

THE BULLETIN

DECEMBER 2016



Merry Christmas

FROM THE VICTOR VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Well the year has gone by so quickly, hope yours was one to look back on and say "it was a good year" This is your last newsletter for the year, and the last one from Dwayna Barron, would love to have one of you very talented people to come forward and take on this position. Dwayna will walk you through the process. Thank you for your wonderful newsletter.

Elections are over, Congratulations to our new board members, please welcome them. 2017 looks to be a great year. Should you have an inkling to be on a committee, please come forward, you are sorely needed. We are looking forward to a productive year, we have a new Petrified Pups leader and the kids are anxious to get going on their journey. Gabby Martinez is our new instructor for the pups, please welcome her and a big thanks to Joyce DeGarmo and Fran Lorz for offering their assistance.

Our tailgate is coming up in March we will be needing kitchen assistance and set up and take down help. There will be sign up sheets coming soon. The silver room is up and running, and grinding room is coming along. If anyone would like to help certify the pups on equipment please let Gabby know. We need some people to identify rocks.

Our Christmas dinner and installation is December 13th at 6pm. Please come and have dinner, being catered so no one has to cook. If you would like to help set up, be happy to have you. Thanks to all those who helped this past year, everyone worked hard to make it successful. Huge thank you's to our instructors, our by-law committee, budget committee, and clean-up crews. Thank you to Bob Menelly for all his help and advice, you are a great asset to this club. Thank you to all the members who came to the meetings and clean-up and anything else you participated in.

Have a safe and wonderful Holiday Season
Sandy Skidmore, President



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016

President	Sandy Skidmore	760-617-6001
1st V.P. (Membership)	Vacant	
2nd V.P. (Education)	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
3rd V.P. (Gem Show)	Vacant	
Recording Secretary	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Treasurer	Craig Britt	760-987-1342
Corresponding Secretary	Val Costello	760-998-6394
Board Members:	Corey Beck	760-221-5738
	Don Pomeranke	760-868-5264
	2-Vacant	
CFMS Representative	Patti Deer	760-553-5530
Past President	Vacant	

NEW MEMBERS

No "New" Members this month

Welcome to Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club. We hope your experiences are positive and that you get involved, make friends, learn as much as you want and help the club be all it can be by volunteering for various activities and committees. If you need assistance, just ask... We're here for you! If we missed your name this month, we will catch up next month.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

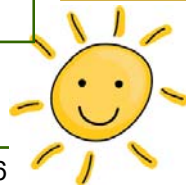
By-Laws	Frank Dunkin	909-522-0056
Wagon Master	Various Volunteers	
Petrified Pups	Gabby Martinez	
Historian	Vacant	
Building Maintenance	Vacant	
Librarian	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
Newsletter	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Sunshine	Marilyn Pomeranke	760-868-5264
Displays	Don Pomeranke	760-868-5264
Auctions (Donations)	Vacant	
Photography	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Hospitality	Linda Porter	760-981-4101
Security	Sandy Skidmore	760-617-6001
Webmaster	Jim Fosse	760-245-8644
Technology	Michael Fosse	760-245-8644
Tailgate	Brett Ward	760-948-1232
Training Coordinator	Vacant	

Our Instructors: Don Pomeranke, Frank Dunkin, Chris Koch, Lia Hamilton, Mo O'Brien and Ed Skidmore. Instructors in Training: Robert Slone, Ruben Martinez and Dwayna Barron

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORTS!

Club Website—www.vvgmc.org

If you find errors or have technical difficulties with the website please contact our webmaster Jim Fosse at www.webmaster@vvgmc.org so he can fix it or assist you. For THE BULLETIN archives: www.vvgmc.org/newsletters.



SUNSHINE WISHES

Janet Fletcher is recuperating and doing well.

Daniel Cavinder reports that his wife's health is improving.

Our condolences to the friends and family of Kurt Meyer who passed away in late October.

If you or someone you know is sick, in the hospital or a member/family has passed on, even celebrating a special event; please contact our Sunshine Lady Marilyn Pomeranke at 760-868-5264 or if you're in the club when Don is there, let him know. Please tell them if you don't want a mention in THE BULLETIN.

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December 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
The Club will be closed November 23—29 so our instructors can spend the Thanksgiving Holiday with their families.				1 Workshop Noon-5pm	2	3-Petrified Pups 9am Workshop Noon-5pm
4 Workshop Noon-5pm	5	6 Instructors 6pm Board 7pm	7 Workshop Noon-5pm	8 Workshop Noon-5pm	9	10 Workshop Noon-5pm
11 Workshop Noon-5pm	12	13 Christmas Party— Installation 6p	14 Workshop Noon-5pm	15 Workshop Noon-5pm	16	17-Petrified Pups 9am Workshop Noon-5pm
18 Workshop Noon-5pm	19	20 Club Closed	21 Workshop Noon-5pm	22 Workshop Noon-5pm	23 Club Closed	24 Club Closed NO CLEAN-UP
25 Club Closed	26 Club Closed	27 Club Closed	28 Workshop Noon-5pm	29 Workshop Noon-5pm	30 Club Closed	31 Club Closed

This Month's Birthday's

Anna Cervantes
Collin Fillingame
Caleb Hancock
Frank Harris
Steve Hendrix
Gladys Lechner
Mason Lorz
Cyndy Mandell
Margaret Martinez

Clyde Moore
Jeannette Perteet
Andrea Skidmore
Jane Slone
Robert Slone
Pat Tyler
Connie Weinberg
CT Yu



UPCOMING IN JANUARY

- 1st/2nd - Club Closed
Happy New Year
- 3rd - Instructors Meeting 6pm
Board Meeting 7pm
- 6th - Petrified Pups 9am

Workshop hours remain the same. If you want extra time in the workshop during the week, let Don know in advance and he will stay until 7pm on Wednesday's for your convenience. Thanks Don!

TIME TO RENEW YOUR 2017 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES**INDIVIDUAL MEMBER—\$25****COUPLE—\$35****CHILDREN \$8****Badges—\$8 each****Come into the club, we'd love to see you! (Bring something to work on)****The following people will be happy to assist you:****Any Instructor on duty, Sandy Skidmore or Dwayna Barron****Checks can also be mailed to the club:****Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club****15056-B 7th Street****Victorville, CA 92395****Our membership to CFMS is due in early January and is based on our membership roster (in case you were wondering why we ask for dues in December)****Did you know that we have VVGMC vests and patches for sale?****Vests—\$15 and Patches—\$1**

See the Instructor on duty or come to a meeting and pick one up for yourself or the family.
Great for field trips and wearing around the club.

We have new equipment in the silver room—So exciting!**Rolling Mill, Burn-out Kiln, Vulcanizer and more...**

Are you interested in learning something new and different? Ever have an idea to set your cabochon but didn't know how? We want to certify you on the new equipment and show you how. Learn to cast, solder, anneal, form your own sheet metal, pull wire, make rings, bracelets, earrings, belt buckles, etc.

See Ed Skidmore, Ruben Martinez or Dwayna Barron**Depending on interest we would like to start classes in January/February****The Grinding Room is our next order of business for 2017, can't wait!!**

Spirit of Volunteerism



A pessimist, they say, sees a glass of water as being half empty; an optimist sees the same glass as half full.

But a giving person sees a glass of water and starts looking for someone who might be thirsty.

- G. Donald Gale

Research has documented the benefits of volunteering. Health seems to improve both physically and mentally for those who give of themselves for others. But this is not our motivation. It is only a glancing consequence to truly getting behind something we believe in. We'd do it regardless of any *quid pro quo* perk.

It is a calling.

The very definition of volunteering is a service-act of one's own freewill....without compensation. This lack of compensation, at the heart of it, should include any "warm-fuzzy" we might be addicted to as amelioration for our "good" actions. This is the yardstick we use to help critique our own motivation in aiding others. How does this make me feel? A legitimate question, yes.....but not the compelling factor. We can and should certainly feel fulfilled as a human being when we are able to help relieve another's plight. This is why we exist. This is why we were created. But the yearning of compassion relentlessly tugs. Therefore, always take the stance of humility and be ready to have your own plight relieved by another....and accept it graciously. To be fully human is in part, to know how to pass on AND receive the gift when freely given. The whole and mature volunteer knows and lives this principle comfortably.

Love cannot remain by itself -- it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action, and that action is service.

— Mother Teresa

We need focus outside our own selves. The lack of this outward focus has been one of the deadliest downfalls of our recent societal trend: Individualism and the stubborn, immature and selfish stance of "me."

In many ways, WHAT volunteering effort we get behind almost doesn't matter. It is THAT we get behind something other than ourselves and our own agendas, which makes the difference.

If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people together to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work,

but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea. — Antoine de Saint Exupery

I have been a volunteer for some cause or another most of my life. My mother instilled the importance of going over and beyond expectations or the norm never regretting it. I've had to make sacrifices at times; MY own agenda, MY way and occasionally family, work, friends or just a much needed night at home. Much of my inspiration has come from other volunteers who sacrificed much more than I have.

Sometimes I lay awake at night and wonder why people at VVGMC no longer care and if they do where are they? Will our club after so many years fall into obscurity and be something of the past? I don't think so and I certainly hope not, too many people have also sacrificed a great deal to make this one of the best clubs around, but I fear we've lost our desire, our hope and our enthusiasm for continuing on mostly because of the many hurt feelings over the past few years. People seem to be offended at everything and if you don't agree they pick up their rocks and go elsewhere or quit the hobby altogether. Such a shame that grown-ups don't behave as such. What is the lesson for our kids?

However, all that said I also have hope that a generation is coming behind us who will take great pride in the human endeavor and the future of VVGMC. It seems its up to us to show them the way, it takes each of us to do it, the club does not run by itself. Please volunteer and help pick up the slack for the future of the club and the lapidary arts. Let's get along again. The past few months have been a pleasure to come in just to work and visit. Come and participate, you won't be sorry.

Only when we give joyfully, without hesitation or thought of gain, can we truly know what love means.

— Leo Buscaglia

This is my last issue because I'm taking on another responsibility for the club that will take up much of my time. My sincere hope is that someone would take up the mantle and carry on with THE BULLETIN and take it to a higher level, I will help get you started.



Happy Volunteers!

Excerpts taken from WorldArc Blog Dec 2012 Dwayna Barron, 2016 Editor

VGMC CLUB SCHEDULE

SHOP DAYS:

Wednesday & Thursday: Noon—5:00pm

Saturday & Sunday: Noon—5:00pm

Instructor Days Mondays & Fridays.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Instructors Meeting—1st Tuesday 6:00pm

Board of Directors—1st Tuesday 7:00pm

Education Night—3rd Tuesday 7:00pm

Potluck Night—4th Tuesday 6:00pm

General Membership—4th Tuesday 7:00pm

THE BULLETIN is the official monthly newsletter published by the Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club and is distributed free of charge electronically to members and non-members or by mail to the members without email. Views expressed by authors in the articles appearing in **THE BULLETIN** do not necessarily reflect those of the **VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB**. The editor publishes content as presented with minor changes for continuity.

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Articles and pictures are due by the 15th of each month for the following months publication.



Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club

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