

# THE BULLETIN

## Victor Valley Gem and Mineral

### What's Up?

### Calendar

The shop is open Thursday afternoon and Saturday noon-5 pm  
Instructors Meeting first Tuesday at 6 p.m. Board Meeting first Tuesday 7 P.M.

Education night third Tuesday.  
General meeting and potluck 6 P.M.  
fourth Tuesday. General meeting a

### January Birthdays

Louise Acherson      Joyce DeGarmo  
Cherilyn Heydorn    Sue Sutton  
Roland Heydorn  
Dottie Kauffman

### 44<sup>th</sup> Annual "Tailgate"

Friday - Sunday,  
March 13th, - 15th, 2020

### Contact Newsletter

I need information to fill the newsletter. Please let me know what you are going to send and submit it five days before the general meeting. Please send information or corrections to:  
adoug0714@gmail.com



New officers for 2020 are, from left, Lynne Bradshaw, secretary; Gayland Graves, board member; Ruben Martinez, vice president; Dwayna Barron, president; and Don Pomerence, board member.

### President's message

## Welcome to a new decade

By Dwayna Barron

### Incoming 2020 President

Welcome to 2020, the beginning of not only another new year but a new decade as well. Do you find it a bit hard to believe that we're already 20 years into the century, where does the time go? I hope and trust everyone was blessed throughout the holidays, have made their New Year's resolutions, gotten some rest and are ready to continue the fun from last year. As 2019 came to an end I found myself eager to get *(Continued on next page)*

# Officers, Committees

## President

Dwayna Barron

## Vice President

Ruben Martinez

## Secretary

Lynne Bradshaw

## Treasurer,

Dwayna Barron

## Board members

Don Pomeranke and Gayland Graves.

## INSTRUCTORS

Don Pomeranke, Lia Hamilton,  
Chris Koch, Dwayna Barron,  
Ruben Martinez,  
Cory Beck,  
Pups Joyce DeGarmo. ,

## Committee Chairpersons:

Sunshine, Displays, Don Pomeranke  
Photographer, Dwayna Barron  
Newsletter, Doug Arnold  
CFMS Director, Ruben Martinez

Saw Maintenance, John Bradshaw.

## President's message

### (from Page 1

started as your new President, so I've been busy making lists, talking to people and getting ready to take on the responsibility you've entrusted me with.

A big thank you to Sandra Skidmore for jumping into the fray back in 2016 and dedicating almost four years of her life to the club. She had many challenges during that time but managed through and with the board's help and volunteers to assist had many significant accomplishments during her tenure.

Now, as I look forward into the year, the agenda is lofty but attainable with everyone's help. Topping the list and perhaps most important starting out is our 44<sup>th</sup> Annual "Tailgate" in March. Volunteers are imperative to our success. Start thinking and planning how you would be willing to participate: Simple purchased desserts: cookies, donuts, apple/fruit pies or turnovers, apples, bananas and oranges sell well too. We will need assistance making some grab bags, setting up the 2 small pop up canopies, taking out tables and chairs and more. The board decided to have a committee plan the tailgate rather than have the burden on one person, it's a lot of work, but worth every second. We've already started to get inquiries, and vendor confirmations; this makes us very excited. - If you want to help out with planning, we need you, many hands make the load light. We have wagon masters for the field trip ready to go. The main food is taken care of thanks to Enrique (Nino) and Yolanda Flores and their food truck. Brett is putting out signs, cleaning up the property and getting the porta-potties. Thank you, Brett! Flyers have been printed and are being distributed by many people, there are more available in the club if you need them, your assistance in getting them out is important. Don't forget you can ask stores that you frequent, give to friends, call your local schools and ask if they will distribute to teachers and share with students. We will also need help for the silent auction and with the Petrified Pups activities too. Sign-ups will be out starting at the January General Meeting on Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup>.

(Continued on next page)



At the holiday dinner in December we celebrated a birthday. It was number 108 for Connie Weinberg!

# President's message

(from prior page)

The strategic planning committee will be working on branding, a media plan and setting goals for the next 3 years. I want to re-establish a security committee, work on safety issues and so much more. I'm calling out for people to take up the mantle volunteering for Hospitality, Auctions, Education and clean-up days. Clean up days come along with lunch afterwards to show our appreciation for your time and effort. If you can help during the day to assist with inventory, please let me know. Oh yes, field trips...Gayland is working on even more this year. I realize that some of you joined specifically for that reason and hopefully we'll add a long-distance overnight field trip into the mix.

If you think that I'm heavily applying the volunteerism mantra, you would be correct. I'm a firm believer in the TEAM spirit and all that comes with it. Together Everyone Achieves More is very real to me. It takes the entire membership who are able to make an organization successful (particularly because we don't have paid staff). I strongly believe in relationship, camaraderie, support, responsibility and reward. The other day the Daily Press printed an article that stated California has the lowest rate of volunteerism in the nation, however, that wasn't always the case. My hope is that this year our VVGMC members prove those numbers to be absolutely wrong, and honestly, we're off to a great start and I appreciate everything you all do, big or small, it's meaningful in my book! With all that said, please congratulate your new board and committee members, appreciate their service to the club, help when and where you can and let's have an awesome year

President  
Dwayna Barron,

## Brad's Bench Tips for December DIVIDERS

A set of dividers is a tool I find very useful in laying out the geometry of a piece I'm making. It has two needle-like tips with an adjustment to set the spacing between them.

They can be used to transfer a measurement. Let's say you need a 7mm wide strip of sheet metal. Set the spacing between the divider tips to 7 mm on the ruler. Then lay the sheet on the bench, put one tip against the edge, and run the dividers down the edge scribing a line parallel to the edge.

Dividers can let you quickly find the center of a circular disk. With one tip of the dividers at the edge of the disk, set the other tip to an estimate of where the center might be. Fix one tip of the dividers at the 3 o'clock position and scribe an arc with the other tip near the center. Do this again from the 6 o'clock, 9 o'clock, and 12 o'clock positions. The arcs at the center will form a small four-sided box, and the center of the box is at the center of the disk.



## Outgoing President's Letter

December 2019

By Sandra Skidmore

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all.**

This is my last letter as your president, I first want to congratulate the new board members. President Dwayna Barron, Vice President, Ruben Martinez, Secretary, Lynne Bradshaw, Treasurer, Dwayna Barron, Board members, Don Pomeranke, and Gayland Graves.

I am confident that this board are going to do a wonderful job of handling club business, and I wish them the best. You the members need to support them and keep the club flourishing.

The Strategic Planning Committee is committed to working on future goals, the by-law committee has finished the by-laws and have been approved, they are now working on the Policies. The tailgate planning is in full motion, and our Petrified Pups have done great things.

I want to thank each and every member, who supported me these three years, and all who did kitchen duty. Our potlucks and general meeting have been fun and delicious. Gayland Graves brought back our field trips, with more in the making as he is our new(continuing) Wagon Master. Our equipment has been kept in working condition, thanks to Ruben Martinez and John Bradshaw and Don Pomeranke in grinding room. The Pups have learned so much, thank you Joyce DeGarmo.

To those who have participated in clean up. Thank you, the last clean-up was great, thank you to Rose Padilla, Gary Osborn, Ruben Martinez, Lynne Bradshaw, Sasha Holtkamp, Don Pomeranke, Dwayna Barron. With so many, the work went quickly, with Rose and Sasha tearing the kitchen up, all is clean and bright. To all who helped in the past, THANK YOU.

As I close this letter, I did not complete all I had planned, due to circumstances, (I hope to learn not to fall). And the sadness is for all those we lost. We miss them. But their legacy is with the club and will be always.

Thank you for the experience, thank you for your support. Please participate and be there for the club and the new board.

**AND a very HAPPY 108th BIRTHDAY TO OUR CONNIE WIENBERG.**



*Aurora Cook and Dad Jonathan Cook. Aurora with her winnings at the San Bernardino County fair on her tri-colored marble cabochon she polished and silver wire wrapped. She won 1st place, Best of Class, Judges Choice and Best of Show.*

*She has also been awarded Jr. Rockhound of the Year from C.M.F.S.*

*Aurora Cook wrapped her heart shaped cabochon in brass. The cabochon had been given to her by Bryndon Michener.*



## Merry Christmas from the Petrified Pups By Joyce Degarmo

This past year the pups accomplished a lot, let me tell you about it.

\*At the fair the Petrified Pups had almost all blue ribbons. The 1 red ribbon competed against his bother, who won the blue.

\*In September we had a gold panning day. It was so much fun, and so many members helped to make it a great day. Gayland Graves, Don Pomerence, Chris Koch, Patti Deer, to name some.

\*We now have a Wagon Master, Garland Graves. The families were able to go on field trips to gather rocks, run around and enjoy the desert.

\*The Mojave Gem & Mineral Society just completed their annual show. The Johnson's, Keith, Kyle, Kate, Kenzie with mother Sara set up the collecting display for the Petrified Pups. For the rest of the month it is now in the display cabinet.

\* I want to thank my sister LaVella Tomlinson. She is with the Mojave Gem & Mineral society in Barstow. LaVella gives me support, encouragement, good will, guidance and improbably the single most important reason I am here.

\* The second most important person is Sandra Skidmore. Sandra and I work together to build and maintain a good solid program in a safe, positive and learning environment where the children can learn to appreciate the world around us, and have fun at the same time. We have worked very hard to accomplish this. I am so lucky to have you with me for this program Sandy. Thank you

- More members I would like to thank are;
- Dwayna has taught children to polish stunning cabochons. Ruben is on hand ensuring the equipment is in safe running condition, and slabbing rocks for the pups to work on.
- Gayland Graves comes in early his instructing days to help the children with their endeavors on the machines.
- Chris Koch has helped several of the pups to finish their stones beautifully. He also supplies half of Yeti Agates for the children.
- Don Pomerence has loaned us early man tools to study for badges.
- Pam Golightly has donated stone specimens for the pups.
- Doug and Sara Arnold also donated specimens and write about the pup's activities for the newsletter.
- Pattie Deer makes herself available and has held classes for the children on rock hardness.
- Thank you to the children who come and participate. I so enjoy teaching, having fun with you and encouraging you about our earth.



Thank you to everyone,

**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.

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**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:**

**Wednesdays by appointment (760) 868-5264**  
**Thursday : Noon - 5 p.m.**  
**Saturday: Noon - 5 p.m.**  
**Instructor Days: Mondays & Fridays**

**Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club**

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