spoke to Tom after Christmas and is doing very well. Lets all say a prayer for our friends who are not doing so well and friends we have yet to meet who are also not doing so well. May you all be comforted by knowing others care about you and wish you a speedy recovery.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
For those who reluctantly had to add another candle to their birthday cake, don't feel bad if your smoke alarm goes off, it only shows it is doing its job and you are doing yours by showing others you can still blow them dern candles out. Happy Birthday to all the February Members, Greg Gadbois, Charles Gardner, Leona Griner, Robert Harper, Marcus Jaramillo, Kerry Molineux, Scott Naples, Ralph Powers, Ed Skidmore. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY.**

If you know of someone who is ailing or who needs a card to cheer them up, please call me and I will be very happy to contact the person either by phone or by mail. Call me Carol Laszlo at 760-247-5369.

By Carol L. Laszlo



## IT WAS A FINE CHRISTMAS PARTY



Outside the restaurant.



The room filled up quickly.



Instead of our regular potluck and general meeting, we held our Christmas party at the Golden Star Buffet on Main Street, Hesperia on Tuesday, December 18th. We had a great attendance—thanks to the planning and hard work of many of our club members. Carole Mc Michael, in particular worked very hard. Some members brought their families and so many attended that we had to add more tables, squeezing everyone together.

As the establishment name suggests, it was buffet eating. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and at about \$11 a head, the meal was very reasonably priced. Members talked and caught up on gossip and all in all, they just enjoyed the evening with good food and good company. This was my second Christmas party though I know others have enjoyed many more.

After the meal, the new officers were introduced to the membership and then we enjoyed an auction of items brought to the occasion by the members.



Bob Menelly is working on a wire wrapping project.



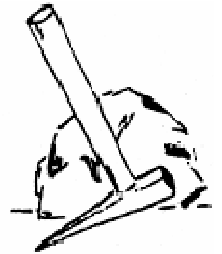
Kent Berryman is making a sphere that will result in a perfectly round polished stone.

### Onyx Field Trip By Cyndy M. Mandell

It was a very cloudy, windy, terribly cold day with a possibility of rain in the forecast, not the type of day one would normally choose to go out into the desert rock hounding. It seems there are always a few of us who can't resist the urge though and that was the case on Sunday, January 6, 2008, the first Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club field trip of the year.

The skies were filled with beautiful clouds and the mountains and hills were covered with snow as four of us met up at the Burger King at Four Corners at 8:30 in the morning with temperatures around 40 degrees. Janet Flecher, field trip coordinator, Kent Berryman, Cyndy Mandell and Lois Papner ventured out Clay Mine Road to the Onyx claim. Armed with shovels, picks and crow bars we dug out banded onyx in beautiful colors of orange, purple, and reds the size of golf balls to the size of large boulders. The material was beautiful and plentiful if you were willing to do the laborious hard work to dig it out.

We spent about three hours at the claim and then traveled on to visit a site off of Gephart Rd. Lots of agate, plume, and quartz were bagged before the frozen rock hounds decided their buckets were full enough and it was time to go home.



## AROUND THE SHOP



Kerry Molineux has an array of slabs ready for polishing.



Virgil Melton shows some polished Biggs Jasper from Oregon.



Charles Toles' Brazilian Agate



Ben Weiden patiently working grinding a cab.



John Prinz is showing Ed Deren around the saw room.



Ed Skidmore, Virgil Melton and Pat stop what they're doing to pose for the camera.

## THE AUCTION AFTERWARDS.....



When the dishes were cleared away and everyone had eaten their fill, we started to auction pieces of lapidary that members had brought along.

Carole Mc Michael had asked me to auction off the pieces. The money raised was to go to the cost of next year's Christmas Party. I must confess, as I did freely on that night, that lapidary is not my forte and I did not know the names of most of the rocks, stones and other minerals I was auctioning off. That did not deter the members who really joined in the spirit of the evening and graciously and good naturedly forgave my many mistakes.

I believe everyone had a good time and the bidding was often quite spirited. It wasn't long, however, before I started to lose my voice. At that time, Cyndy Mandell stepped in and we alternated auctioning off the remaining pieces.

By the end of the evening, we had raised over \$500 for next year's party. I left, tired out but like everyone else, I thoroughly enjoyed myself. I hope we have an auction again next year and if we do, I'm sure the members will be as gracious and generous as they were this year.

Events like this one don't spontaneously happen. They require a great deal of planning and many phone calls and many long hours to make them a success. I thank all of the members who made the night possible. I would also like to thank all those that came along to the party and enjoyed the evening with us.













The venue seemed to be very popular and it was a great culmination to a good year at the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club.

See you all next year....Ed



# February 2008



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Black History Month 	Wild bird Feeding Month 	American Heart Month 	Children's Dental Health Month 		1	2 Ground Hog Day. 
3 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	4 Instructor's Meeting—7p.m.	5 Board Meeting 7p.m.	6 Workshop 1—9p.m.	7 Wagon Master's Meeting 7p.m.	8	9  Natnl. weather svce established in 1870
10 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	11	12 Workshop 6—9p.m.	13 Workshop 1—9p.m.	14 Valentine's Day Workshop 1—9p.m. 	15 Susan B. Anthony's birthday in 1820. 	16
17 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	18 President's Day 	19 Education Night 7p.m.	20 Workshop 1—9p.m.	21 Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday Workshop 1—9p.m. 	22	23
24 Workshop begins at 12 noon.	25	26 Pot Luck 6:30p.m. General Meeting 7:30p.m.	27 Workshop 1—9p.m.	28 Workshop 1—9p.m.	29 Leap year 	

Deadline for March issue of the *Bulletin* is Monday, February 18th. Ph. (760) 951-7064 or email [amolineux@gmail.com](mailto:amolineux@gmail.com)