

SAVE THE
DATES:

- Election Night
General Meeting Nov 28th
- December
12th - Christmas Party and
Installation of
Officers
- March 9-11th
42nd Annual
Rock Hound
TAILGATE at
Stoddard
Wells

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

President's Letter	2
Board and Committee's	2
Rock of the Month	3
Sunshine	3
Birthday's	3
What Else is Happening	4
Petrified Pups	4
What Being in Petrified Pups Meant to Me	4
Club Shows	5
General Info	6

The Bulletin

ISSUE 9

NOVEMBER 2017



1947-2017 Celebrating 70 years!

Can you believe it? Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club is half way through its 70th year! How amazing is that?

VVGMC has a long and rich history dating as far back as 1941, until the "fifteen Rock-nuts" as the then "Victor Press" deemed the founding members, formally incorporated in May 1947.

The club members went from meeting in homes, schools, parks or wherever they could find a place to eventually in 1952 purchasing our current site for the grand sum of \$1,500. A year later they bought the adjoining lot for \$10,000 through rummage sales, raffles, bake sales, etc. to establish the building fund. They even sold wrecked cars and parts in order to contribute to the

fund.

There were originally 2 bungalows that were bought from the school district and joined together to make the clubhouse holding their grand opening on September 1, 1961.

The following year in 1962 officials of the "Victor Press" had ground breaking ceremonies for the large commercial building in front of the club. They leased the building for the next 10 years followed by Kaman Bearing who has leased the building since.

Over the years our club has had many distinguishing awards and recognitions from "Most spectacular gem and mineral exhibit in the state" to "All American Club" recognized by the American Federation of Mineralogical

Societies for being one of the most outstanding clubs in the nation. Even last year we had several Petrified Pups from the youth program who one first place, second place and best in show for their handiwork at the San Bernardino County Fair.

A memorable quote from one of our Past Presidents, Elmer Rehme, on the occasion of the "Burn the Mortgage" dinner in 1974 that still rings true today, "let's celebrate and show our appreciation for the efforts of those good people who had a part in founding, building, and continuing the work. Their names and foresight should not be forgotten. Our building and property is a monument for the future generations of rockhounds to use and enjoy."

Election of Officers November 28th

Election of Officers will be held at the general meeting Tuesday, November 28th. Potluck dinner featuring traditional Thanksgiving foods (leftovers if you'd like) and members fellowship will precede the 7:00pm meeting at 6:00pm.

There are already names posted on the white board inside the club house of those willing to

serve for the 2018 fiscal year. It is a pleasure to see some new names. If you are willing to run for office we would love to see your name on the board; you must have been a member in good standing for one year as of election day.

More candidates please... Come in and sign-up!!

President:

Sandy Skidmore - Robert Slone
1st Vice President (Membership):

Corey Beck

Recording Secretary:

Lynne Bradshaw

Corresponding Secretary:

Treasurer:

Dwayna Barron

Board Member (2 yr term):

Dennis Sholley

President's Message



Sandy Skidmore
President

Happy Fall and along with that, Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Turkey season is upon us and the year is nearly over, Time to think about the upcoming elections, our Christmas Party and installation of new officers. Be sure to bring in something nice to donate for the auction. We're excited to once again be giving the Petrified Pups their well deserved badges that night as well, it's been a long time. Please come out to witness their achievements, and

support their efforts as they have worked very hard and the club should be very proud of each of them.

I wanted to give you some advance notice regarding the club schedule in the upcoming weeks: Oct. 28th is cleanup day, hope to see more of you there. We'd like to get things spruced up a bit in anticipation of the Holiday's. The club will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday from Nov. 19th through the 27th and during

the Christmas Holiday's to give our instructors a well-deserved break from Dec. 22nd to Jan. 3rd. The first Instructor's and Board meetings will be on Jan. 2, 2018 starting at 6:00 pm. And the pups will meet again on Sat., Jan. 6, 2018 at 9:00 am. If anything changes we will let you know.

Take care and we'll see you at the club or next meeting,

Sandy Skidmore,
President

If you have any questions, comments or just want to help, don't hesitate to contact your board members or committee chairs for assistance. Don't forget about the "Suggestion Box".

Consider being on the board or being a committee chair. Good things coming this next year; join in and be a voice for positive change!!

Board Members

President	Sandra Skidmore	760-617-6001	san2744@aol.com
1st VP Membership	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937	jladyhawk@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Val Costello	760-998-6394	vcroadrunner@yahoo.com
Corresponding Secretary	VACANT		
Treasurer	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533	treasurer@vvgmc.org
Board Members:	Ruben Martinez	760-490-8263	rmstonewalk54@gmail.com
	Corey Beck	760-221-5738	coreyb@beckoilinc.com

Committee Chairs

CFMS Director	Ruben Martinez	760-490-8263
Wagon Master	Various Volunteers	
Petrified Pups	Gabby Martinez	442-251-9997
Historian	Lynne Bradshaw	760-
Librarian	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
Newsletter	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Photography	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Sunshine	Marilyn Pomerence	760-868-5264
Displays	Don Pomerence	760-868-5264
Security	Sandy Skidmore	760-617-6001
Webmaster/Tech	Jim Fosse	760-245-8644
Tailgate	Brett Ward	760-243-2330 (club)

Instructors: Don Pomerence, Ed Skidmore, Ruben Martinez, Dwayna Barron, Chris Koch, Lia Hamilton and Corey Beck.

There are many vacant positions that need to be filled and while not so important to the rest of this year—Help start 2018 with a bang and sign-up to volunteer. Together let's make our club all that it can be! Let's shoot for the moon this next year and catch a star or two! TEAM—Together Everyone Achieves More.

Rock of the Month Feature: Calcite



Calcite is a rock-forming mineral with a chemical formula of CaCO_3 , and is a three on the Mohs scale of hardness and that makes it suitable as a low-hardness abrasive. It is extremely common and found throughout the world in sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous

rocks. Some geologists consider it to be a "ubiquitous mineral" - one that is found everywhere.

Calcite is the principal constituent of limestone and marble. These rocks are extremely common and make up a significant portion of Earth's crust. They serve as one of the largest carbon repositories on our planet.

The properties of calcite make it one of the most widely used minerals. It is used as a construction material, abrasive, agricultural soil treatment, construction aggregate, pigment, pharmaceutical and more. It has more uses than almost any

other mineral.

Limestone is a sedimentary rock composed primarily of calcite. It forms from both the chemical precipitation of calcium carbonate and the transformation of shell, coral, fecal and algal debris into calcite during diagenesis. Limestone also forms in caves from the precipitation of calcium carbonate.

Calcite is an amazing mineral.

There are so many uses from marble statues to antacids and paint to a white colored dust that adheres to the walls of coal mines to immobilize the coal dust. For more information on the many uses of Calcite visit geology.com

Sunshine

There have been several members that have been sick the past few weeks and have recovered as of print time, so we're very happy for each of you...

The following people are in urgent need of your prayers and well wishes:

Marilyn Pomeranke

Francis and Marie Gramata

Val Costello

Congratulations on your 39th Anniversary last month Ed & Sandy!

If you or a member you know of isn't feeling well or is celebrating a special occasion, contact Don Pomeranke until Marilyn is up and about again.



November Birthday Wishes



Nancy Flanders

Forever Sky Martinez

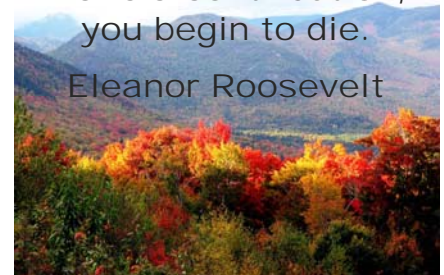
Jeffrey Owen

Brett Ward

We all hope that each of you have a happy birthday and that you make special memories while surrounded by family, good friends and lots of love.

When you cease to make a contribution, you begin to die.

Eleanor Roosevelt



What Else is Happening?

Being members of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Society of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS and AFMS) gives us as a club many things to think about. Yes, our insurance and dues each year, but other considerations such as the deadline to CFMS for Rockhound of the Year is now and AFMS by December 31st. We have opportunities to submit articles, enter the bulletin contests, website contests, All American Club contest, attend the earth science programs at Camp Zzyzx at Soda Springs and Camp Paradise at

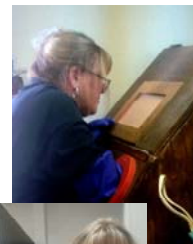
Clipper Mills in Northern California. Our junior members program and badges are sponsored by AFMS. We get BLM information from them, club shows, safety news and the opportunity to donate to the many funds that help these organizations continue to provide great programs to its member societies.

The BIG QUESTION... Do we as a club participate? If we do, we need your input and help to pull it off. This next year would be very cool to start with earning All American Club (we did it in 1977) and work on all the

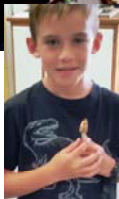
other things that make clubs great and fun. Field Trips would be one. Speaking of which, the pups are going to Barstow, Saturday, December 2nd to visit the 43rd Annual Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society Show and then off to the Discovery Center. They will be leaving the clubhouse at 9:00 am, all are invited.

Look at what Louise Harrington did. She used the sand blaster to create an Aerosmith logo on a mug. How fun is that?

Education Night has been going well this year. We have had classes in casting, cabochon making, silver-smithing, wire wrapping and more. Next year will be even better!



Petrified Pups Place



The Petrified Pups have been very busy this year and have completed quite a few projects. We are very proud of their efforts. They have learned safety procedures, earned badges for Collecting, Fossils, Showmanship, Earth in Space and more. They put together dinosaur puzzles that are hanging in the clubhouse and made dinosaurs complete in their environment.

In May, some of the boys competed

in the San Bernardino County Fair and won 5 first place ribbons, a second place and Best in Show for their cabochon making skills.

They made beaded projects, bugs, spiders and mobiles all the while learning about the different types of rocks and how they were formed.

Thank you to Gabby Martinez and Team: Joyce De Garmo, Dale and Fran Lorz, Michelle and Megan Miller, Ruben Martinez and Dwayna Barron.

And to the kids, parents and grandparents, we couldn't do it without your participation. We appreciate you!

It is our sincere desire that you come out for the Christmas Party and support the kids and their efforts this year. We are very proud of them and as a club we all should be. They are a testament to what our club is all about: Learn new things, new skills, visit, eat snacks and have fun doing it!

What Petrified Pups Has Meant to Me...

I have been in this kids club since I was in the 6th grade...I'm currently a senior in high school and certainly not tired of it. When I first joined, I was unsure how to fit in this new group of people who were passionate about rocks and Earth's processes. Eventually I started to get to know the other kids and parents better. What drew me to this club was all of the tools that allowed crafting of various lapidary pieces. The fact that you can use these

tools to make various creations in a local building allowed an opportunity that was one of a kind. This rock club has granted me an ability to take what would be just a boring old rock and turn it into something special. The field trips that the Petrified Pups also had to offer were unique. I have been to the La Brea Tar Pits for the first time and ventured the desert wilderness. Also, I have gained monumental knowledge on Earth's processes

and how they work as well. During my time at this establishment, I have gained even more appreciation of the Earth I stand on today than I did before. Now, I have the great honor of meeting and teaching the new generation of the petrified pups. These new kids are definitely here to learn and be able to craft many beautiful things out of rock. Teaching these kids has allowed me to have a better patience with myself and others. -Megan Miller

"This rock club has granted me an ability to take what would be just a boring old rock and turn it into something special"

CFMS SOCIETY/CLUB SHOWS

October 28 - 29: LOS ALTOS, CA

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society
Los Altos Youth Center
One North San Antonio Road
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Steve Jobe, (408) 834-5384
Email: steve_jobe@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.pggs.org [Show Page](#)

October 28 - 29: CAMBRIA, CA

San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club
Cambria Veterans Hall
1000 Main Street
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Kim Patrick Noyes, (805) 610-0603
Email: kimnoyes@gmail.com
Web Site: slogem.org

November 4 - 5: ANAHEIM, CA

American Opal Society
Business Expo Center
1960 S. Anaheim Way
Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5
Contact: Veronica Purpura, (714) 501-9959
Email: info@opalsociety.org
Website: www.opalsociety.org [Show Page](#)

November 4 - 5: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society
Desert Empire Fairgrounds
520 South Richmond Road
Hours: 9 - 5 daily
Contact: John DeRosa, (760) 375-7905
Email: jfrocks@dslextreme.com

November 18 - 19: LAKESIDE, CA

El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Lakeside Rodeo Grounds
12584 Maplevue Street
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Mary Ness, (619) 449-0759
Email: ecvgms@gmail.com
Website: www.ecvgms.org [Show Page](#)

November 18 - 19: OXNARD, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
Oxnard Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Contact: Stephanie Hagiwara, (805) 394-8002
Email: webmaster@oxnardgem.com
Website: <http://oxnardgem.com> [Show Page](#)

December 9 - 10: RIALTO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Near Rialto City Hall Lot
105 South Palm Avenue
Hours: 9 - Dusk daily
Contact: Jessica Pierson, (909) 381-0089
Email: OBMSTailgateInfo@gmail.com
Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com> [Show Page](#)

2018 SHOWS

January 20 - 21: EXETER, CA

Tule Gem & Mineral Society, Visalia
Exeter Veterans' Memorial Building
324 N. Kaweah Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Margaret Buchmann, (559) 799-6034
Email: margaretbu03@gmail.com
Website: www.tulegem.com

February 16 - 25: INDIO, CA

San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
82-503 Highway 111
Hours: 10 - 10 daily
Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

March 9, 10, 11: STODDARD WELLS, CA

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club
42nd Annual Rock Hound "Tailgate"
Vendor Spaces are Free on First Come Basis
Dry Camping, Field Trips, Rocks, Food and Fun
9am - 5pm Daily
Contact: Brett Ward (leave message) 7602-243-2330
Website: www.vvgmc.org

For more California Federation of Mineralogical Societies member club shows visit cfmsinc.org

THE BULLETIN is the official monthly newsletter published by the Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club and is distributed free of charge electronically 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.

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**.

Articles and pictures are due by the 10th of each month for the following months publication.

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

Club Clean Up Day—4th Saturday 9:00am

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club was founded in 1947 as a 501(c)4 Non-profit education club. Visitors are always welcome...

Our Objective and Purpose is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy and the earth sciences. To encourage study in these subjects through various programs. To arrange field trips for exploration, study, and collection of specimens. The preparation, publication and distribution of articles pertaining to these fields. The encouragement of interest of young people and fostering of classes in mineralogy and lapidary arts.

SHOP DAYS:

Wednesday & Thursday: Noon—5:00pm

Saturday: Noon—5:00pm Sunday by appt

Instructor Days Mondays & Fridays.



Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club

15056-B Seventh Street
Victorville, CA 92395-3811
760-243-2330