

# 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

Tristan, Jennetta & Rebecca Biberston

Mike and Chris Menelly, Curtis Miller

Faith Pelligrino, Jeremy & Christine Rivera and

Dennis Slolley

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 on February 21st. Ruben Martinez and Dwayna Barron gave an introductory presentation in preparation for a casting class. If you are interested in attending there are sign-ups at the club on the easel and they will be in contact with you for more information.

They will be doing the investing on March 18th at noon and will discuss the casting day at that time (probably the next weekend) on March 25th.

Materials needed for the class are your wax molds/patterns, investment (provided thru VVGMC) and silver. You can provide your own wax mold or go online to [auruswaxpatterns.com](http://auruswaxpatterns.com), go to index and select a mold or two. Let Dwayna know the page and pattern #, if you're ordering a ring, be sure to check the size, she will be placing an order on 3/6 to have them on time. Contact her via text message at 909-234-5533. Don't forget to tell her your name in the message, or email [treasurer@vvgmc.org](mailto:treasurer@vvgmc.org). The investment can be purchased at the club (up to \$1). Silver can be purchased on your own or will be sold at club the day of casting for cost. Have questions, give us a call. R & D

# March 2017



## Hello March!

A time of renewal and growth. Spring, time changes, St. Patrick's Day, lots of planning for the rest of

the year. Plan your time at the club; we have a couple instructors on trips at this time; so call the club before coming in to make sure someone is there for you. At this time the club will be open every other Sunday, and possibly every other Thursday, calling might save you an unnecessary trip.

The tailgate is scheduled for March 10-11-12, come out to support the vendors and give your time to bake goodies, set up and tear down. Our Pups will be out there to do their thing on grab bags and spin the wheel. Support our kids as they earn their badges and learn volunteerism, teamwork and have a great time visiting the vendors. They are doing great and their instructors are doing a wonderful job of training and teaching about our rock world.

Our Board is working hard to achieve the best plan for our club, should you have an opinion or suggestion, please let them know, the suggestion box by the door is one way to do that, don't forget to date and sign it or it will not be considered, or you may attend a board meeting or regular meeting to offer your suggestions.

Lastly, if you are interested in learning to do anything, there is a sign-up sheet at the club, we have people that can instruct on many facets of rocks, cabs, jewelry making, silver work, sphere making, and more.

Thank you to each and every person who assisted in any capacity this past month, you are an asset to our club. Please keep up the good work, we need you, you are valuable and greatly appreciated!

Happy learning and doing.

Sandy Skidmore, President

**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**

Best wishes to Janet Flecher, get well soon  
Our Condolences to the family and friends  
of Bob Menelly.

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 Pomeranke at 760-868-5264 or if you're in the club when Don is there, let him know.

**STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Education		
Gem Show		
CFMS Representative		
Wagon Master	Various Volunteers	
Petrified Pups	Gabby Martinez	
Historian		
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)		
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 Pomeranke, Chris Koch, Lia Hamilton, Mo O'Brien, Ed Skidmore, Ruben Martinez and Dwayna Barron

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORTS!

**IN MEMORIUM**



It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Robert "Bob" Menelly who passed on earlier this month. Bob has been an integral part of this club for many years

and was a lifetime member.

He was at the club frequently, often assisting in some capacity, repairing equipment, teaching someone to use the all-you-needs, wire-wrapping, intarsia or just showing his love of the lapidary arts in general.

He was known to come in to the club on shop days and have someone cut a rock and give most of the slabs away. Other times he would show his intarsia or dichroic glass skills and offer several pieces to those sitting around the table admiring his work. He was always willing to help those who wanted to learn.

Bob also owned Menelly Crafts and would sell useful items to the club members even if he had to drive home just to pick up a jewelers saw and some blades. Bob had a presence that is going to be missed by many of us. He loved VVGMC and wanted the best for the club and its members. Let's help his legacy live on: Volunteer!

**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.

# 41st Annual Tailgate at Stoddard Wells

## Ready, Set, Get Involved!

By Brett Ward

Tailgate Committee Chairman



Our membership is in final preparations to host our famous “mini-Quartzsite” of the Mojave Desert, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 5:00pm. No matter the weather conditions for our long weekend, everyone seems to thoroughly enjoy our Club’s unique, “old school” and laid-back event. But to insure our volunteer based organization can pull off another successful Tailgate and live up to the expectations of our annual vendors and visitors, showcase our Club pride to members of other clubs, and especially impress all the “first timers” to our Tailgate, we need every VVGMC member to get INvolved!

The “Pups” have planned to operate several traditional Club tables and games! Great news to see our youth members getting excited to participate! Small favors like bringing your favorite dessert to donate to our bake sale booth or great feats like being on site Sunday around 2:00pm to take down, pack up and haul the Club’s equipment BACK to the clubhouse. Somewhere, in some capacity, there’s a little something every member should be willing to contribute to the 2017 Tailgate enjoyable and successful.

Join us at our clubhouse on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8:00 am for coffee, juice and a “continental” breakfast as we gather together to load the Tailgate gear and supplies. We need all the extra “hands and horsepower” we can muster to load up and depart around 9:00am in a caravan out to the Tailgate site to raise up our Club’s main booth. We usually finish setting up our host booth and area around noon to 1:00pm. Please keep in mind the porta-potties won’t be delivered until Thursday morning, March 9<sup>th</sup>, but there’s usually a few vendors with RV’s who will “accommodate” us as necessary during the Wednesday set up.



Please also continue to circulate our 2017 Tailgate flier/map, share the dates of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> with friends on social media and other promotional methods. It’s great to see and hear from new vendors and visitors each year! Whatever your plans are to spend time at the Tailgate, whether camping out the whole weekend, setting up your own vendor tables, being a “day-tripper” or attending the Saturday field trip for marble varieties from 9:00am to 1:00pm, be sure to stop by the Club’s booth and “check-in” to see where you can be of help to keep our host operations flowing smooth! There is ALWAYS a need for our members to be of service in various areas. All you have to do is drop by our Club booth to choose where and what time you can plan to lend a hand... And literally that is all that is needed! Looking forward to seeing you there... Brett



your calendar.....

# The 41st annual Stoddard Wells ROCK HOUND "Tailgate" Victorville, CA

## March 10th, 11th and 12th, 2017

### 9 - 5:00 p.m. daily

FREE Event! - Everyone Welcome! - Public Invited!

All Vendor spaces are **FREE** on a first come basis (absolutely NO Holding of Spaces for a friend or Competing with Club's Fundraising Food and Drink Booth)

Handcrafted & Faceted Jewelry, Slabs & Cabs, Findings & Equipment, Minerals & Fossils and **TONS** of Rough Material.

Saturday FAMILY Field Trip: 9am-1pm for famous marble varieties.

Restrooms, Drycamping, Food, Snacks & Drinks, Silent Auction and

### Rocks - Rocks & More Rocks

Directions: From I-15 Northbound towards Barstow:

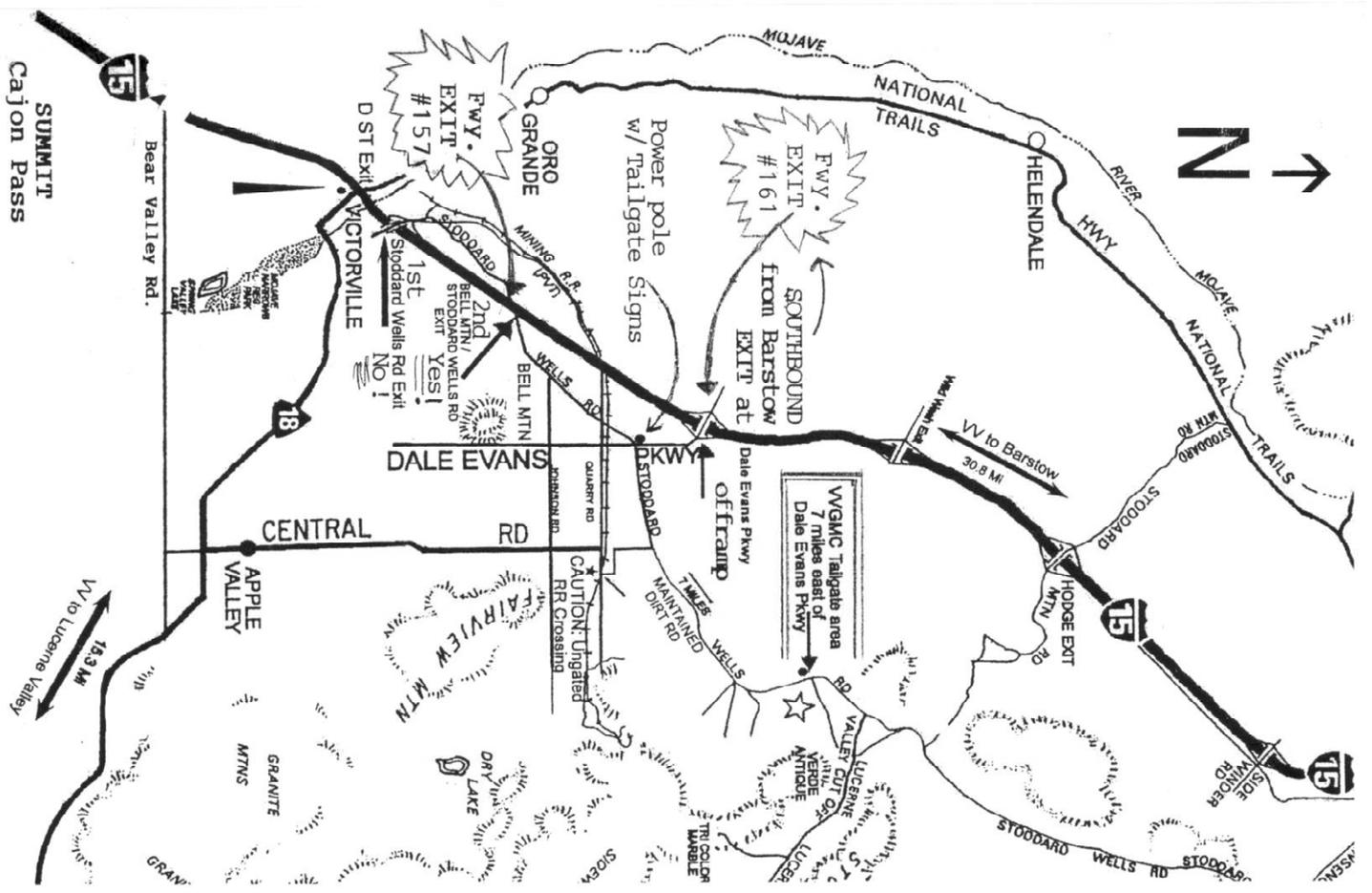
Hwy 15 North THRU Victorville! - EXIT Rt. At 2nd Stoddard Wells Rd at BELL Mtn. EXIT # 157. Turn Left/East at Ramp STOP Sign. STAY On Stoddard Wells Road 4 mi. until next STOP sign at Dale Evans Pkwy. "Tailgate" signs high on NW corner power pole. Check Odometer here! Continue Straight On Stoddard Wells Rd. 7 miles to "Tailgate". Road becomes a graded dirt road about 4/10 mi. from the Dale Evans Pkwy intersection. Proceed East/N/E past "Grange" fork to "Tailgate" site. Cars & RVs can make it w/ease & care. "Tailgate" signs along route.

DIRECTIONS FROM SURROUNDING AREA: See Map on Reverse.

**See You THERE!** Rain or Shine *We'll be There!*

Sponsored by the **Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club**

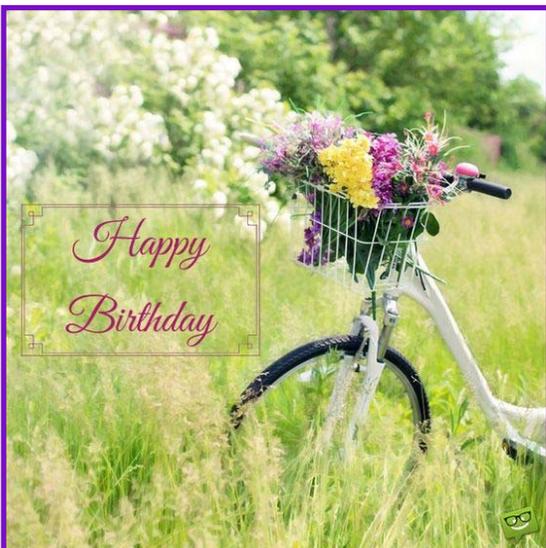
For more details visit Club Website at [www.vvymc.org](http://www.vvymc.org) or call (760) 243-2330



# March 2017

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

			1	2 Workshop Noon to 5pm	3	4 Petrified Pups 9am to 11:30 Workshop Noon to 5pm
5 Workshop By appt. only	6	7 Instructors Meeting 6pm Board Meet- ing 7pm	8 Workshop Noon to 5pm	9 <b>Closed thru Sunday for Tailgate</b>	10 <b>Closed thru Sunday for Tailgate</b>	11 <b>Closed thru Sunday for Tailgate</b>
12 <b>Closed thru Sunday for Tailgate</b>	13	14	15 Workshop Noon to 5pm	16 Workshop Noon to 5pm	17 <b>Happy St. Patrick's Day!</b>	18 Petrified Pups 9am Workshop Noon to 5pm Investment Class @ Noon
19 Workshop By appt. only	20	21 Education Night 7pm Wire-Wrap Class	22 Workshop Noon to 5pm	23 Workshop to 5pm	24	25 Workshop Noon to 5pm Casting Class @ Noon
26 Workshop By appt. only	27	28 Potluck 6pm General Meeting 7pm	29 Workshop Noon to 5pm	30 Workshop Noon to 5pm	31	



**Kathleen Boyd**

**Janet Flecher**

**Mary Lou Flecher**

**Ed Lechner**

**Dale Lorz**

**Ruben Martinez**

**Jonathan Michener**

**Lois Papner**

**Sandra Skidmore**

## DATES TO WATCH THIS MONTH

7th - Instructors Meeting 6pm  
Board Meeting 7pm  
4th/18th - Petrified Pups 9am—11:30  
21st - Education Night  
25th - Clean-Up Day 9am  
28th - 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.

# Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club

# Wire Wrap Class

With Corey Beck

## *Education Night*

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

and

Tuesday, April 18, 2017

### 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



**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 will make a pendant similar to the photo this first Tuesday night. 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.

**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 month for the following months publication.

## VVGMC 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

General Membership—4th Tuesday 7:00pm



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