

FEBRUARY 2015



THE BULLETIN

Newsletter of the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
(760) 243-2330

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

The BULLETIN is the official monthly newsletter published by the 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



2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Terry Booth	909-223-1386
1 st V. P. (Membership)	Debbie Berresford	760-388-4229
2 nd V.P (Education)	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
3 rd V.P. (Gem Show)	Vacant	
Recording Secretary	Dwanya Barron	909-234-5533
Treasurer	Craig Britt	760-987-1342
Corresponding Secretary	Val Costello	760-963-3974
Board Members	Steve Hendrix	714-323-0323
	Frank Dunkin	909-522-0056
	Don Pomeranke	760-868-5264
	Ruben Martinez	760-868-8689
Past President	Jim Fosse	760-245-8644
CFMS Representative	Tina La Bau	760-686-6840

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Wagon Master	Blaine Witte	760-508-6726
Petrified Pups	Tina La Bau	760-686-6840
Historian	Debbie Berresford	760-388-4229
Maintenance	Terry Booth	909-223-1386
Librarian	Vacant	
Newsletter	Debbie Berresford	760-388-4229
Sunshine	Marilyn Pomeranke	760-868-5264
Displays	Don Pomeranke	760-868-5264
Raffles	Cyndy Mandell	760-244-7169
Photography	Terry Booth	909-223-1386
Hospitality	Ceci Kawasaki	760-247-4121
Webmaster	Jim Fosse	760-245-8644
Tailgate	Brett Ward	760-948-1232
Training Coordinator	Cyndy Mandell	760-244-7169

Instructors

Terry Booth, Ed Deren, Steve Hendrix, Jessie La Bau, Tina La Bau, Cyndy Mandell, Morris O'Brien, Don Pomeranke, John Printz, Frank Dunkin, and Ed Skidmore. Instructors in training: Joe Collins, Juan Amaya, Jeremy Berg.

Club Website—www.vvgmc.org

THE MINERAL OF THE MONTH

Amethyst ranges in color from a light lilac to a deep purple. It is 7 on the Mohs Hardness Scale. Amethyst is February birthstone and the birthstone for Pisces.

The legend of the origin of amethyst comes from Greek mythology. Dionysius, the god of intoxication, was angered one day by an insult from a mere mortal and swore revenge on the next mortal that crossed his path, creating fierce tigers to carry out his wish. Along came unsuspecting amethyst, a beautiful young maiden on her way to pay tribute to the goddess Diana. Diana turned Amethyst into a statue of pure crystalline quartz to protect from the brutal claws. Dionysus wept tears of wine in remorse for his action at the sight of the beautiful statue. The god's tears stained the quartz purple, creating the gem we know today.



The Petrified Pups will be giving out samples of this garnet at our next General Meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2015.



MINING SUPPLIES AND TREASURES

Offering the equipment needed for your next adventure

9565 C Ave. Suite K
Hesperia, CA 92345
(760) 244-9642
(760) 244-9439

Hours:

Wed – Sat 10 am – 4 pm



**CALIFORNIA CHAPTER - WOMEN IN MINING
FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2015 4:30 PM
VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB
15056 Seventh Street
Victorville, Ca**

A light dinner will be provided.
They would like to know if anyone would like gluten free lasagna.

PLEASE RSVP TO - Ceci Kawasaki at 760-247-4121

Along with a WIM meeting

Cyndy Mandel and Lois Papner will be giving us the opportunity to create a priceless gem piece of jewelry.

We did this the last time we met at the gem club and it was great fun.
Members will be able to pick from many different colors of crystals.

Picture of pendant and earrings we will be making at the meeting.



HOPE YOU CAN BE THERE!



NEW MEMBERS

Valerie Finstad
Don & Dorothy Nelson
Rick Fiddler

Margaret McBride
Toni Reeder
Joyce DeGarmo

NEW PETRIFIED PUPS

JP Fiddler

PLEASE GIVE A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS

DID YOU READ YOUR NEWSLETTER QUIZ

1. WHAT IS THE NAME OF OUR NEWSLETTER?
2. WHO IS THE PRESIDENT OF OUR CLUB?
3. WHAT IS THE THEME FOR OUR NEXT POTLUCK?
4. WHAT IS THE NAME OF OUR NEW PETRIFIED PUP?
5. WHO WON THE ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR OUR CLUB?
6. NAME ONE OF OUR INSTUCTORS?
7. WHERE IS OUR NEXT FIELD TRIP TOO?
8. WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE CLUB'S FOUNDING FATHER WHO HAD AN ARTICLE WRITTEN ABOUT HIM IN THIS NEWSLETTER?
9. WHO HELPED MAKE THE GRAB BAGS?
10. HOW MUCH ARE OUR SHOP FEES?

DROP THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS IN THE SUGGESTION BOX TO HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN A SPECIAL PRIZE (ROCK RELATED OF COURSE).

FEBRUARY'S BIRTHDAYS
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ed Deren
 Jessica Einboden
 Debbie Burbeck
 Pam Golighty
 Robert Swenson
 Jenna LaMore

Judy Witte
 Andrew Gasaway
 Ed Skidmore
 Marina Shoupe
 Jonathan Vanderloop
 Rudy Datuin



Ceci made wonderful cupcakes for all January birthday celebrants, wonder what she will make this month.

If you are celebrating your birthday in the month of February and your name does not appear above, please contact Debbie Berresford at (760) 388-4229 so we can see what the problem is.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

VVGMC would like to send out a special thank you to Mary Jo O'Brien for sewing sixty-five (65) grab bags for our next show. We would also like to thank Dorothy Oberg for stepping up to the plate and offering to sew even more of the wonderful grab bags for us. Thank you ladies.

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
 General Meeting and Potluck
 Feb. 24, 2015, 6:30 PM



Potluck Theme

Fun Finger Foods

Please bring any item that you can pick up with your fingers.
 NO UTENSILS NEEDED!



Dues Increase

At our January 27, 2015 General Meeting, membership voted to increase membership dues for Individuals from \$20.00 to 25.00 a year. Couples have paid \$30.00 and will now pay \$35.00 a year. Pups will remain at \$5.00 a year. **This will take effect in 2016.**



SHOP FEES



Membership also voted to raise shop fees from \$3.00 a day to \$5.00 a day. **THIS INCREASE IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**

THE PETRIFIED PUPS

In February the pups will be meeting on the 7th and 21th. On the 7th we will be making some sand art paintings using dyed sand. On the 21st we will be joining the rest of the club on the field trip to Gem Hill in Rosamond, CA. This trip looks to be a great opportunity for our pups to add to their already growing collection and have a wonderful time with other club members. Here are some pictures of the pups on their field trip in December to Lucerne Valley hunting for Garnets.



ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

By Nancy Bird, Chair

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Society would like to nominate a couple as

Rockhounds of the Year 2014



Cyndy Mandell and Lois Papner

When something needs getting done, these two ladies are the ones we can always count on. Cyndy was our club's 2014 CFMS Representative, served as an instructor for our club, has hosted several classes, runs our monthly raffle, ran our Gem Show, and published our Newsletter. By Cyndy's side is her life partner Lois Papner. This last year Lois was our club's Recording Secretary; she also served as our club's librarian. Lois has also worked extensively at organizing the club.

Clubs as good as ours wouldn't be around if it weren't for the dedication of individuals like these. They love the hobby so much and they share that love with others. These two constantly give of their time and talents to make our club a better.

Tina LaBau, 2015 CFMS Representative

THE BEAD BUNCH

This group gets together every Thursday afternoon from 1 pm – 3 pm to share their love of beading. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and festivities. All skill levels are welcome to stitch, wire wrap, or string. Teach, learn and share your ideas with each other. Visit with old friends and make new ones. Bring a project with you or get ideas at the workshop.



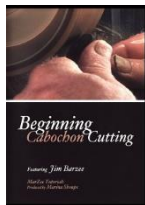
AUCTION NOTICE FEBRUARY'S GENERAL MEETING



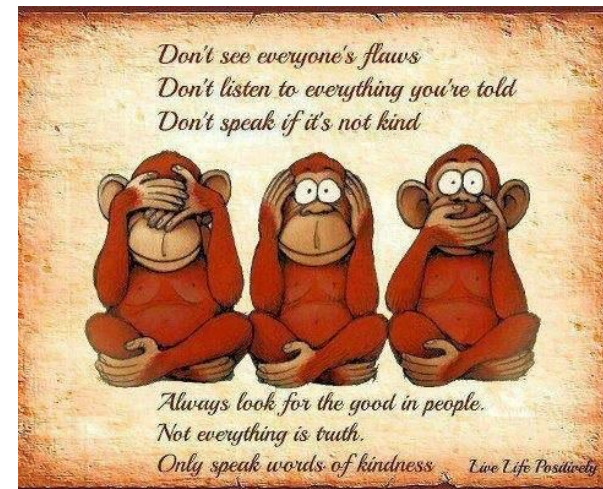
All these items should be up for auction at our General Meeting on February 24, 2015. The rules and regulations will be given at the time of the auction.



**WE WILL BE WATCHING A DVD
DONATED AND PRODUCED BY ONE
OF OUR NEW CLUB MEMBERS
MARINA SHOUBE**



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL LIA HAMILTON AT
(760) 240-3967 OR (760) 780-7937



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FIELD TRIP - FEBRUARY 21, 2015

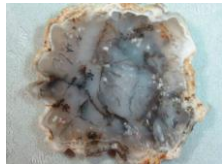
Green Opal occurs in a vein. The opal takes a good polish and makes up into attractive cabs and jewelry. It is also suitable for tumbling.



Blue Agate is quite hard and solid and excellent for polishing. There is very nice quality light blue agate occurring in vein. Hard digging is required to recover the material.



Dendritic agate nodules Look for the agate nodules protruding from the numerous basalt boulders (black, blocky). When many of these nodules are held against a grinding wheel and their outer surface removed, large, beautiful brown dendrites are exposed.



**DUES ARE NOW PAST DUE
WHICH MEANS YOU HAVE A \$5.00
LATE FEE ADDED TO YOUR DUES**

Membership dues were due on or before December 31, 2014. If you have not paid your dues don't delay another day. You don't want to miss out on being part of the best gem and mineral club ever. Remember if you don't pay your dues, you won't be able to receive any more copies of the wonderful Bulletin.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NAME: _____
(YOURSELF) (BIRTHDAY)

NAME: _____
(SPOUSE) (BIRTHDAY)

NAME: _____
(OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS) (BIRTHDAY)

NAME: _____
(OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS) (BIRTHDAY)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE # _____
(HOME) (CELL)

EMAIL ADDRESS _____
(BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COST OF POSTAGE, PLEASE GIVE US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____
((\$20.00 for single adults, \$30.00 for couples (same household) and \$5.00 for juniors and \$5.00 late fee)

Bring by the Club or Mail to:
Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
ATTENTION: MEMBERSHIP
15056-B 7th Street
Victorville, CA 92395

ELMER PIERCY
VICTOR VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB'S
FOUNDING FATHERS
PART -2-

Elmer Piercy, Director of Minerals Operations — Western Region, stands above quarry which has supplied Victorville plant with rock since 1944. Mr. Piercy, a native of Illinois, has been in charge of operations since 1946.



In 1929, Elmer and Lulan welcomed their only child Rick into the world. Lamp Black hired Elmer in 1932. Lamp Black is a fine carbon dust used in many products at that time. Working around carbon black was a health risk because there were few systems preventing the fine dust from getting into the lungs. Elmer tried other work options, but times were tough and he came back to the Lamp Black plant.

Opportunity struck when the Lamp Black plant burnt down. The Williams purchased the plant and decided to rebuild in Casmallia near Santa Maria. Elmer selected to oversee the building and operating of the Lamp Black plant. Elmer moved his family to Casmallia and purchased the families first home in Santa Maria three years later for \$4,042.

In 1945 Elmer was offered a job to plan and build the Victorville Lime Rock plant. Having never done this before, Elmer rolled up his sleeves and went to work. He located and developed the quarry that bears his last name. The Piercy quarry is located off Stoddard Wells Road east of the I-15 Freeway. Next he built the original Victorville Lime Rock plant along “D” Street adjacent to the railroad and Mojave Narrows.

During 1945, he not only helped to construct the Lime Rock plant he joined with a group (Our Clubs Founding Father’s) and helped to form Victorville Mineral Club which is now known as Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club. (TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH)

WAGON MASTER REPORT

Our last field trip was to Acton. We had fun. Recent rains and some working the soil over part of the area turned up new material, not very big though. We also went to the Howlite area too. We found some nice small pieces with good webbing. Ceci brought cookies and a salad to share with everyone, which truly made the trip more enjoyable. Thank you Ceci!!!



PICTURES FROM THE FIELD TRIP.



**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR
OUR
38TH ANNUAL STODDARD WELLS
ROCK HOUND "TAILGATE"
VICTORVILLE, CA
MARCH 13TH, 14TH AND 15TH, 2015
9 – 5:00 P.M. DAILY**



Sign up at the Club House

FIELD TRIP – FEBRUARY 21, 2015

Our next field trip will be to Gem Hill in Rosamond. We're going to meet at the north end of the Stater Brothers parking lot in Adelanto, corner of the (Palmdale Rd.) Hwy 18 & 395, in front of Little Caesar's Pizza at 8 am. We'll swing by the McDonald's at 2511 Rosamond Boulevard in Rosamond around 9:15 am to meet any one that wants to meet us there and to regroup.

Tools: Collecting bags, buckets, day pack, digging tools, rock pick, pry bar, chisels, sledges, eye protection, trowels, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, sturdy shoes, layered clothing, towels, drinking water, lunch or snacks.

SPECIMENS

Petrified wood
Jasper agate
Blue agate

Common green opal
Dendritic agate nodules

Petrified Wood has a brownish-gray exterior giving it a rather chalky appearance. White, cream, and brown are the most predominate colors. Digging is required for this material. This material is good for tumbling and cabbing.



Jasper agate has a weathered green outside surface. Yellow and green streamers of jasper running through the agate remind one of a moss agate. It is found mostly in float. This material is excellent for tumbling and cabs.



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February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Groundhog Day 	3 Instructor's Meeting 6 pm Board Meeting 7 pm	4	5	6 	7 PETRIFIED PUPS 9 AM - NOON Workshop 12 - 5 pm
8 Workshop 12 - 5 pm	9 Lincoln's Birthday 	10	11 Workshop 12 - 7 pm	12 Workshop 12 - 7 pm BEAD BUNCH 1 pm - 3 pm	13	14 Club Workshop 12 - 5 pm  Valentine's Day
15 Workshop 12 - 5 pm	16 Washington's Birthday 	17 Education Night 7 pm	18 Workshop 12 - 7 pm	19 Workshop 12 - 7 pm BEAD BUNCH 1 pm - 3 pm	20	21  FIELD TRIP Workshop 12 - 5 pm
22 Workshop 12 - 5 pm	23	24 FUN FINGER FOODS POTLUCK 6:30 pm General Meeting 7:30 pm	25 Workshop 12 - 7 pm	26 Workshop 12 - 7 pm BEAD BUNCH 1 pm - 3 pm	27	28 Workshop 12 - 5 pm