

JULY 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

Views expressed by authors in the articles which appear in the BULLETIN do not necessarily reflect those of VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB. Responsibility is taken by the editor alone.

Articles from this publication may be reproduced in whole or part in other lapidary newsletters if proper credit is given to the author and the BULLETIN

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)	Ed Skidmore	760-242-5136
Recording Secretary	Dwanya Barron	909-234-5533
Treasurer	Craig Britt	760-987-1342
Corresponding Secretary	Val Costello	760-998-6394
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
Parliamentarian	Marc Smith	760-485-9800

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Wagon Master	Blaine Witte	760-985-9633
Petrified Pups	Tina La Bau	760-686-6840
Historian	Debbie Berresford	760-388-4229
Building Maintenance	Ted McCully	760-927-9903
Librarian	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
Newsletter	Debbie Berresford	760-388-4229
Sunshine	Marilyn Pomeranke	760-868-5264
Displays	Don Pomeranke	760-868-5264
Raffles	Vacant	
Gem Show	Sandy Skidmore	760-242-5136
Security	Tina La Bau	760-686-6840
Hospitality	Ceci Kawasaki	760-247-4121
Webmaster	Jim Fosse	760-245-8644
Tailgate	Brett Ward	760-948-1232
IT Director	Michael Fosse	760-245-8644

Our Instructors

Terry Booth, Ed Deren, Charles Toles, Steve Hendrix, Jessie La Bau, Tina La Bau, Cyndy Mandell, Morris O'Brien, Don Pomeranke, John Printz, Frank Dunkin, and Ed Skidmore.

Instructor in training: Juan Amaya

VVGMC MAY 6, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Continued from page - 14 -

A motion was made to adjourn to possibly reconvene if issues not resolved favorably. Jim/Don/Approved

Adjournment 9:16 pm

Reconvened Meeting at 10:20 pm

Terry Booth asked the opinion of the Board: Jim Fosse, drop litigation complaint. Ruben Martinez— no opinion, Val Costello – no more accusing, animosity toward one another, enjoy the club. Don Pomeranke, drop everything, does not want to see them drop out, too drastic. Tina LaBau : Lois Papner and Cyndy Mandell offer a lot to the club, on the other hand they can cause damage faster than others and feels proper action and procedure should be followed. Debbie Berresford agrees with Tina LaBau and thanked them for all they've done, but doesn't know what went wrong. Steve, abstained. Ed, no hard feelings, everyone stop back biting, that's wrong. Craig, will get together with Lois to settle financial discrepancies. Dwanya, everyone needs to back-off. Frank, drop the whole thing.

It was agreed that everyone needs to follow the rules; all issues be dropped unless others don't follow agreement.

Meeting adjourned. 10:28 pm



Recently our club lost one of our long time members. **Eugene Toms** became a member in October 2008. Please keep his family in your thoughts. If you have any fond memories of Eugene Toms that you would like to

share with other members, please let me Debbie Berresford know so that we can do a wonderful In Memoriam for him.

VVGM MAY 6, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Continued from page - 17 -

Raffles – Marc Smith – Wants to put fun back in the club. The way around the rule is a drawing for members. Monthly drawing at general meeting, tickets will be given for a suggested donation amount. 50% accounted for by Marc, the treasurer and another person and goes to the club for prizes or saved. The other amount goes toward what Board directs, not to be run through the books and subject to taxes, etc. A silent auction was suggested. Don thanked Cyndy for her efforts doing the drawings for all these years. Discussion ensued. Tina suggested to try it with donated items first, if it doesn't work out revisit the issue. All issues present their problems. Bring items you would want not junk. Jim made a motion to take the issue to general membership/Frank/Approved

Tina expressed her concern about accountability. Lois stated that it has been accountable and legally done.

Instructors Collection of Money – Ed Skidmore voiced his concerns about Instructors not paying their way for shop fees. It is an incentive. Ed made a motion to put the issue on the agenda for the next board meeting.

By-Law Committee

Mileage Increase

Lifetime Membership Spouse Fee

Scholarship – Change to Community Education as sub-category of Education

Recommendation: Appointment of Committee Chairs to preside over meetings

A motion was made to table these issues until the next meeting due to the other issues still on the table. Dwayna/Jim/Approved

Serendipity Day – A letter was read by Cyndy Mandell requesting her to attend the celebration of students completing tests and school – May 21st

Don/Jim/Discussion – Jim Fosse – this is not in the budget, should it be? Tina La Bau stated that it can come out of the Pups budget. Val Costello said it should come out of education. Marc Smith asked if they do it with Pups budget; Cyndy Mandell talks about the Pups and offered some flyers, Tina La Bau will supply. Cyndy Mandell needs less than \$50 for materials. Motion Approved

Frank Duncan made a motion to table proposal to table Barbara's proposal and table any disciplinary action. Frank/Don/Discussion/None Approved/9 Noes/Take motion under advisement.

It was asked of Marc regarding intent: He stated that any issues are a moot point until we discuss them and suggested we deal with issues off the record as professional courtesy.

Continued to page - 19 -

New Members

W • E • L • C • O • M • E

Terri Smethers
Jake Buczowske
Sandy Buczowske

Karen Griffen
Sharon Buczowske
Ted Buczowske

Petrified Pups

Mackenzie Smethers
Dorian Chittun

Jonas Smethers



Frances Hughes
 Adaline Ramsey
 Deborah Schoue
 Nathan McCully
 Tina LaBau
 Michael Fosse
 Barbara Sausser
 Craig Britt

Blaine Witte
 Rick Fiddler
 Pat Estes
 Gil Gilbert
 Loren Beebe
 Robert Ortiz
 Val Costello



**Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
Bracelet Fold Forming Class**
Offered by: Cyndy Mandell, 760.508.1080



Thursday, July 16th and 23rd
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

At the Clubhouse – no class fee
Please sign up in advance of the class at the
Clubhouse or by calling me.

TOOLS (please bring what you have available)

Chain Nose Pliers With Ergonomic Handle
Short Round Nose Ergonomic Handles
Metal Hole Punch Pliers, 1.8mm hole - optional
Nylon Jaw Bracelet Bending Pliers
Scissor Shears (I will have some available)
Shear Flush Cutter - for the pod
Butter knife without teeth
Cut 2, Half Round File - High Quality
Design stamps
Chasing Hammer
Sharp Texturing/Raising Hammer
Plastic Mallet - or other soft blow hammer

MATERIALS

Copper 24 gauge Sheet Metal, 6" x 6" piece
16g Copper Wire, 10 ft - 6 inches for the pod
20g Copper Wire, 25 ft - 3 inches for the pod

I will have some materials available for sale with me.

VVGMCM MAY 6, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Continued from page - 1 -

Starting balance for Pups was supposed to be \$174 and would like to know where the money is. Tina asked to sit with Craig and discuss it. Lois states that it should not be in the budget, just on the books designated for them.

Motion to approve the Treasurers Report - Jim/Ruben/Discussion – John said that last month it doesn't have to be approved. It does have to be approved by the board not at the general meeting. Approved 8, Opposed 2, Abstain 1, Carried

OLD BUSINESS:

Gem Show – Ed Skidmore – They need volunteers to step up and help. Sandy Skidmore says they are working on the paperwork that Debbie Berresford has. She knows there are problems but is rectifying them. 11/21/15 and 11/22/15. Set up is on Friday. Tina La Bau says the pups volunteered to sell raffle tickets.

Security Committee: Sandy Skidmore will get with Tina La Bau and Ruben Martinez to set a date.

NEW BUSINESS:

CFMS – Tina LaBau stated that the CFMS Lodi trip is coming. She is requesting certain expenses in advance: The cost for dinner is \$35; mileage is 371 miles each way, \$15 for each day plus Holiday Inn Express at \$150 each night if booked early for June 11th and 12th. She has to pay for dinner now and book hotel. Amount budgeted for CFMS is \$500. Barbara Pedrow understood that was a reimbursement. Cyndy Mandell says there is a policy in place. The issue is tabled to be discussed later.

Tina/Debbie/Discussion – Marc says that by-laws state that parties will call you out if you do not follow the letter of the law. The money is not to be advanced. Members asked that application be submitted with expenses. The concern is audit issues. Tina said she would table it for now.

Donations – Debbie Berresford: Tool Box, the Board needs to decide what to do with it. Sandy said the pixie could be used for the raffle drawing. A motion was made to use the donated pixie for Gem Show Raffle and the tool box as a drawing item. Sandy/Steve/Discussion 7 approved, 2 opposed, 2 abstained. Motion carried

Frank Duncan made a motion to have a committee formed to deal with disciplinary action. Table current issues until committee formed. Terry Booth stated that the by-laws have a method for dealing with issues. Issue tabled to end of meeting for further discussion.

Continued to page - 18 -

VVGMCM MAY 6, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Continued from page - 15 -

Cyndy Mandell asked letter be entered on agenda.

Cookie Crites – Has concerns about what has happened and wants things out in the open.

Gil Gilbert – At General Meeting: some issues were addressed. A special meeting was held to address the issues that were on the board. The issues will be addressed further in executive meeting. Cyndy Mandell states that by-laws cannot be discussed in a special meeting according to CFMS. Marc Smith states that the President has the right to call a closed session. The by-laws are discussed at committee then brought to a regular meeting. She states that we did it inappropriately. Marc Smith stated that we voted on merit/no merit and sent to by-laws committee to deal with. Additional discussion ensued.

Frank said that Cyndy Mandell said that they did not have complaints but concerns. Cyndy Mandell requested that Tina LaBau and Marc Smith read umbrella CFMS rules. Cyndy Mandell says she has given them out. No one has ever seen or heard about them. She stated that Marc Smith could go to CFMS.inc.org - Robert's Rules of Order are general, CFMS umbrella by-laws, then our by-laws. Tina La Bau asked about the order of rules we are to follow.

Terry Booth asked for the reading of Minutes of regular board Meeting 4/7/15. They are located in the book and presented in the Newsletter. A motion was made to approve the minutes. Debbie/Frank/Approved 1 abstain

Debbie Berresford had a concern regarding By-laws. Section 12 procedure states that we are governed by Robert's Rules of Order. Sandy Skidmore didn't think CFMS rules should be in the by-laws. Marc Smith wanted to make it as an agenda item for next month. He invited education on the issue; Cyndy Mandell will provide him a name.

Yo Simpson says we are to go by the CFMS by-laws, we are bound by their by-laws by virtue of our membership with them. Tina La Bau stated that someone called Tom Burchard from CFMS said CFMS does not intervene in our clubs affairs and he stated that they do not get involved. Cyndy Mandell says she called for advice for rules and regulations. She knows they don't intercede and to stop inflammatory remarks. Barbara Pedrow wants the issue dropped to another time when there is more information.

Treasurers Report: Craig Britt states, "He has tweaked it and has made some changes and believes that he has it correct". He put a transaction report that encompasses deposits and checks together in one report rather than two separate reports. Audit committee meeting on Wednesday 5/13/15 published in newsletter. Last page of spreadsheet, Cyndy says the balance is missing on the income and expense of budget.

Continued to page - 17 -



DAVIS CREEK FIELD TRIP JULY 26-30, 2015

Blaine Witte and his wife Judy will be leading our club on a wonderful field trip to Davis Creek. This field trip will be one of the longest our club has ever taken. You can join them for one day or stay the whole time. Davis Creek is a well known area for obsidian. There are four mines, Pink Lady, Lassen Creek Rainbow, Needles, and Middle Fork Davis Creek. These mines are all located within a few miles of US Hwy 395 in northeast California. Nearby Davis Creek are other great rockhounding sites. Blaine knows that most of the group going want to find obsidian, but also knows that there are other great rockhounding sites in the area. Because this is an extended field trip, we are asking members to sign up at the club. The sign-up sheet is on the board just as you walk into the club. Blaine will be camping out at the Davis Creek Merchantile, 41942 Hwy 395, Davis Creek, CA 96108. You can join him there or pick up a copy of other campsites and hotels in the area. You can contact Blaine @ 760-985-9633 for more information.



TOOLS NEEDED FOR WIRE WRAPPING

Ruler
 Pocket Knife (optional)
 Flat Nose Pliers
 Round Nose Pliers
 Sharpie Marker
 Jump Ring Mandrels (optional)
 Rat Tail String
 Flush Cutter
 Masking Tape
 Container to keep scrap silver in to salvage later
 Beading mat/felt (optional)

***All tools should be smooth with no gripping grids that will mark your silver when you use the tools.

21/22 gauge Sterling Silver Square ½ hard wire
 21/22 gauge Sterling Silver Half Round ½ hard wire

You can buy wire from Rio Grande by the inch, foot, or Troy ounce. They also have gold and gold-fill for sale the same way



Beginning Wire Wrapping Class

By Yohontus (Yo) Simpson

Classes will be held off and on every other Sunday

May 31, June 28, July 12, August 9, August 23, September 6,

September 20, October 4, and October 18, 2015

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

THESE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THESE CLASSES, PLEASE GIVE US YOUR NAME, PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS SO WE CAN LET YOU KNOW IF THERE IS A CHANGE

VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB

15056 - B SEVENTH STREET

VICTORVILLE, CA 92395-3811

(760) 243-2330

Yo suggests you get your wire from Rio Grande as soon as possible

VVGMCM MAY 6, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at: 7:04 pm

Board Members Present/Reports:

President, Terry Booth - No report

1st Vice President/Membership, Debbie Berresford - No report

2nd Vice President/Education Lia Hamilton - Absent

3rd Vice President/Gem Show Ed Skidmore, – Deferred Report to Old Business

Recording Secretary, Dwayna Barron - No report

Treasurer, Craig Britt – Deferred to Treasurers Report

Corresponding Secretary, Valeria Costello - No report

CFMS Representative, Tina LaBau - CFMS show is coming up in June donations are needed to take with her.

Board Members:

Frank Dunkin, stated he agreed that a separate committee from the board should be formed to investigate complaints. If motion is approved wants to drop the current action and send it to committee.

Steve Hendrix, Ruben Martinez, Don Pomerence - No reports

Past President, Jim Fosse - Everything is okay with website

Parliamentarian, Marc Smith – Stated he has taken on the job of Parliamentarian and the drawings and is asking for assistance and ideas to improve morale so that we can have fun in the club.

Guests Present: Jim Kelly, Corey Beck, Yo Simpson, Gil Gilbert, Charles Toles, Lois Papner, John Printz, Cyndy Mandell, Sandy Skidmore, Barbara Pedrow, Cookie Crites

John Printz, his letter did not get read last month so he read it. Defamation of character is a violation of code of conduct. He asked for written copy of board findings from previous meeting. He stated he believed that the Suggestion Box was read ahead of time and President chose what to read.

Charles Toles was disappointed that the instructor's meeting was cancelled and didn't think the last month's meeting was long enough.

Yo Simpson wants clamps for machines.

Barbara Pedrow suggested an unbiased committee be formed to investigate complaints and issues with members that would report back to board. Marc stated that board will address the issue of judiciary committee. She says the morale is not good.

Continued to page -16-

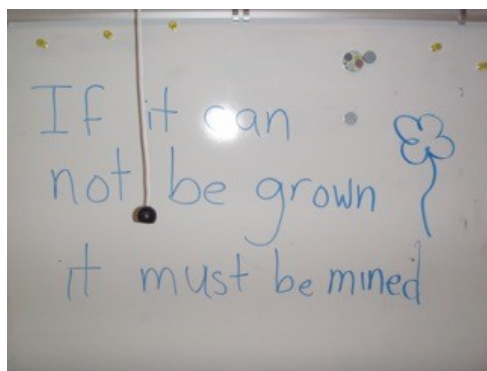
LIME STREET SCHOOL by Cyndy Mandell

On Wednesday, May 27th Lois Papner and I taught two groups of kindergarten classes how to make toothpaste. Impossible you say, to young you say, they were great and enjoyed it way beyond our expectations. We had to down grade the presentation to their age level, but they now understand that toothpaste is made from rocks and so is anything else not grown.

We had a wonderful time teaching 75 students in the morning class 56 in the second class. The little ones thanked us over and over again for the presentation.

We followed up with a show and tell of four flats of minerals that we own all the children were able to get a close up look and feel and found them amazing.

We talked about Women in Mining and our own local Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club.



PETRIFIED PUPS - SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FAIR



THE PETRIFIED PUPS

By Tina LaBau

Last month the Pups had their entries in the County Fair judged and all did very well. This was our first time entering this contest, and we plan to do it again in the future. Now that we know what the Fair Judges are looking for we'll be able to suit our projects to the judging.

Megan Miller – Best of Show, Best of Division and First Place

Nathan McCully - Best of Show, Best of Class, Best of Division, and First Place

Sarah Guidry – Best of Class and First Place

Faith LaBau – Best of Class and First Place

Adeline Ramsey- First Place

Cody Poppert – First Place

James Fiddler – First Place

Mason Lorz – First Place

Emmalyn Ramsey – First Place

Alaina Boyd – First Place

Dillon McCully – Second Place

Caleb Hancock – Second Place

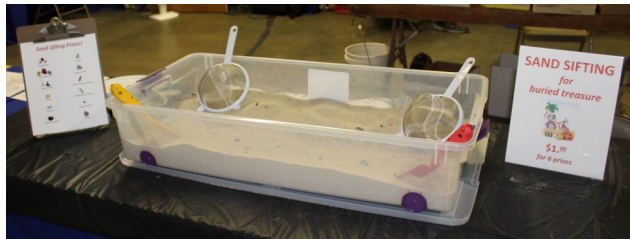


CFMS SHOW AND DIRECTORS MEETING

by Tina LaBau

This month was the annual CFMS Show and Directors Meeting in Lodi, CA. I went there representing our club. In the past I was always given the impression that CFMS was mainly there to provide us with our insurance needs, this show proved they can give us so much more.

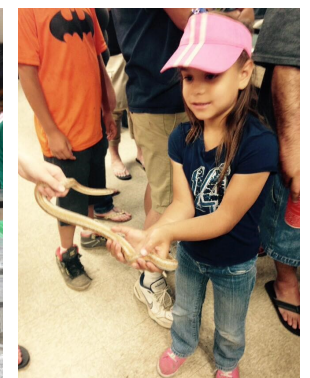
This was a 3 day event, but I went up early on Thursday to help set up. I met with Jim Brace Thompson, who is in charge of youth activities, and his crew of volunteers. We helped set up the youth activities for the show. From this and all the chit chat I gained so many new ideas on how to help our Petrified Pups grow.



Friday I spent the day volunteering and wandering the venue seeing the offerings and displays. The displays at this show were on a grand scale. Some were educational, some showed different techniques for lapidary, and some just showed off an individual's projects, but all were great. The show also had several people giving lessons on how to do various lapidary projects, our own Cyndy Mandell demonstrated Intarsia the whole weekend.

Continued to page - 9 -

SNAKES ALIVE AT VVGMC RECORD SETTING CROWD



Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
General Meeting and Potluck
July 28th -- 6:30 PM



Potluck Theme



RED, WHITE & BLUE

Please bring a dish that contains something red, white or blue



CFMS SHOW AND DIRECTORS MEETING

Continued from page - 8 -

Saturday I spent the morning attending the Directors Meeting. There were many items that needed voted on, but the interesting part was the committee reports. Through these I gained several ideas on things we can do to improve our club, all of which I will present to the board in my report. An example was the Safety Committee which encouraged clubs to get someone in to educate their members on snakes and how to be safe around them. I was able to give several people the contact information for High Desert Wildlife, the group that comes in and teaches us about snakes. We were informed the next show will be in Placerville and will be held in conjunction with the World Gold Panning Championships. One item we voted on was the location of the 2017 CFMS show, we voted to have the next show in Ventura. This show will also be the AFMS show, so it will be huge! During the meeting several clubs donated money to the CFMS and AFMS scholarship and endowment funds. I also learned about a contest through the AFMS called the All American Club Award, this is given to clubs that promote the Earth Sciences and Lapidary though activities at the club, we already do most of the activities so we might as well enter for this huge honor. Saturday afternoon I sat in on two round table meetings to help clubs. One was how to deal with difficult members, and the other was how to save a failing club. These were very informative and gave me several more ideas to take to the board. Saturday evening I attended the Banquet Dinner. This dinner is where awards are given to individuals and clubs. The big award of the night was the Golden Bear Award, this is the highest honor CFMS gives its members. There were 2 people awarded this honor, one was Jim Brace Thompson for all of his extensive work in getting youth involved. There was another lovely lady awarded this honor, but for the life of me I cannot remember her name. Another big award was the Sweepstakes Award, this is given to the club with the most entries into the display cases at the show. The winning group had 9 display cases, I am thinking when the show is in Ventura, we should give this award a shot for our club.

Sunday morning I attended the Editors and Webmasters meeting, it was suggested that everyone attend this meeting during the Directors Meeting, so I went. The main subject of the meeting was internet safety and security. With me being part of the security committee at the club I figured this would be beneficial. I gained a few ideas from this meeting on how to protect our members safety and will suggest them at a committee meeting for consideration. At the end of this meeting awards were presented to Bulletin Editors and Webmasters for their continued support of their clubs.

Overall, I have to say I am thankful to have been able to represent our club at this event. I gained much knowledge and hope to be able to share and use what I have gained to make our club a better club, even though I already think it's a great club!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Workshop 12 – 7 pm	2 Workshop 12 – 7 pm BEAD BUNCH 1 pm – 3 pm	3	4 
5 Workshop 12 – 5 pm	6	7 Instructor's Meeting - 6 pm Board Meeting 7 pm	8 Workshop 12 – 7 pm	9 Workshop 12 – 7 pm BEAD BUNCH 1 pm – 3 pm	10	11 Workshop 12 – 5 pm
12 Workshop 12 – 5 pm Wire Wrapping Class with “Yo” 5:00—7:00	13	14	15 Workshop 12 – 7 pm	16 Workshop 12 – 7 pm BEAD BUNCH 1 pm – 3 pm Bracelet Fold Forming Class 1pm - 5 pm	17	18 Petrified Pups 9 am – noon Workshop 12 – 5 pm
19 Workshop 12 – 5 pm	20	21 Education Night 7:00 pm	22 Workshop 12 – 7 pm	23 Workshop 12 – 7 pm BEAD BUNCH 1 pm – 3 pm Bracelet Fold Forming Class 1pm - 5 pm	24	25 Workshop 12 – 5 pm
26 Workshop 12 – 5 pm Davis Creek Field Trip	27 Davis Creek Field Trip	28 POTLUCK 6:30 pm General Meeting 7:30 pm Davis Creek Field Trip	29 Workshop 12 – 7 pm Davis Creek Field Trip	30 Workshop 12 – 7 pm BEAD BUNCH 1 pm – 3 pm Davis Creek Field Trip	31	