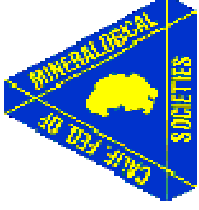
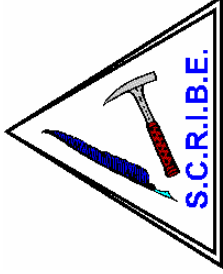


Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
15056-B Seventh Street  
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THE  
BULLETIN  
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
VICTOR VALLEY  
GEM AND  
MINERAL CLUB  
PH. (760) 243-2330  
MARCH 2009

## YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2009

### 2009 Executive Committee

President.....Gil Gilbert.....868-6900  
 1st V.P (Membership)..Gaylan Graves.....948-1918  
 2nd V.P (Education).....Val Costello.....963-3974  
 3rd V.P (Gem & Mineral Show chairman)  
 Virgil Melton.....948-2849  
 Recording Secretary....Alan Molineux.....951-7064  
 Treasurer.....Carole Mc Michael .....949-9347

### Board Members

Don Pomerence.....868-5264  
 Lloyd Guillian.....962-6844  
 John Printz.....957-7414  
 Charles Toles.....951-0372  
 Past President.....Tom Laszlo.....247-5369  
 CFMS Representative...Pat Estes .....961-7659

### Standing Committee Chairmen

Wagon Master.....(Vacant)  
 Historian.....Joe Kosik.....241-0894  
 Maintenance.....Charles Toles.....951-0372  
 Librarian.....Dwayna Barron.....963-3974  
 Newsletter.....Alan Molineux.....951-7064  
 Sunshine Lady.....Marie Gramata.....245-3775  
 Displays.....Andrew Turner.....962-0095  
 Raffles.....Charles Toles.....951-0372  
 Scholarships.....Andrew Turner.....962-0095  
 Photography.....Alan Molineux.....951-7064  
 Hospitality.....John Prinz.....957-7414

Tailgate.....Brett Ward.....948-1232  
 Virgil Melton.....948-2849  
 Training Coordinator..Lloyd Guillian.....962-6844

### Instructors

Ben Weiden, Jim Fosse, Gil Gilbert, Tom Laszlo, Virgil Melton,  
 Joe Kosik, Pat Estes, Gaylan Graves, Charles Toles and Lloyd  
 Guillian

Club Website—[www.vvgmc.org](http://www.vvgmc.org)

## WANTED—ROCKS, LAPIDARY, MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT.

CALL CHARLES TOLES.

HOME (760) 951-0372

CELL (760) 220-6748.



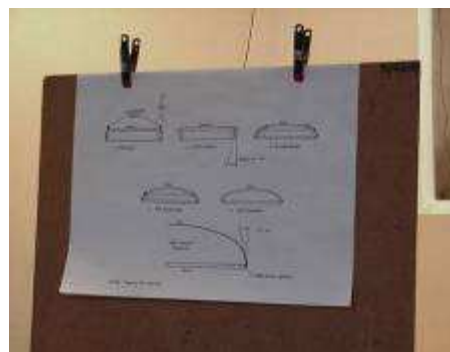
## Rocks, Rocks, Rocks,

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.



Virgil's props for his lecture.



11 Education night was well attended.

## FRONT COVER

Lapidary is a process. First we "discover" the rock (or we horse-trade for it with someone) . The next step in the process is to cut the rock into slabs—it's a lot like slicing bread. For this part of the process we generally use one of the rock saws at the club house.

Once this step is done, we inspect the slab. We already have it in mind what we want from the slab. Satisfied that a particular slab meets the criteria we have in mind, we stencil a shape on it, cut it, polish it and turn a once nondescript rock into a thing of beauty. The slab featured on the front cover is a piece of Strawberry Onyx. Although it's in black and white here, it's in color on the website.

## NEW MEMBERS

On behalf of the board and the members of Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club, I would like to welcome Marilyn Pomerence of Phelan, Dwayna Barron, Susan and David Foreman, Deneice Whorton and Mark and Tamera Cole - all of Hesperia, Ruben Martinez of Pinion Hills, Dalushaka Mugwana of Silver Lakes and David and June Bennett of Apple Valley.

Our members possess a wealth of knowledge on the subject of lapidary which they will be happy to share with you.

## EDUCATION NIGHT

The third Tuesday of each month is education night. It is held at the clubhouse at 7p.m.

Val Costello, 2nd V.P in charge of education is always looking for someone to give a talk on lapidary.

In February, Virgil Melton gave a talk on how to cut a cabochon.



Val Costello is the V.P for Education.



Virgil Melton lectured in February.

## 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

The February meeting was held on Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30p.m. and the March meeting and pot luck will be held at the clubhouse on Tuesday, 24th at 6:30p.m.

## THANKS, SO MUCH!

Besides the many members who come to the club to work on Sunday afternoon, you will see Kerry Molineux teaching wire wrap classes every Sunday from 12—3p.m.

No experience is necessary and supplies are available for purchase right there at the club for a nominal fee. You should see the happy and beaming faces of the members after they finish their first pendant.

You can make a pendant from start to finish in one afternoon. Members of all ages are welcome to come and learn. Our youngest junior member, Andrea Skidmore has made three wire wrapped pendants. Chico Printz has made two pendants and Katie Boyd has also made several pendants.

After teaching her 4th grade class all week we are so thrilled that Kerry has the time, energy and willingness to teach on her days off.

One of the most rewarding byproducts of teaching is the look of pride and satisfaction when a student completes something new and challenging.

Kerry, Together with Terry Combe learned some basic wire wrapping techniques and designs. They read books, looked online and saw examples of other wire wrap artists in some of the many magazines we have available in the club library.

They were both new to wire wrapping and have come a long way with their beautiful pendants and earrings—all available for sale.

Thank you Kerry.

This article was written by Pat Estes.

## THE MONTH OF MARCH

This month's birthstone is the Aquamarine.

This month's flower is the Jonquil.



## ROCK OF THE MONTH

### Picasso Marble

Ruby in Zoisite, Chrysanthemum stone and Malachite are just a few of the crystals that have beautiful abstract patterns in them. Another of these crystals, one that has a broad spectrum of colors to its palette is Picasso Marble.

The colors of Picasso Marble can vary from brown, black, to cream and various shades of gray and can have abstract landscape patterns through out.

Picasso Marble goes by a few names, Picasso Jasper and Picasso Stone, these are the most popular names. Picasso is a metamorphic lime stone, Metamorphosis is one of three different ways rocks are formed (igneous and sedimentary are the other two).

Picasso Marble is found in Utah, it is a soft stone by most standards 4 to 5 on the mohs scale of hardness. Polishes best with tin oxide or diamond.

Folklore, Legend, and Healing Properties:

Self-control, Clarity, and total recall of dreams. Assists in meditation. Protects, nurtures, strengthens. Aids in mind expansion and manifestation of physical and material goals. Stability. Helps to heal viral infection.

Mohs scale of hardness 4 to 5

Specific Gravity—2.9 to 3.4

Thank you to Gayland Graves for this item<sup>4</sup>

## VIRGIL MELTON'S BRACELET

By Cyndy Mandell

Virgil Melton, a club member since 2001, put in an estimated ten hours to complete his Bisbee turquoise and silver bracelet. He acquired this beautiful turquoise stone from a fellow club member and felt it was too nice to cut up. Virgil is known around the club as a turquoise expert and recently has done several other pieces using a white turquoise called Buffalo.

After thinking about it for a while he decided to design his own piece to suit it and he came up with this extraordinary work of art. He will be the first to say he did have some difficulty with the fabrication along the way, but he overcame all obstacles and now wears it proudly. The turquoise is approximately 200 carats and the bracelet took about two ounces of sterling silver, but Virgil can't put a price on the finished product. He says, "It's hard to put a price on it, it's invaluable."

## SUNSHINE CLUB

Marie Gramata tells me that Joe Kosik is now convalescing at home. Lloyd Guillian's mother passed away and Bob Weinberg passed away. Marjorie Gunn had surgery and Ed Skidmore's wife had shingles.

Marie Gramata can be contacted at (760) 245-3775.

## FROM THE JANUARY GENERAL MEETING.

Looking for volunteers for the job as Wagon Master. Will coordinate field trips rather than lead them.

92 Paid memberships.

Phone committee established  
Tailgate on March 13th, 14th & 15th. Flyers are available.

New food menu for the tailgate.  
Charles Toles will do a club display for February.

Virgil Melton will put one together for March.

Scholarship forms have been sent out.

John Printz—(Hospitality) we need two people each month to help with pot luck at general meeting.

Charles Toles will specialize in saw room instruction—all new members will start there.

Cyndy Mandell reports we have a booth at the County Fair—May 9th—17th.

New kiln has arrived. Instructors are getting training on how to use it.

Gil Gilbert went over the new budget for 2009.

John Printz reiterated we need a map committee to develop a book of lapidary sites in our area.

Meeting started at 7:30p.m. and adjourned at 8:25p.m.

## FROM THE FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING.

Shop Sales—new report.

Internal audit will be done on the club books before the next general meeting.

Instructors will now have a \$30 petty cash box.

Carole Mc Michael will visit the club and pay the bills each week. Silver Fabrication class should start up after the tailgate. Gil Gilbert will be running safety courses.

Instructor's meeting will move from 1st Monday evening of the month to the 1st Tuesday of the month to coincide with the board meeting. There will be a trial period.

New cleaning crew is Cal Ark. Bids were submitted to raise the club library and put in plexiglass doors.

It was discussed having an Instructor-at-Large as an instructor in training.

Kerry Molineux was thanked for her teaching efforts.

John Printz will purchase plastic storage tubs for the tailgate kitchen equipment.

Charles Toles will train someone on the saw room.

Tom Laszlo will provide interim maintenance.

Thank you to Bob Menelly for updating the photo board.

(6) prospective members.



## UPCOMING LAPIDARY EVENTS

### February 27th & 28th.

Del Air Rock Hounds Club  
United Methodist Church.  
9650 Reseda Blvd (at Superior  
Street.) Friday, 3p.m.—9:30p.m.  
& Saturday 10 a.m.—5p.m.  
Call Julie Marin (818) 886-7190  
[http://](http://delairrockhounds.blogspot.com)

[delairrockhounds.blogspot.com](http://delairrockhounds.blogspot.com)

### February 27th, - March 8th.

Imperial Valley Gem & Min. Soc.  
Gem & Mineral Bldg. on fair-  
grounds. Fri, Sat, Sun Noon—  
10p.m. Mon. through Thurs.  
4p.m.—10p.m.

Jim Strain (760) 356-2361.

### March 6th, 7th & 8th.

Mineral & Gem Soc. of Castro  
Valley. Centennial Hall.  
22292 Foothill Blvd.

Fri. & Sat. 10a.m.—6p.m.

Sunday 10a.m.—5p.m.

Larry Ham (510) 887-9007.

Webpage [www.mgscv.org](http://www.mgscv.org)

### March 7th & 8th.

Monrovia Rock Hounds Inc.

L.A County Arboretum.

301 N.Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia.

9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. daily.

JoAnna Ritchie (626) 359-1624

[joannaritchie@gmail.com](mailto:joannaritchie@gmail.com)

[www.morocks.com](http://www.morocks.com)

### March 7th & 8th.

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society.

Ventura County Fairgrounds.

10 West Harbor Blvd. Ventura.

Sat. 10a.m.—5p.m. Sun. 10a.m.—4p.m.

Andy Anderson (805) 987-0043.

E-mail [vgms\\_editor@roadrunner.com](mailto:vgms_editor@roadrunner.com)

Webpage: [www.vgms.org](http://www.vgms.org)

### March 13th, 14th & 15th.

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club

Tailgate show and Field trips.

Stoddard Wells Road, Victorville, CA.

9:00a.m.—5p.m. daily.

Gil Gilbert (760) 868-6900

<http://fosse.schema-root.org/vvgmc>

### March 14th & 15th.

Pasadena Lapidary Society

San Marino Masonic Center

3130 Huntington Drive, San Marino.

Sat. 10a.m.—6p.m. Sun. 10a.m.—5p.m.

Drew Wilson (626) 298-1534

E-mail [todrew@sbcglobal.net](mailto:todrew@sbcglobal.net)

### March 14th & 15th.

Mother Lode Mineral Society

Stanislaus County Fairgrounds

900 N. Broadway, Turlock

Sat. 10a.m.—6p.m. Sun. 10a.m.—5p.m.

Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494

E-mail [terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com)

Webpage [www.turlockgemshow.com](http://www.turlockgemshow.com)

### March 14th & 15th.

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club.

Veteran's Memorial Hall.

5th & Llano Streets.

10a.m.—5p.m. daily.

Teri Beck (831) 679-2896

E-Mail [taitani@cencentric.net](mailto:taitani@cencentric.net)

Webpage [salinasrockandgem.com](http://salinasrockandgem.com)

### March 21st & 22nd.

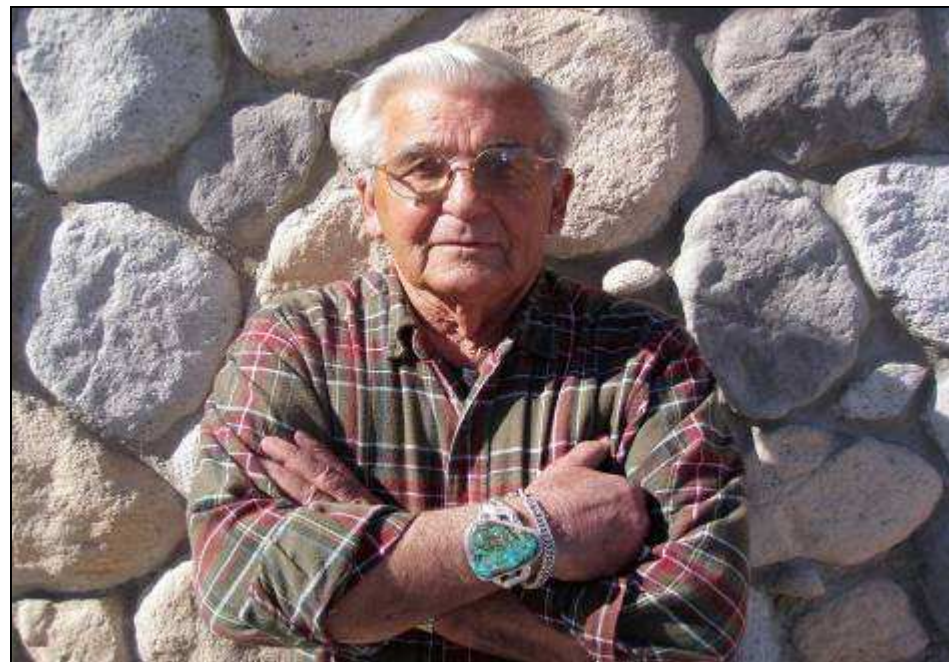
Palomar Gem & Mineral Club

Army National. Guard Armory

304 Park Avenue, Escondido

Sat. 9a.m.—5p.m. Sun. 9a.m.—4p.m.

Val Lynch (760) 749-4164





# March 2009



Sun

Mon








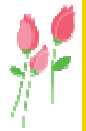






Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p><b>1</b> Workshop 12noon—5p.m.</p>	<p><b>2</b> Read Across America </p>	<p><b>3</b> Instructor's Meeting 6p.m. &amp; Board Meeting 7p.m. </p>	<p><b>4</b> Workshop 1—9p.m.</p>	<p><b>5</b> Workshop 1—9p.m.</p>	<p><b>6</b> Fall of the Alamo </p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b> Workshop 12noon—5p.m.</p>	<p><b>9</b> Barbie doll debuts in 1959. </p>	<p><b>10</b> U.S paper money first issued in 1862. </p>	<p><b>11</b> Workshop 1—9p.m.</p>	<p><b>12</b> Workshop 1—9p.m.</p>	<p><b>13</b> Deaf History Month </p>	<p><b>14</b> Pi Day <math>\pi</math></p>
<p><b>15</b> Workshop 12noon—5p.m.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> Education Night 7p.m. St. Patrick's Day </p>	<p><b>18</b> Workshop 1—9p.m.</p>	<p><b>19</b> Workshop 1—9p.m.</p>	<p><b>20</b> Spring Begins </p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b> Workshop 12noon—5p.m.</p>	<p><b>23</b> National Puppy Day </p>	<p><b>24</b> Houdini's Birthday 1874. </p>	<p><b>25</b> Workshop 1—9p.m.</p>	<p><b>26</b> Workshop 1—9p.m.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b> Workshop 12noon—5p.m.</p>	<p><b>30</b> Vincent Van Gogh's Birthday 1853. </p>	<p><b>31</b> SAT Registration Deadline. </p>	<p>Irish Heritage Month </p>	<p>National Craft Month </p>	<p>National Nutrition Month </p>	<p>Women In History Month </p>

Deadline for the April issue of the *Bulletin* is Monday, March 16th. Ph. (760) 951-7064 or email [amolineux@gmail.com](mailto:amolineux@gmail.com)