

MARCH
2014

March



Candee Paredes teaching her beaded cabochon class on February 18, 2014 for education night at the clubhouse.

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

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
Phone (760) 243-2330

Your Officers for 2014

2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Corey Beck	221-5738
1st V.P (Mbrshp)	Jim Fosse	245-8644
2nd V.P (Education)	Barbara Pedrow	247-6207
Recording Secretary	Lois Papner	244-7169
Treasurer	Carole McMichael	961-7659
Corresponding Sec.	Vacant	
Board Members	Terry Booth	909.223-1386
	Steve Hendrix	714.323-0323
	Frank Dunkin	909.522-0056
	John Hill	508-6726
Past President	Vacant	
CFMS Representative	Cyndy Mandell	244-7169

All numbers are area code (760) unless otherwise indicated.

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Wagon Master	Vacant	
Petrified Pups	John Printz	951.255-9158
Historian	Debbie Berresford	388-4229
Maintenance	Terry Booth	909.223-1386
Librarian	Lois Papner	244-7169
Newsletter	Cyndy Mandell	244-7169
Sunshine	Don & Marilyn Pomeranke	868-5264
Displays	Don Pomeranke	868-5264
Raffles	Cyndy Mandell	244-7169
Photography	Terry Booth	909.223-1386
Hospitality	Ceci Kawasaki	247-4121
Webmaster	Jim Fosse	245-8644
Tailgate	Brett Ward	948-1232
Training Coordinator	Cyndy Mandell	244-7169
IT Director	Michael Fosse	245-8644

Instructors

Terry Booth, Steve Hendrix, John Hill, Jessie La Bau, Tina La Bau, Cyndy Mandell, Morris O'Brien, Don Pomeranke, John Printz, Barbara Pedrow.

Club Website—www.vvgmc.org

General Meeting Minutes January 28, 2014

Cyndy Mandell mentioned the fair grounds want us at the fair again. They want us to participate in the judging. Cyndy has invited Jennifer from the fair to the next Board meeting to fill us in on what they want us to do. Please attend the meeting if you're interested in this. Terry Booth stated we have new blades for this year. Let's be gentle with them. Debbie Berresford is working really hard on organizing the scrapbooks. Corey Beck asked for a new wagon master. Anyone interested talk with Corey. Cyndy Mandell said the newsletter was mailed out early this month and she is still requesting for others to submit articles. Brett Ward made more flyers for the tailgate, sign up sheet for 2 hr blocks in the food tent will be posted for volunteers. Rock donation bucket is set up. Need volunteers for the silent auction. Charles Toles and Ed Deren will help with the silent auction. Need people to ask for donations. Bring baked goods to the club by 7:30 am. We will leave at 8:30 am. Michael Fosse will help handle the money in the food tent. Ceci will help cook food again this year. Discussion took place on 2015 dues increase and concerns about Kaman renewing their lease, what we are doing with the \$130,000 in savings. Candee Paredes asked would the board present information to the general membership regarding the changes with Kaman's contract and details of past contracts. The Board is obligated to inform the general membership of this kind of information. Suggestion was made to move \$400 from Building Maintenance to CFMS dues.

Board Meeting Minutes February 4, 2014

Corey Beck alerted Jim Fosse that lifetime members received a card asking for dues. Jim Fosse will look at correcting this for next time. Jim Fosse is still entering data for 2014. Lois Papner read Carole McMichael's treasurer notes and answered questions. Discussion ensued on explaining the CFMS dues that is paid on the 2013 members of 245 members. We paid \$490 for dues and \$1470 for insurance. We don't need to change the budget as the general meeting had suggested. Lois Papner is waiting for 1099 forms to be sent to us. She'll give those to Quinn our CPA and try to get our money back however the numbers are short and do not know if we'll get all of our \$584. We got back the IRS fine of \$545. We also got the QuickBooks refund back of \$230.32. Jennifer Monter spoke to us regarding the fair. She wants us to encourage members to exhibit at the fair. They had 9 entries last year in the lapidary category and they want more entries in the fair. It cost \$2 to enter the fair competition. We will be limited on only one wall between the doors. The wall where the Pups were will not be allowed for our use because of fire codes. The electricity is being fixed. We need to shut down during the pie and salsa judging. Someone does have to be at the booth until 10 pm.

It costs us approximately \$40,000 a year to run our club, (just the basics) \$30,000 of which comes **from the rental**. We try to make up the other \$10,000 in our Tailgate, dues, shop fees, interest on savings, and a few sales here and there and a rock auction or two. In recent years, it's getting harder and harder for the club to operate. Everything has gone up. Taxes, insurance, and costs of utilities, postage, everything! The only thing that HASN'T gone up is our dues and our shop fees. **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT SERIOUSLY IN THE FUTURE.**

Can that "Big Money" be spent? Of course it can if the members approve it after being properly notified of the date to vote on the spending..but..how will we replace it in today's economy? What makes us think we could build up another sizeable reserve in the future? Our dues income takes care of less that 8% of our annual expense. How will we pay for the other 92% of expenses if we have no reserve to fall back on? That "Big Money" we all wonder about **IS OUR EMERGENCY FUND**, though small, we'd like to keep it for reserve "just in case". Hopefully the Gem club that started in 1947 (67 years ago) will continue for another 67 years. With careful spending, good Boards of Director's and planning for the future – I believe it will! **My fellow member...Please guard that "Big Money" for the future of the club.**

Education Night Tuesday, March 18th

Tuesday March 18th at 7:00 PM is our Education Night. Steve Hendrix will be showing you how to make vulcanized rubber molds. Learn how to duplicate an object using this technique. You will learn how to use the vulcanizer as well as learn how to properly cut the mold. Steve will then show you how to use the wax injection pot to make a wax pattern that can be cast into silver or gold.

This will be a great demonstration that you won't want to miss. Come join us for the fun!

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 67 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. Meeting 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 March general meeting will be held on the 25th. Our April general meeting will be held on Tuesday the 22nd with our potluck beginning at 6:30 pm and our meeting beginning at 7:30 pm.

Topaz Mt. North West of Delta Utah

Courtesy of the sponsoring club, the Roseville Rock Rollers. Open to all affiliate clubs May 2nd through May 4th
Collection materials:
Topaz Crystals, Red Beryl, Pseudobrookite Crystals, Hematite crystals
Jim Hutchins
530.367.5108, cell:
916.995.7380

jhutchings22@hotmail.com

Virgin Valley, Nevada Memorial Day Weekend

May 23 – May 26th

The Roseville Rock Rollers is sponsoring this trip. Materials are: Opals, Preserved Petrified Wood, Selenite, and Opalite. Apache Tears, Carnelian, and colorful Agates and Jaspers are found in the region nearby.

Education Night Upcoming Dates

By Barbara Pedrow

Education Nights are held the third Tuesday of the month.

March 18th – Steve Hendrix – How to Make Molds

April 15th - Terry Booth will show us how to make spheres.

May 20th – a demonstration of how to use the ingot mold and rolling mill.

Yea!
We're going on
a
FIELD TRIP!

WHAT ABOUT our “Big Money” IN THE BANK?

BY CAROLE MCMICHAEL

I have been asked, this month by two separate Board Members on two separate occasions...”what is the “**Big Money**” everyone talks about?

First of all, though it seems to be a lot, it is **actually very little** in the big scheme of things. Without renting the building in front of the clubhouse, or a serious building repair, we would use up those funds in less than 4 years – then what would become of the club? Just one major improvement like a roof repair, parking area resurface, air conditioner or heating system, could cost us thousands of dollars and take a big bite out of those funds.

I’ve been at the club nearly 20 years, I think – we came here in ’94 and joined shortly after that. Even back then we had a sizeable savings. The money was left over from the sale of some property that a member donated with the intent of us building our club on it. A new board came along and decided to sell that property, on Bear Valley Road, because the price had gone up, and buy the property we are on today. The Board and members back then planned ahead and wanted the building in front to be rented to **HELP** support the club. (It supports 75% of the club’s costs today). Each year, as the club was careful with it’s spending and as generous members donated their time to do repairs and maintenance around the clubhouse and the rental money was added to that original sum and it grew each year with interest at 5% until is what is today. I remember when we were earning about \$5,000 a year just in interest on our money. In the past we could add from \$5,000 to \$8,000 a years to our savings account. Not any more!!! We have earned less than \$365 in the last six months on the “Big Money” so it isn’t growing very fast. That loss of interest has been a huge loss to the club.

As you may or may not know, without renting our building for at least \$2300.00 a month, we could not operate our club at all! If we were to lose our renter for any reason, we would HAVE TO remodel and repaint and do some major fixing up in order to rent the building to a new client (**IF WE COULD** even find a new client) Remember.. it is NOT in a very good location, which is getting worse year after year with age and the deterioration of the

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Morphed Rocks Jewelry
by Cyndy Mandell
For sale rough “old stock”.

Canadian River Plume,
Alibate Flint, Angelite Blue,
Adventurine, Blue Chalcedony
Nodules, Mexican Salenite,
Green and White Moss Agate,
Dendritic Agate, Parrot Wing,
Amozoneite and Flourite.

I will be selling this at the Tailgate so please come by my booth to check it out. Any member wishing to look at it before the Tailgate may contact me at 760.508.1080.

Wishing all of our members this
month a very
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The birthstone for the month is
Aquamarine
Ed Berresford, Michael Berresford,
Sandra Bolish, Katie Boyd, Janet
Flecher, MaryLou Flecher, Andy
Gangong, David Hernandez, Faith
LaBau, Ronald Mandell, Ruben
Martinez, Roland Montoya, Laura
Olney, Lois Papner, Trudy Roser,
Sandra Skidmore, Eric VanRoekel

Petrified Pups Schedule

Mar 1-Gemstones Lore &
Legends
Mar 7, 8, 9-VVGMS Tailgate
Mar 15-Workshop
Apr 5-Collecting
Apr 19-Workshop
May 3-Earth In Space
May 17-Workshop
Jun 7-Gold Panning and
Prospecting
Jun 21-Field Trip Gold Panning
Jul 12-Stone Age Tools and Art
Jul 19-Workshop
Aug 2-Fossils
Aug 16-Field Trip LA Museum
and Tar Pitts
Sep 6-Rocking on the Computer
Sep 20-Workshop
Oct 4-Field Trips
Oct 11, 12-Trona, Searles Lake
Oct 18-Field Trip Lucerne Valley
Garnets
Nov 1-Workshop
Nov 22-Workshop
Dec 13-Conglomerate



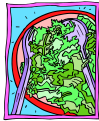
SPRING



Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
General Meeting and Potluck
March 25th, 6:30 PM

Potluck Theme
Going Green

Please bring a dish that contains something "green"



Paid Advertisement

For sale:

Beginning kit for the enthusiast who wants to start a hobby in enameling and clay. Kit and paints are a couple years old but in excellent condition. The enamel colors are by "Colores" and come in 2 oz. jars. The sale consists of:

1. Epoxy Resin Components Kit.

Includes the following supplies:

- 8 oz. clear 1000 epoxy resin
- 8 oz. thick hardener
- 1 oz. #30 additive (thickening agent)
- 50 measuring cups
- 50 1 oz. plastic bottles with 25 lids
- 60 blunt-end needles, 15 each of four sizes:
- 18-gauge
- 20-gauge
- 21-gauge
- 22-gauge
- 49 mixing sticks
- **note 16oz thin hardener is missing. Can be purchased for about \$24.00 online**

2. set of 6 opalized colors

3. set of 6 bright opaque colors

4. set of 7 gem-tone transparent colors

5. set of 8 classic colors

6. set of 5 neutral colors

7. book on enameling titled First Steps In Enameling. Author is Jinks McGrath

8. 21 variety colors of Sculpey clays.

Asking \$205.00 for everything. If interested and want more details of colors, etc., please contact me.

Debbie Burbeck

VVGMC member in 2014

cell# 951-315-6108

email: ddcabin@msn.com

IT Director Article

By: Michael Fosse

I am your new Information Technology Director, or put simply, the computer guy. I've had a passion for computers ever since I was a little kid; for instance, I blew away my fourth grade teacher with a complex, animated presentation. Ever since, I've enjoyed experimenting with a large variety of technology, and plan on pursuing a career in it. But for now, I'm delighted to share my knowledge of, most notably, computer hardware, software, networking, servers, and web design to benefit the club and its members. Technology is now an essential part of our everyday lives, whether it is a computer, smart phone or tablet, or even a smart pair of glasses. My goal is to make use of that technology in whatever ways I can. Plus, we can save the club money with it! Anyway, I am currently in the process of implementing several new systems to make things more efficient. Soon, we will have an internal cloud server for sharing files quickly and painlessly between members, which can be accessed right through a web browser. I've also been optimizing how the club uses the internet, like implementing various QoS (quality of service) measures, eliminating many dangerous advertisements, and blocking reportedly unsafe, virus-giving websites. A future objective is to create a "quick access" station for members to easily browse the web, look at club documents and publications (like the newsletter), and get the latest information about hot stuff in the industry, so to speak. Most importantly, I plan to create several offsite data backup and syncing systems, in case of an emergency. Technology is the future, and it won't be going away anytime soon. It's time for us to utilize the tools, and I'm incredibly excited to get us started. If you have any questions, please email me at tech@vvgmc.org.

Ceci Kawasaki,
Chieko Printz, and
Candee Paredes in
the beaded
cabochon class



FIRST ENCOUNTER OF THE TAILGATE KIND

By: Brett Ward, Tailgate Chair

My first encounter with the VVG&MC was at the 1996 Tailgate. By chance I had seen a photo and read an article in the Sunday edition of the Daily Press. Being a complete novice in the lapidary arts, yet a “rock hound” since a small child, I made the trip.

My collection up to then was to me what taking photographs are to others. I used to select a local specimen from my travels to remember my trips. So, I was very curious about the rocks I had been picking up over the decades and what ideas I might glean from my first Tailgate visit.

I arrived that Sunday early in the afternoon, walked up “Vendor Row” and found the club’s booth and membership table. These members were very friendly and jovial characters (something I’m still aspiring to lol).

I was given the club’s brochure and membership application and invited to stop by the clubhouse during any of the various meetings or workshops. So a few weeks later I gathered up a large box of my rocks and went to a workshop.

That evening I saw many of the same faces from the Tailgate and made new acquaintance with others. They eagerly poured over my box and helped me to identify many of the specimens.

Of course, then and there, I learned much of what I had was the new rock specimen category of “Leverite”. Yet, I was told by many of the “old timers” that rock hounds keep whatever it is that THEY want for THEIR reasons. You’ll often hear me repeat that to our newest club members during workshops.

Well, I attended my required meetings, secured sponsoring members and was accepted as a new member. I immediately became involved and tried my hand at helping out in many areas. Everyone can help in their own way, but for me after much trial and some tribulation, realized I enjoyed one thing the most, our club’s annual Tailgate.

Gradually over the years and guided by the lead Tailgate volunteers my involvement grew into the privilege of being your Chair the last several years.

It is sad for me sometimes to remember those old timers no longer among us who took me under their wings. What characters! What kindness and devotion for the good of the club they exemplified! What fond memories I’m so lucky to have of each of them!

Be sure to make this year’s event on March 7th, 8th and 9th. Bring a friend or two who may not even have an interest....YET ! You never know, one of them may also have their own First Encounter of the Tailgate Kind.



Candee Paredes beaded Cabochons class February 18, 2014.



Cyndy Mandell taught "Air Chasing" on Thursday, February 20, 2014.

The 38th Annual
Stoddard Wells Tailgate
Will be held in Victorville
March 7th, 8th, and 9th, 2014

This is a free event! Everyone is Welcome!
Public Invited!

All vendor spaces are FREE and on a
first come, first serve basis.

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily
Handcrafted and Faceted Jewelry, Slabs and Cabs,
Findings and Equipment, Minerals and Fossils and
TONS of rough material.

See our web site <http://www.vvgmc.org>
For more information and driving directions.

See You There Rain or Shine!

Sponsored by the Victor Valley
Gem and Mineral Club

A food tent will be available with some
homemade deserts, hot dogs, drinks and a
variety of other food products.

(Port-A-Potties are available)

MARCH 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Workshop 12 noon– 5pm Petrified Pups 9-noon
2 Workshop 12 noon– 5pm	3	4 Instructor's Mtg. @ 6pm Board Mtg. @ 7pm	5 Workshop CLOSED FOR TAILGATE TAILGATE SETUP 8:00 AM AT THE CLUBHOUSE	6 Workshop CLOSED FOR TAILGATE	7 TAILGATE	8 Workshop CLOSED FOR TAILGATE
9 Workshop CLOSED FOR TAILGATE	10	11	12 Workshop 12 noon– 7pm	13 Workshop 12 noon– 7pm	14	15 Workshop 12 noon– 5pm Petrified Pups 9-noon
16 Workshop 12 noon– 5pm	17	18 Education Night @ 7pm	19 Workshop 12 noon– 7pm	20 Workshop 12 noon– 7pm	21	22 Workshop 12 noon– 5pm
23 Workshop 12 noon– 5pm	24	25 Potluck @ 6:30pm General Mtg @ 7:30pm	26 Workshop 12 noon– 7pm	27 Workshop 12 noon– 7pm	28	29 Workshop 12 noon– 5pm
30 Workshop 12 noon– 5pm	31					