

April 2017

The Bulletin

Official Newsletter of the

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club

15056-B Seventh St.

Victorville, CA 92375

(760) 243-2330

www.vvgmc.org



NEW MEMBERS

Antuan & Jasmin Banks, George Bloom, Sasha Martinez-Holtcamp, Nancy McCormick, Oscar Slone, Don Schultz, Lawrence Trujillo and Ileen White

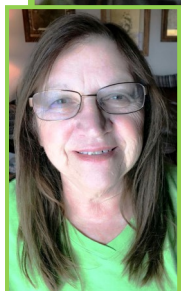
Welcome to Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club. We hope your experiences are positive and that you get involved, make friends, learn as much as you want and help the club be all it can be by volunteering for various activities and committees. If you need assistance, just ask... We're here for you!

EDUCATION NIGHT



Education Night was a great success thanks to Corey Beck who provided the lesson in wire-wrapping. He jokingly boasts that he has wrapped three stones and is now an expert but if you were there you certainly would have thought it was a fact! Great job Corey and thanks to Joyce DeGarmo for her assistance. Everyone learned the techniques and garnered a desire to do more. From what this Editor hears, Gabby, our "Pups" leader went home and started wire-wrapping like crazy with 8 year-old Leo, they are having a blast claiming to be addicted. This is what it's all about folks! Loving what we do.

The next class is on Education Night, April 18th at 7:00 pm and we would love to have you join us for lots of laughs, a snack and another great lesson in wire-wrapping techniques.



Aww Spring, it's here, then gone, then back again, our wonderful desert...

Well, I am not going to say much about our tailgate because others are giving reports in this newsletter, but the weather was great and lots of vendors to satisfy all. Thank you to everyone: vendors, guests, members; you did a great job!

We have many upcoming events scheduled, if you missed the first casting class, do not fret, there are more classes to come, you can sign-up at the club. Cory Beck had a wire-wrapping class, and the second one is on April's education night, so please come and join in and learn some new (or old) techniques and skills.

We are scheduling the next Snakes Alive for June, more information will follow over the next couple months. It's always a fun and interesting event for everyone who attends.

The club needs volunteers, many of you did a great job at the tailgate but I know we can find some more. Clean-up day is on the 4th Saturday of the month, and we always need help. If you can pick up a committee job that would be terrific, or if you can lead a class in your favorite subject, let us know.

Well, we had a great tailgate and hard-working Brett provided another fabulous year of getting it all together. The vendors were nice enough to give the silent auction donations and the Petrified Pups donations. Thank you to all those who participated for your support.

Have a bunny-hopping spring, a Happy Easter and a Happy Passover.

Sandy Skidmore, President

760-243-2330

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017

President	Sandy Skidmore	760-617-6001
1st Vice President-Membership	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
Recording Secretary	Val Costello	760-998-6394
Treasurer	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Corresponding Secretary	Vacant	
Board Members:	Corey Beck	760-221-5738
	Ruben Martinez	760-868-8689

SUNSHINE WISHES

Our Condolences to the family and friends of Kemp Root who lost his long battle with cancer earlier this month.

If you or someone you know is sick or in the hospital, if a member/family member has passed on, even when celebrating a special occasion, please contact our Sunshine Lady Marilyn Pomerence at 760-868-5264 or if you're in the club when Don is

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Education		
Gem Show		
CFMS Representative	Ruben Martinez	
Wagon Master	Various Volunteers	
Petrified Pups	Gabby Martinez	
Historian		
Librarian	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
Newsletter	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Sunshine	Marilyn Pomerence	760-868-5264
Displays	Don Pomerence	760-868-5264
Auctions (Donations)		
Photography	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Hospitality		
Security	Sandy Skidmore	760-617-6001
Webmaster	Jim Fosse	760-245-8644
Technology	Michael Fosse	760-245-8644
Tailgate	Brett Ward	760-948-1232

Our Instructors: Don Pomerence, Chris Koch, Lia Hamilton, Mo O'Brien, Ed Skidmore, Ruben Martinez and Dwayna Barron

Club Website—www.vvgmc.org

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

NOTE FROM EDITOR

It was a year ago in January that I offered to "temporarily" take on the Newsletter and Photography positions. This is my 15th and final edition as the Editor. Laughingly I say this has sometimes been a love/hate relationship as deadlines are not always easy, convenient or even at times possible as much as you try, (I would never have made it in the real-world newspaper biz.)

The monthly challenge to be creative on demand was both frustrating and fun, however the frustrations were also my motivation to continue forward.

Now it's time to pass on the torch and get on with the business of doing what you elected me to do and that's to be the best Treasurer I can be and in all honesty I'm excited about that!

Dawn Carson-Mearig has graciously offered to take over starting with the May edition, so please welcome her and assist her by your participation with articles, pictures and information that will make her job easier... This is after all the club members newsletter and is meant to disseminate info for your benefit!

Thank you so much for your encouragement and praises this past year, I am truly appreciative!

Dwayna Barron, Editor (Retired)

41st Annual Tailgate at Stoddard Wells

Post Annual Tailgate Musings

By Brett Ward

Tailgate Committee Chairman



I cannot recall a year when we were blessed with the warmest and calmest weather over the three days of the Tailgate! Even our “set-up day” on Wednesday went off with “relative” ease.

My post annual Tailgate musings are one to express my heartfelt thanks to those members and friends who stepped-up to play an active role to ensure our performance and traditions as the club host of this unique outdoor event were met or exceeded!

I try to make a list of those members present and being of service...I fall short, and I apologize in advance if I have forgotten to make a special mention of YOUR role in this year’s Tailgate. You all deserve special recognition for your efforts... please don’t feel slighted and someone let me know who I forgot, I want to thank you in person and be sure to “talk-up” your participation to others at our club.

Thanks to everyone who in their own way promoted this year’s Tailgate via Fliers, social media, conversations and especially to Ruben M. for his contacts at the Daily Press to get promotional articles published this year! And to Jim F. for keeping the Tailgate “info” tab on our club’s website up-to-date. We had a GREAT showing of Vendors and visitors!

Also, Ruben M. provided a new source for our porta-potties as A-1 was sold off, and SEPTIC CONTROL, INC. was this year’s provider of the portables. Shout out to Martin R. for his company’s willingness to truck out the portables to the Tailgate site at a cost we could afford!

I’m truly grateful to all members who showed up for the Wednesday set up; I was amazed by your turnout! One of our newest members, Dennis S., who I believe was brought to us by providence, brought his large trailer for hauling out all the heavy tables AND drove out again for the Sunday “take-down”...Dennis S. deserves the “Most Valuable Player” award for the 2017 Tailgate!



Don P. had faithfully provided his long bed truck for over a decade for this key task, but the ol’ girl had given her all and was put to pasture. Don P. continued to assist on site both Wednesday, Sunday and through-out the Tailgate, and is a member I continue to look to for guidance and inspiration.

Wednesday’s set-up crew was large... Thanks to Kevin P., Dale & Fran L., Dennis S., Don P., Val C., Dwayna B., Ruben M., Sandy & Ed S. and Pam G. for providing their vehicles and physical work to get the “booth” raised!

Our club had TWO great on-site “hosts” with rigs this year, Mo O’B. and Dale and Fran L. Dale was our club’s Field Trip leader for the second year in a row, and he and Fran took time after the Wednesday set-up to “re-scout” the Tri-Color Marble site to make the planned Saturday Field trip trouble free. Dale also had pieces of this material in natural and slabbed form with him this year to show all of our Field Trippers what to look for in marble varieties.

Fran, Dwayna and Sandy were the Sunday close-out “accountants”, and I’m very grateful that Dale and Fran offered the use of their trailer on Sunday for that “financial process” so my manic/chaotic self and others could get the club’s booth and equipment back to the clubhouse in ONE trip this year! Thanks to the entire Martinez clan for showing up Sunday to help tear down and those who helped get things put away. THANK YOU ALL for your HELP on Sunday!

Continued on page 4



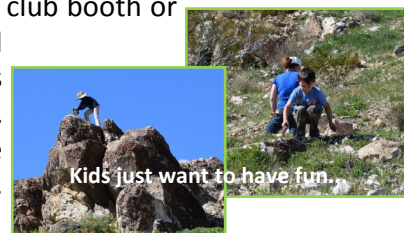
The Set-up Takes a Village!

Incredible "Tailgate", cont.

Special mention to those individuals to whom without their CRUCIAL availability and service our club booth would have had a rough time of being viable. Mo O'B. camped out with his rig providing three additional stove burners acting as my right-hand for morning coffee/hot water for chaffing pans and the go-to guy for on-site "cleaning" ☺. Mo awoke all three early mornings before 5am to keep me on track and on time for Vendor coffee and breakfast. Mo and Dale were our morning coffee "advertisers"

and also handled the Vendor breakfast sales. Also, I'm very grateful for our energetic president, Sandy and husband Ed S. for arriving each morning to operate the booth sales and activities throughout every day of the Tailgate. Great early morning support team!

"Shift-volunteer" members later in the day who dedicated their time serving in our club booth or with our "Pups" were Joyce D. Pam G., Fran L. (the clandestine dish washer and more☺) Jean O., Lynn B., Dwayna B., Val C., Yolanda F., Gabby M. and special thanks to Lia H. our Membership vice-president operating our club's membership table. The "Pups" arrived and with parental/adult supervision managed our "Spin the Wheel", "Grab Bags" and "Silent Auctions", everyone including the kids had a blast. Special mention to "Pup" Valary for her great "sales" technique for the "wheel".



Kids just want to have fun.



Darn rocks and nails

This year's "pressed-into-service" award goes to Board member Cory B., who did a FANTASTIC job in distributing our Vendor "donation" envelopes/thank you letter slips on Saturday afternoon. Cory set a NEW record! Over 70 envelopes handed out (he actually ran out, how could I even believe we would have over 70 Vendors?). And together with Board member Ruben M., acted as our club "ambassadors" thanking our Vendors for attending the 2017 Tailgate.

And in closing of this letter of my thanks and appreciation to all who donated their time, efforts, vehicles and items to our bake sale booth (and those members who donated \$ as Vendors!), I must confess my amazement and feeling of gratitude in our member's participation this year. My many commitments have prevented me from attending workshop days and a lot of other meetings over the past several years missing the opportunity to get to know our members better. To witness your support when I'm so absent around the clubhouse and to be amongst you all during this year's Tailgate has reaffirmed my strength to carry on and continue to offer my commitment as Chair of our 2018 Tailgate set for March 9th, 10th and 11th.

Our members have proven that together we can accomplish whatever needs to be done for our club!



Did you know that a rock is: An aggregate of one or more minerals, (such as granite, shale, marble) or a body of undifferentiated mineral matter, (such as obsidian) or a solid organic material, (such as coal). **Rocks** fall into three broadly defined groups: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic **rocks**.

Gabby Martinez worked with the Petrified Pups to earn their badges for collecting and volunteering the past few months. They drew pictures describing the for all of us to see, made mobiles using branch-use the all-you-needs and genies (depending learning about space and earth thanks to Joyce ites and tektites for a show and tell which was left samples of their collections in the display Thank you to everyone who participated.



cycle of a rock, displayed their favorite rocks es, wire and beads and have been learning to on their ages). Last month the Pups began DeGarmo. Members brought in their meteor-extremely informative and interesting. They case, please be sure to stop by and take a look.

The Pups program is going very well, thank you to all the parents and grandparents who see the value in what we are trying to accomplish, we love your kids! Kudos to you all. Fran & Dale you guys rock!

April 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 Petrified Pups 9am Workshop Noon to 5pm
2	3	4 Instructor's 6pm BOD Meeting 7pm	5 Workshop Noon to 5pm	6 Workshop Noon to 5pm	7	8 Workshop Noon to 5pm
9	10	11	12 Workshop Noon to 5pm	13	14	15 Petrified Pups 9am Workshop Noon to 5pm
Christ is Risen!	17	18 Education Night 7pm Wire-Wrap	19 Workshop Noon to 5pm	20 Workshop Noon to 5pm	21	22 Clean-up 9am Workshop Noon to 5pm
23	24	25 Potluck 6pm General Mtg 7pm	26 Workshop Noon to 5pm	27	28	29 Workshop Noon to 5pm
30						



Happy Birthday!

Corey Beck

Lia Hamilton

Bonnie Hemphill

Jean Osburn

Chrystal Schwebs

If I missed your name, my apologies, let me know and Dawn will add you to the list next month.

DATES TO WATCH THIS MONTH

4th - Instructors Meeting 6pm
Board Meeting 7pm
1st/15th - Petrified Pups 9am—11:30
18th - Education Night
22nd - Clean-Up Day 9am
25th - Potluck 6pm
General Meeting 7pm

Refer to the calendar for workshop hours. If you want extra time in the workshop on Wednesday's let Don know in advance and he will stay until 7pm on Wednesday's for your convenience. Thanks Don! Sunday's are by appointment only until June, contact Sandy or Ed at (760) 243-2330 or (760) 617-6001 to schedule your time.

760-243-2330

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Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club

Wire Wrap Class

With Corey Beck

Education Night
Tuesday, April 18, 2017
7:00 pm

Basic Supplies Needed:

- About 28" Dead soft or half-hard square 22 gauge silver wire (soft wire is easier to work with).
- About 36" Dead soft or half-hard half-round 21 gauge wire
- Round-nose pliers (nice to but not necessary)
- Wire Cutters
- Flat-nose pliers
- Painters tape
- Fine tipped permanent marker
- Measuring tape or ruler
- Thin-blade pocket knife
- Oval calibrated cabochon 25x18mm with flat edged girdle (side)



Note from Corey: I have very basic skills in wire wrapping, but what I can provide will set you in the right direction. Wire wrapping has a few very simple rules, but once you learn these basic skills you will grow with every stone you wrap. We made a pendant similar to the photo in March, but you can either finish your wrap or try a new one this month, the possibilities are endless. Hope to see you there... We will have some basic tools available if you don't have them or cannot afford to purchase right away, just bring cab and wire. German silver is great and less expensive to learn on and can be purchased at Hobby Lobby or Michael's.



SNAKES ALIVE!

Coming in June...

Local CFMS Club Shows

April 1 - 2: TORRANCE, CA

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society
Ken Miller Recreation Center
3341 Torrance Blvd (entrance on Madrona Ave)
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Contact: Nancy Pekarek, (310) 257-8152
Email: pekareks@hotmail.com
Website: southbaylapidaryandmineralsociety.com

April 7, 8 & 9: VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 North Santa Fe Avenue
Hours: 9 - 5 daily
Contact: Ray Pearce, (760) 535 5524
Email: raysrocks@cox.net
Website: www.vistarocks.org

April 22 - 23: THOUSAND OAKS, CA

Conejo Gem & Mineral Club
Borchard Park Community Center
190 Reino Road at Borchard Road
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Robert Sankovich, (805) 494-7734
Email: rmsorca@roadrunner.com
Website: www.cgamc.org

April 29 - 30: LANCASTER, CA

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Lancaster High School
44701 32nd Street West
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Website: www.avgem.weebly.com

May 5 - 7: YUCAIPA, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Yucaipa Music & Arts Festival
Yucaipa Blvd and Adams Street
Hours: Fri 6 - 9; Sat 12 - 10, Sun 12 - 6
Contact: Lee Peterson, (909) 794-0731
Website: www.yvgms.org

May 6 - 7: ANAHEIM, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4:30
Contact: Margaret Hogarth, 909 815-3045
Email: hogarth.m@gmail.com
Website: www.searchersrocks.org

June 2 - 4: LA HABRA, CA

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd.
Hours: Fri 5 - 8; Sat & Sun 10 - 5
Contact: Armando Perdoza, (909) 455-6800
Email: forestandson@yahoo.com
Website: www.nocgms.com

June 3 - 4: ESCONDIDO, CA

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club
California Center for the Arts
340 N. Escondido Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Dawn Vickers
Email: dawnjvickers@gmail.com
Website: www.palomargem.org [Show Page](#)

June 3 - 4, 2017: GLENDORA, CA

Glendora Gems
Goddard Middle School
859 E. Sierra Madre Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Bonnie Bidwell, (626) 963-4638
Email: ybidwell2@aol.com

VENTURA ROCKS THE NATION!

2017 CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention

Ventura County Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Boulevard
Hours: Fri & Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Diane Cook, (805) 312-8467
Email: info@vgms.org
Website: 2017CFMS-AFMSShow.com

For more information and shows outside the Southern California area, visit the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) website at: cfmsinc.org or ask Ruben Martinez your CFMS Representative.

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 12th of each

VVGM CLUB SCHEDULE

SHOP DAYS:

Wednesday & Thursday: Noon—5:00pm

Saturday: Noon—5:00pm Sunday by appointment

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



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