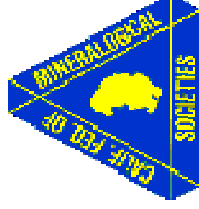
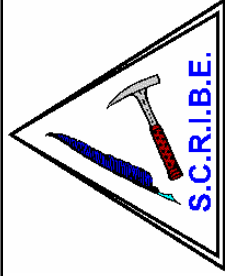


Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
15056-B Seventh Street
Victorville, CA 92395-3811.



Snail
Mail
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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
THE
VICTOR VALLEY
GEM AND
MINERAL CLUB
PH. (760) 243-2330

JANUARY 2010



YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2010

2010 Executive Committee

President.....Cyndy Mandell.....244-7169
 1st V.P (Membership)..Gayland Graves.....902-3249
 2nd V.P (Education).....Val Costello.....963-3974
 3rd V.P (Gem & Mineral Show chairman)
 (Vacant).....
 Recording Secretary...Alan Molineux.....951-7064
 Treasurer.....Kerry Molineux951-7064
 Corresponding Secretary..Lynn Hallock.....951-1736
Board Members
 Don Pomerence.....868-5264
 Lloyd Guillian.....962-6844
 Ed Deren.....252-7009
 Carole Mc Michael.....961-7659
 Past President.....Gil Gilbert.....868-6900
 CFMS Representative..Pat Estes948-7324

Standing Committee Chairmen

Wagon Master.....Blaine Witte.....244-8211
 Historian.....Joe Kosik.....241-0894
 Maintenance.....Ed Deren252-7009
 Librarian.....Dwayna Barron.....963-3974
 Newsletter.....Alan Molineux.....951-7064
 Sunshine Lady.....Pat Coleman.....985-2388
 Displays.....Andrew Turner.....962-0095
 Raffles.....Ellen Gilbert.....868-6900
 Scholarships.....Andrew Turner.....962-0095
 Photography.....Alan Molineux.....951-7064
 Hospitality.....(Vacant).....957-7414

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

Instructors

Ed Deren, Jim Fosse, Gil Gilbert, Virgil Melton, Joe Kosik,
 Pat Estes, Gayland Graves, Don Pomerence, Charles Toles,
 Cyndy Mandell and Lloyd Guillian

AROUND THE SHOP



We have plenty of old equipment out in storage.



There's rocks out here just waiting to be used.



We have a new overhead projector. Kris Koch is helping with club clean up.



Ed Deren is operating a pressure washer. As I walked through the club I saw we had new dop pots. You really ought to try them out!

As I mentioned on the calendar (in the middle of this issue), there is another club clean up on Saturday, January 23rd. We really need you to get behind this effort to keep the club clean and maintained.

ROCK OF THE MONTH

By Gayland Graves

Rhodochrosite is usually a gangue mineral of copper and lead ore veins, but sometimes it occurs (like siderite) in pegmatites. At Butte, Montana, it was an ore of manganese. Commonly alters to black manganese oxides on weathering, and the black stains are very apparent on the containing rocks. Good specimens not common. Fine crystals have come from several mines (American Tunnel, Sweet Home) in Colorado, where it forms deep pink rhombohedral crystals up to several inches (10 cm) across, associated with pyrite, fluorite, quartz, and ore sulfides. Butte produced rhombohedral and scalenohedral crystals to 1 in. (2.5 cm) in crusts as well as solid cleavable and granular masses, always paler than the Colorado material, of a milky pink color. Pegmatite rhodochrosite is often grayish or brownish. Botryoidal masses and scalenohedral crystals--secondary in character, for they incrust limonite--have come from Germany (where it has been called Himbeerspat, or "raspberry spar"). Rosinca is a name applied to an Argentine occurrence of banded onyx-like pink crusts used for decorative purposes. Good but often thinly quartz-coated crystals have come from Cananea, Mexico. Hotazel, South Africa, has produced many gemmy, deep red 1/8-1 in. (1-2 cm) crystals of an uncommonly transparent nature, which can perhaps be regarded as the most unusual specimens for collectors. Pasta Buena, Peru, has become a source of Colorado-like pink crystals with similar fluorite associations.

The cleavage and hardness (and acid test) show it to be a carbonate of this group. The borax bead test shows it to be a manganese mineral and eliminates about everything else. Pink color is the best guide

Dissolves slowly in cold and rapidly in warm hydrochloric acid with effervescence. Powder colors borax bead violet in oxidizing flame (test for manganese).

Manganese carbonate (61.7% MnO, 38.3% CO₂ with any or all of the following present: iron, calcium, magnesium, zinc, and cobalt).

Deep rose pink to pale pink, gray, or brown. Luster vitreous to pearly; hardness 3 1/2-4; specific gravity 3.4-3.6; fracture conchoidal; cleavage perfect rhombohedral. Brittle; transparent to translucent

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 December Christmas Party was held on Tuesday, 15th at 5:00p.m. and the January general meeting will be on Tuesday the 26th.

FRONT COVER

Our youngest member! Members Andrew and Natalie Turner had a baby boy—Donovan! I thought it was apt to put him on the cover as we usher in a new year of lapidary—62 years for the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral club.

NEW BOARD AND COMMITTEE OFFICERS

We have a new board and new committee officers so take the time to look at page 2 for updates....Ed

UPCOMING SHOWS

January 16th & 17th.

Exeter, CA

Tule Gem and Mineral Society
Exeter Veteran's Memorial Building
324N. Kaweah (Hwy 65)

Hours: Saturday 10—5p.m.

Sunday 10—4p.m.

Don Viera (559) 732-7739

Pepper Okada (559) 733-5842.

February 12—21.

Indio, CA

San Geronimo Mineral & Gem Soc.
Riverside County Fair & Date
Festival.

Gem & Mineral Bldg., Building #1
46—350 Arabia Street.

Hours: - 10a.m.—10p.m. daily.

Bert Grisham (951) 849-1674

bert67@verizon.net

IMPORTANT CLUB DATES

March 12th, 13th & 14th,
2010-Tailgate

May 20, 2010 - Fair Booth

Last Saturday of Month -
Clean Up Day

May 20, 2010

Serendipity Day @ Topaz School

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest.

Mark Twain (1835-1910)

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays bring you comfort from family, company, and delicious food. 2010, wow! It seems amazing we are starting a new decade, but here it is. I am hoping for many positive things to happen in the next few years on a national and world-wide level. Some of those things you and I can take a positive role in like helping go "green", using credit cards only when necessary, voting, eating healthier, and of course helping to keep our club productive.

We'll have a wonderful end-of-the-year party honoring many people who make our club a better place and installation some of the members. Gifts will be handed out in the spirit of giving and having a little fun and laughter at the members' expense. We'll raise a little money to help with the expenses of the party and a slush fund to be used on this year's party. Thank you to all who participate in the raffle by donating and/or bidding.

Some of you may remember a speech I made when I was seeking this position. If you weren't in attendance at that general meeting let's just say I had a long list of things I wanted to say, but I kept it brief. One of the important things I would like our club to achieve this year is the expansion of its community education program. Virgil Melton and Ed Skidmore have been working on this for several years by making presentations to Boy Scouts and in classrooms. We currently sponsor a booth each year at the county fair where we attract crowds of adults and children interested in lapidary. I'm hoping we can extend this exposure this year.

With a majority of our income coming from the rental of our Kaman Bearing property and only having a one-year lease signed by them this year I think we need to take a look at some possibilities that may arise if they were not to renew their lease next year. With so many brick and mortar stores going out of business and those buildings standing empty year after year I would like the club to have a five or ten year plan in place. This is the year to consider all our options and our future. What direction do you think we should take, what do you see in our future, where do you think we should be heading?

DECEMBER BOARD MINUTES

Member, John Muensterman will assist Val Costello doing the Educational duties in 2010.

Pat Estes (our CFMS rep.) hoped the club would be able to send someone to Camp Paradise jewelry camp in 2010.

She and Virgil Melton are currently working on competitive showcases for the club.

The board decided on March 12th, 13th and 14th for next year's tailgate.

The treasurer is writing a check for \$125 for the cost of printing flyers for the tailgate.

No action will be taken on a per use fee for the shop as Gayland Graves found the vote for it or against it split 50/50.

6' curb stops will be installed in the parking lot rather than 3' curb stops.

The issue came up some months ago about current board officers and committee chairs not having to pay dues. It was decided to refer this to the club membership at a general meeting.

Cyndy Mandell showed the board a copy of the budget for 2010.

Lloyd Guillian donated a voice recorder to the secretary to make his job a little easier.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Cyndy Mandell mentioned that the Finance Committee met recently and a report is being formulated for the board together with next year's budget and financial policies.

Gayland Graves mentioned that next year's dues would be paid by December 31st, 2009 or a late fee of \$5.00 would be levied.

Val Costello mentioned there would not be an Education Night in December as the Christmas Party falls on the same day.

Pat Estes (our CFMS rep.) said that club member, Sue Foreman was the winner of a free ticket to the jewelry camp at Zyzyx. She has photos to show around.

There is an upcoming CFMS show in Whittier on June 18th—20th.

The January field trip should be to Lead Mountain.

Kent Berryman was thanked for his work at the recent Gem and Mineral Show, silent auction.

Jim Fosse was recognized for his work with the security camera system.

There is still more work to be done on the resurfacing of the parking lot.

Virgil Melton and Ed Skidmore will be lecturing to the students at the Lewis Center on geology on December 9th.

Gil Gilbert auctioned off (2) display cases. Ed Skidmore bought them.

Wanted—Rocks, Lapidary, Materials & Equipment.

Call Charles Toles.

Home (760) 951-0372

Cell (760) 220-6748.



**White Buffalo & other
turquoise—from various
states. Priced per piece
Contact Virgil Melton (760) 900-0507**



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.



(president's message continued)

We would like to hear from you and represent you as a board so please voice your opinion by talking to us, dropping a suggestion in the suggestion box, or attending our board meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the club.

Another item I consider important is communication with members. I'm concerned that we might not be reaching the needs of our members. I plan to reach out with phone calls, surveys, and one-on-one conversations. Please feel free to email me cynmandell@yahoo.com or call me at home 760.244.7169 or on my cell: 760.508.1080 to let me know how we can meet your needs and let us know how we are doing.

Cyndy M. Mandell



January 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Financial Wellness Month 					1 	2 Jacob Grimm's Birthday—1785. 
3 Workshop 12 noon—5p.m.	4 Instructor's Meeting 6p.m. Board Meeting 7p.m.  	5	6 Workshop 1p.m.—9p.m.	7 Workshop 1p.m.—9p.m.	8  Elvis Presley's Birthday—1935.	9
10 Workshop 12 noon—5p.m.	11 International Thank you day. 	12	13 Workshop 1p.m.—9p.m.	14 Workshop 1p.m.—9p.m.	15  Martin Luther King's birthday in 1929.	16  Diane Fossey's birthday—1932.
17 Workshop 12 noon—5p.m.	18  Martin Luther King Day.	19  National Popcorn Day	20 Workshop 1p.m.—9p.m.	21 Workshop 1p.m.—9p.m.	22  Answer your cat's question day.	23  Club clean up day.
24 Workshop 12 noon—5p.m.	25  No name calling week	26  Play Dough patent issued in 1965.	27 Workshop 1p.m.—9p.m.	28 Workshop 1p.m.—9p.m.	29  National Puzzle Day.	30 Mahatma Ghandi Assassinated in 1948.
31 Workshop 12 noon—5p.m.						

Deadline for the February issue of the Bulletin is Monday, January, 18th. Ph. (760) 951-7064 or email amolineux@gmail.com