

SAVE THE  
DATES:

- May 1st  
Instructors  
6pm Board  
Meets 7pm
- May 15th Edu-  
cation Night—  
Don DePue of  
Diamond  
Pacific
- May 19-28  
County Fair—  
Demonstra-  
tions and  
Shop Time
- May 22nd  
Potluck 6pm  
General Mtg  
7pm
- No Clean -up  
Due to Fair

INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:

President's Letter	2
Board and Committee's	2
Rock of the Month- Minerals	3
Sunshine	3
Birthday's	3
"Shop Talk"	4
Club Shows	5
General Info	6

# The Bulletin

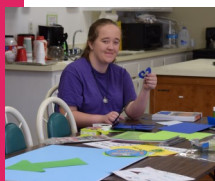
ISSUE 4

MAY 2018



## San Bernardino County Fair, May 19-28!

We're so excited because after many years of absence from the fair we are back. Thanks Ruben and Dwayna for contacting Jennifer and making arrangements for not only our attendance to demonstrate but helping the Pups and a few adults enter into the competition arena. It has been a very long time.



There are 5 Petrified Pups who entered their cabochons and 1 who is entering her wire wrapped cabochon. Also on the roster are 5 adults who entered their lapidary jewelry. This

is a great start to what we hope is another long relationship with the San Bernardino County Fair. Think GEM SHOW 2019.

We need your assistance to help with demonstrations. It is very important for the club's public relations that everyone available participate. You can bring what ever stones you want to work on and work away for 2 hours or more. We'll have at least one Genie, 2 All-You-Needs, a trim saw and a dop-pot. If we get an extra table, we may bring another Genie so more than one person can work. We additionally need those who will assist

with information, pass out flyers, and answer general questions.

The kids are going to work on All-You-Needs afternoons after school as available for the benefit of other kids and adults. We will attempt to train some of our members as well (like Sandy). It should be a lot of fun!

Shop Days that week are canceled so you can work the fair instead, however the fair is closed Tuesday and Wednesday, so the General Meeting is still on.

**SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!**



## What's Happening...

Let's do something new and different so says Joyce DeGarmo and what a great idea says I. For the time being, every Wednesday during shop time Joyce is going to be painting rocks for the "Spin the Wheel" game in anticipation of next year's tailgate. Glad to see someone



getting a jump on next year. Saturday I saw her and Michelle Miller doing their art and thought it looked like fun, unfortunately I was too busy to participate, but Aurora completed her cabochon for the fair which gave her some time to join in. This is an open invitation to bring your imagination, acrylic paints, brushes,

pens and bling if you wish and have some fun while getting to know one another.



We're working on providing more programs for you, if you want to learn something specific or you have a talent you wish to share with us, please let Sandy know so she can schedule it!



**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. We encourage you to use the "Suggestion Box". It's opened at every board meeting.*

**Consider being a committee chair. There are several positions available. Good things coming this year; join in and be a voice for positive change!!**

## President's Message

Hello All.

We have had some great times with the Petrified Pups, making crystals, and sandstone, and learning about the formation of rocks. They are now entering their projects into the fair. Last year they did amazing things. Speaking of the fair, the club will be having a booth to show the community what we are about. Our table will have some equipment and displays, and membership information. BUT, we

will need volunteers to man the booth. Several Pups have already volunteered to show people how we make a rock beautiful and useful. We will have a sign-up sheet for you to put in a time you can be there. If you put your name on the list, please be committed to being there we do not want the tables unmaned at any time. We have had a great time in the past talking to people and providing information on our club, so as a wonderful member,

please provide your expertise. On a sadder note, previous long-time member Jonathan Van Der Loop has passed away. We have classes coming up that should be very informative and fun, dichroic glass in June, wire-wrapping in July and wire bracelets August. For May education night, we have Don DePue from Diamond Pacific talking about the Foredom Flex Shaft and Rotary Tool and the Genies. Be sure to mark your calendars and join in for fun and fellowship.

Sandy Skidmore, President

## Board Members

President	Sandra Skidmore	760-617-6001	san2744@aol.com
1st VP Membership	Corey Beck	760-221-5738	coreyb@beckoilinc.com
Recording Secretary	Lynne Bradshaw	909-534-0364	smilynnebradshaw@icloud.com
Treasurer	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533	treasurer@vvgmc.org
Board Members:	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937	jladyhawk@gmail.com
	Dennis Sholley	951-206-6693	

## Committee Chairs

CFMS Director	Ruben Martinez	760-490-8263
Wagon Master	Various Volunteers	
P-etrieved Pups	Joyce DeGarmo	760-887-4066
Historian	Lynne Bradshaw	909-534-0364
Librarian	Lia Hamilton	760-780-7937
Newsletter	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Photography	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533
Sunshine	Don 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, Ruben Martinez, Dwayna Barron, Chris Koch, Lia Hamilton and Corey Beck.  
**Maintenance:** John Bradshaw

There are many vacant positions that need to be filled. Help make this year great and sign-up to volunteer. Together let's make our club all that it can be! Let's shoot for the moon this year and catch a star or two!

**TEAM**  
**Together Everyone**  
**Achieves More.**

# Rock of the Month: General Mineral Information

Every person uses products made from minerals every day. The salt that we add to our food is the mineral halite. Antacid tablets are made from the mineral calcite.

The cars that we drive, the roads that we travel, the buildings that we live in, and the fertilizers used to produce our food are all made using minerals. In the United States, about three trillion tons of mineral commodities are consumed each year to support the standard of living of 300 million citizens. That is about ten tons of mineral materials consumed for every person, every year.

To meet the definition of "mineral" used by most geologists,

a substance must meet five requirements:

- naturally occurring
- inorganic
- solid
- definite chemical composition
- ordered internal structure

"Naturally occurring" means that people did not make it. Steel is not a mineral because it is an alloy produced by people.

"Inorganic" means that the substance is not made by an organism. Wood and pearls are made by organisms and thus are not minerals. "Solid" means that it is not a liquid or a gas at standard

temperature and pressure.

"Definite chemical composition" means that all occurrences of that mineral have a chemical composition that varies within a specific limited range. For example: the mineral halite (known as "rock salt" when it is mined) has a chemical composition of NaCl. It is made up of an equal number of atoms of sodium and chlorine.

"Ordered internal structure" means that the atoms in a mineral are arranged in a systematic and repeating pattern. Halite is composed of an equal ratio of sodium and chlorine atoms arranged in a cubic pattern.

[More on Minerals in the June Bulletin](#)



Fluorite

## Sunshine

**A little spark of kindness can put a colossal burst of sunshine into someone's day!**

Another long-time member Jonathan Van Der Loop passed away this month, our condolences to his wife Priscilla and family. Memorial services will be held Thursday, May 26th at 11:00 am at High Desert Funeral Home, 16545 Bear Valley Road across from Desert Valley Hospital. All are welcome.

If you or a member you know of isn't feeling well or is celebrating a special occasion, contact Don Pomerence at 760-868-5264.

## May Birthday Wishes

Happy Birthday to everyone who is celebrating this month, 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.

**George Bloom**





Ruben Martinez,  
CFMS Director

### Coming in June:

Dichroic Glass Class  
with Dwayna Barron  
(Material Fee) TBA in  
May

### Coming in July:

Wire Wrap Class  
with Corey Beck

### Coming in August:

Let's make a twisted  
silver wire  
bracelet

**PLEASE SIGN UP** so  
we can provide the  
correct amount of  
materials.

## Shop Talk with Ruben Martinez

First of all let's give credit where it's due then we can move on with the subject at hand "A Touch of Solder" As a matter of mere circumstance I happened to pick up a copy of a March 1985 issue of Rock and Gem yesterday and read an article by Gerry Blair under the heading of SHOP TALK. The lightening bulb in my head went on and thus a feature in The Bulletin is born; me and my big mouth.

It gives me a great deal of satisfaction when I am fabricating and soldering a new piece, but as the article suggests; "every person who has heated a piece of metal has had good soldering days and bad soldering days. The thing is, the bad solder days are like grapes. They tend to come in bunches" And that would certainly apply to yours truly.

As I read the article, the

realization that I related all to well caused me to consider that there are many of us at the club who also can relate.

This is Gerry's article: "Most of us experienced metal workers can spot the start of a bad solder day early on. We are adding one last tiny decoration to rich Aunt Audrey's pendant when we get the torch tip a bit too close to the gallery wire made to hold the main stone and it melts. Or we are torching a complicated inlay framework and half of the pieces stick and half don't. Rational inspection, usually provides a logical explanation for the lack of soldering success. Here are some soldering basics I review periodically to keep me somewhat sane.

Most soldering failures occur because of unclean metal. Use fine steel

wool, sandpaper, or a file to remove surface oxidation. Use warm soapy water or alcohol to remove grease and oil.

Many solder failures occur because the joint is not tight. Solder will not fill a sloppy fit.

Some soldering failures happen because the flux used is weak, improperly applied, or the wrong type. Be sure the flux matches the metal.

A few solder failures are because of improper torching. Apply the heat to the part to be joined and heat each part equally. If you do not, the solder will rush to the hot spot and will ignore the less-hot spot."

If you struggle, ask an experienced instructor or we'll jump onto "You Tube" and figure it out together. Happy Soldering!

Ruben

### STARTING THIS MONTH!

A new feature in The Bulletin starting this month will be "Shop Talk" with Ruben Martinez and friends. In other words YOU are invited to contribute a "how to" article on a pertinent topic of your choice. It doesn't have to be long and can come from any source as long as you give credit to authors, articles, magazines, your own knowledge, etc. Turn your featured article in to Ruben anytime and I will use it sometime this year. You can email him at [rmstonewalk54@gmail.com](mailto:rmstonewalk54@gmail.com) if you wish. The Editor

# CFMS SOCIETY/CLUB SHOWS

PAGE 5

## **April 28 - 29: LANCASTER, CA**

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Lancaster High School  
44701 - 32nd Street West  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Susan Chaisson-Walblom, (661) 406-0143  
Email: [slchaisson@yahoo.com](mailto:slchaisson@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.avgem.weebly.com](http://www.avgem.weebly.com)

## **May 4, 5 & 6: YUCAIPA, CA**

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Yucaipa Music & Arts Festival  
Yucaipa Blvd and Adams St  
Hours: Fri 6 pm - 9 pm; Sat 12 noon - 10 pm, Sun 12 noon - 7 pm  
Contact: Lee Peterson, (909) 794-0731  
Email: [res09ayd@verizon.net](mailto:res09ayd@verizon.net)  
Website: [www.yvgms.org](http://www.yvgms.org)

## **May 5 - 6: 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](mailto:hogarth.m@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

## **June 8 - 10: 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: [forestandsun@yahoo.com](mailto:forestandsun@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.nocgms.com](http://www.nocgms.com)

## **June 9 - 10: ESCONDIDO, CA**

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club  
California Center for the Arts, Escondido  
340 N. Escondido Blvd.  
Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Michele Shephard  
Email: [pgmcshow@palomargem.org](mailto:pgmcshow@palomargem.org)  
Website: [www.palomargem.org](http://www.palomargem.org)

## **June 9 - 10, 2017: GLENDORA, CA**

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

## **June 23 - 24: CULVER CITY, CA**

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club  
Veterans Memorial Auditorium  
4117 Overland Blvd  
Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Contact: Janice Metz, (310) 850-4398  
Email: [janicemt看@yahoo.com](mailto:janicemt看@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.culvercityrocks.org](http://www.culvercityrocks.org)



These are the local CFMS shows, for other shows and locations visit their website at [cfmsinc.org](http://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:

1st & 4th Tuesday—Noon-5:00pm  
 Wednesday & Thursday: Noon—5:00pm  
 Saturday: Noon—5:00pm  
 Instructor Days Mondays & Fridays.



Catch us on the web!  
 vvgmc.org

#### Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club

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