

VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB

THE BULLETIN

Happy Valentine's Day



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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016

President	John Printz	760-979-8252
1st V.P. (Membership)	Sandy Skidmore	760-617-6001
2nd V.P. (Education)	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
3rd V.P. (Gem Show)	Vacant	
Recording Secretary	Meg Martinez	760-617-8937
Treasurer	Craig Britt	760-987-1342
Corresponding Secretary	Val Costello	760-998-6394
Board Members:	Corey Beck	760-221-5738
	Terry Booth	909-223-1386
	Steve Hendrix	714-323-0323
	Don Pomeranke	760-868-5264
CFMS Representative	Patti Deer	760-553-5530
Past President	Vacant	

**WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS**

NOVEMBER
Michelle Rawlings
Lomy Rawlings

DECEMBER
Michael Marxsen
Chrisy Marxsen

JANUARY
Ralph A. Maese, Jr.
Ralph Maese
Jane Slone
Roger Beam

**STANDING COMMITTEE
CHAIRPERSONS**

Wagon Master	Vacant	
Petrified Pups	Vacant	
Historian	Vacant	
Building Maintenance	Ted McCully	760-927-9903
Librarian	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
Newsletter	Vacant	
Sunshine	Marilyn Pomeranke	760-868-5264
Displays	Don Pomeranke	760-868-5264
Auctions (Donations)	Vacant	
Photography	Vacant	
Hospitality	Ceci Kawasaki	760-247-4121
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: Ed Deren, Steve Hendrix, Morris O'Brien, Lia Hamilton, Don Pomeranke, Frank Dunkin, Chris Koch, Johnny Twedt, Charles Toles, Ed Skidmore and Barbara Pedrow

Club Website—www.vvgmc.org

**MEMBERSHIP
DUES**

Have you paid your 2016 membership dues yet? Just in case you forgot the membership voted to increase membership dues this year:

Individuals - \$25
Couple (same household) - \$35
Junior Member - \$8
A \$5.00 late fee now applies.

You can mail your dues along with the late fee to the club:

VVGMC
Attn: Sandy Skidmore, 1st VP
15046-B Seventh Street
Victorville, CA 92395-3811

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President's Message

Here it is February already and the new Board is working on a number of items. You can read the Board minutes summary in this letter or the full minutes in the folder at the Clubhouse. Here are some highlights of that meeting: Unfortunately we do not have by-laws for members approval this month.

- *We have the 2016 budget ready for members approval.
- *Kaman needs security cameras. We need approval to buy them.
- *We are looking into replacing the stove in the kitchen as it is in very bad condition.
- *Bret Ward is hard at work for this year Tail Gate - yes he will need a lot of help - so please help. We will also need a good amount of baked goods for the food tent. Some sugar and gluten free products would be greatly appreciated. Now is a good time to buy your baking supplies for all of the great goodies you can make.

We have not yet had any volunteers for the following committees: (we would like to have new members on these committees so that the members from last year can have a year off.)

- ***Petrified Pups:** We have 1 volunteer to do paper work but no one to be the leader.
- ***Financial Advisory Committee**
- ***By-Law Committee**
- ***Investigative Committee**
- ***Newsletter Editor:** Someone is doing February as a trial.
- ***3rd V.P. Gem Show-**Cashia Jones was not running for 3rd V.P. but for a Board Member position. She is sorry but she will not have the time to do the job of the 3rd V.P. and regrettably has resigned from that position.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE POSITIONS.

The January 30th clean-up special area is the parking lot. **WE NEED A PRESSURE WASHER.** If you have one you can bring it to the January clean up, it will be appreciated. Remember that any member that works for at least 2 hours during the clean-up will be entitled to a snack, drink and a voucher for a free shop day.

The February 27th clean-up special interest will be a waffle breakfast (if approved by the members at the January General Meeting). We will be doing a clean-up of the inside of the Club the day before the breakfast.

Please let me know right away if you are going to volunteer for any (or all) of the following for the breakfast:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| *Clean-up (Friday) | *Clean-up (Saturday) | *Cooking (Saturday) |
| *Demonstrations (Saturday) | *Club Tours (Saturday) | |

Submitted by:

John Printz, VVGMC President
Phone (760) 979-8252

HAVE A COMPLAINT OR SUGGESTION? DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE FORMS AT THE FRONT DOOR OR SEE THE INSTRUCTOR ON DUTY.

IT'S YOUR CLUB, SO SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

Membership Dues, cont.

We would love to have you come to the club, the Instructor on duty can accept your dues in person as well. Bring a project to work on while you're there. Shop Fee for the day is \$5.00. Check out the calendar for shop days. If you need some extra help or encouragement, Instructors are there to assist you. If you would like help in the Silver Room, Steve is the Instructor to see on Saturday's. Other Instructors certified for the silver room are Barbara Pedrow and Lia Hamilton. You can always call one of these instructor's and schedule an appointment.

Remember to electronically sign-in at the front door each time you come to the club!

Just a thought...

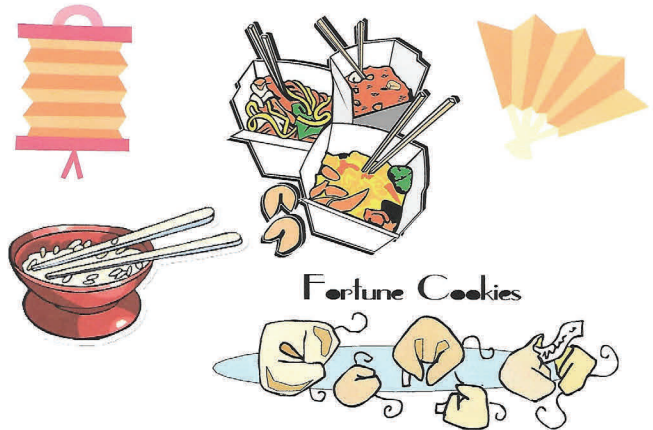
Have a business? Consider your business card advertisement here in THE BULLETIN. Great exposure for just \$25 annually. See Craig Britt, Treasurer.



Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Monthly Potluck and Meeting
February 23rd - 6:30 PM



Potluck Theme:
China

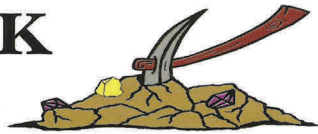


Don't forget to thank Ceci for her hospitality. This year she'll be taking us around the world for our potluck dinners. Join us at 6:30 pm the 4th Tuesday of each month before the general meeting. Should be a fun and exciting culinary adventure!

Under new ownership —
Congratulations Cyndy & Lois!

miningsuppliesandrockshop.com

**MINING SUPPLIES
& ROCK
SHOP**



9565 "C" Ave. Ste. K, Hesperia, Calif. 92345

760-244-9642

Ed Deren
Pam Golightly
Bryndon Michener
Ed Skidmore
Rob Swenson



If you're birthday is in February and your name's not on the list, have you paid your 2016 dues yet? If so, contact Sandy Skidmore, 1st Vice President-Membership, so she can research and remedy the problem and we can recognize you next month...

What's Happening...

Education Night

February 16th—7:00 pm

Chris Koch will be demonstrating how to make a free form cab on both the Genie and the All-You Needs. He will also be highlighting shop and safety protocols. This will be especially beneficial to our newer members or those who want to learn to use another type of machine.

The 40th Annual Stoddard Wells Rock Hound "Tailgate" March 11th, 12th & 13th 9-5 daily

FREE EVENT! EVERYONE WELCOME!
PUBLIC INVITED! VENDOR SPACES FREE,
1ST COME BASIS

No holding of spaces or competing with Club's fundraising. Food and Drink Booth. Saturday Family Field Trip 9 am to 1 pm for famous marble varieties. For more information visit our website at www.vvgmc.org or come into the club house and pick up a flyer.

CFMS SPONSORED EVENTS...

CAMP ZYZXX - March 27th - April 3rd

CFMS Show, Placerville - Sept 16th - 18th

For other club shows and additional information visit the CFMS website at www.cfmsinc.org

Be sure to read about the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) and their upcoming plans for the Mojave Desert and your ability to collect rocks on government land in the future.



(Laughing Out Loud)

I think I'm in big trouble. I was going through my pockets today and I found something I can't explain. A dollar. Yes, a whole dollar.

I've paid my income tax, and my state tax, I've paid amusement tax, sales tax, hospital tax and gasoline tax. I've paid taxes for Medicare and for old age benefits. I've paid the liquor tax, the cigarette tax, the automobile tax, the school tax and tax to put up a bridge at the other end of the country. When I pay my lawyer 600 bucks, I pay tax on that--and so does he. I pay tax on the money I give to the baby-sitter and the real estate salesman and the man who makes out my income tax form each year. So how come I've still got a dollar?

Obviously, I've made a mistake somewhere and overlooked a tax. But I distinctly remember paying my road tax, and the excise tax, the defense tax and the tax to provide more scholarships for kids to go to the university so they can tell me how rotten the system is. I've paid my taxes for sewers, bombs, wheat for India, the senate, hockey rinks and public transportation. Yes, I've paid my water tax. And when they charge us an air tax to clean up the pollution, I'll pay that too. I confess, I haven't paid my death taxes yet, but I will.

I've paid my taxes for parks, fire protection and law enforcement. I've paid my taxes to help the farmer, the Indian and the unmarried mother. I wouldn't dream of going fishing, owning a dog or getting married without first paying the tax. I pay taxes on the toothpaste I use when I wake up in the morning and I pay taxes on the pillow I rest my head on when the day is over.

How come I've got this dollar in my pocket? Where did it come from? Did somebody put it there to get me in trouble? Is there a tax when you find a dollar like that?

I'm not sure. But I know the government is going to be sore when they find out I've got it.

Gems via The Gem News
ROCKS AND MINERALS

There is a solution for that dollar if you find yourself in the same situation: **We have slabs for sale ONLY \$1.00 each.** If you cut a rock a slab is donated to the club to be sold -- that's the rule! Reminder: Findings and other items are available for sale as well, see the Instructor on duty.

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2 By-Laws 2 pm Instructors 6 pm Board Mtg 7 pm	3 Workshop Day Noon — 7 pm	4 Workshop Day Noon — 7 pm	5	6 Workshop Day Noon — 5 pm	
7 Workshop Day Noon — 5 pm	8	9	10 Workshop Day Noon — 7 pm	11 Workshop Day Noon — 7 pm	12	13 Workshop Day Noon — 5 pm	
14 Valentine's Day Workshop Day Noon — 5 pm	15 	16 By-Laws 2:30 pm Education Night 7 pm	17 Workshop Day Noon — 7 pm	18 Workshop Day Noon — 7 pm	19	20 Workshop Day Noon — 5 pm	
21 Workshop Day Noon — 5 pm	22	23 Potluck 6:30 pm General Meeting 7:30 pm	24 Workshop Day Noon — 7 pm	25 Workshop Day Noon — 7 pm	26 Club Clean Up Day—Time ?	27 Waffle Brkfast Open House ? Workshop Day Noon — 5 pm	
28 Workshop Day Noon — 5 pm	29	Do something spontaneous, goofy and fun with someone special this month, your other option...eat lots of chocolate!					



**WE NEED YOUR HELP IN SEVERAL AREAS SO THAT OUR CLUB OPERATES EFFICIENTLY AND SUCCESSFULLY!
CONTACT JOHN FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

THE BULLETIN is published monthly. All articles, pictures and information for the newsletter should be submitted by the 10th of each month prior to publication. All editor's appreciate your respecting the deadlines and time constraints involved in keeping all members informed of what's happening in your club. DB

Rock of the Month



Amethyst is a violet or purple variety of quartz often used in jewelry. The name comes from the Ancient Greek *μέθυστος* *méthystos* ("intoxicated"), a reference to the belief that the stone protected its owner from drunkenness. The ancient Greeks wore amethyst and made drinking vessels decorated with it in the belief that it would prevent intoxication. Tibetans consider amethyst sacred to the Buddha and make prayer beads from it. In the Middle Ages, it was considered a symbol of royalty and power and used to decorate English regalia. In the Old World, amethyst was considered one of the Cardinal gems, in that it was one of the five gemstones considered precious above all others, until large deposits were found in Brazil decreasing its value. It is one of several forms of quartz. Amethyst is a semiprecious stone and is the traditional birthstone for February. Amethyst owes its violet color to irradiation, iron impurities (in some cases in conjunction with transition element impurities), and the presence of trace elements, which result in complex crystal lattice substitutions. Mohs scale of hardness is 7 or less with a vitreous/glossy luster (glassy). The melting point of amethyst is 1650 ± 75 °C. Amethyst can be found throughout the United States, Brazil, Uruguay, Russia, Austria, Canada, India and South Korea.

Do you have a talent or gift you want to share with the members? Do you make cabs, slabs, do silver smithing, beading, dichroic glass, carve or have some other awesome hobby/business and would like to give a class? Contact Lia Hamilton for more information.

Do you have an unusual collection of minerals, fossils, specimens, or other fantastic handiwork you're proud of and want to display your collection for all of us to view? Contact Don Pomeranke to help get you started.

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THE BULLETIN is the official monthly newsletter published by the VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB and is distributed free of charge electronically and by mail each month for an annual fee of \$10 for members and non-members.

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