No. 6 June 2021

THE BULLETIN

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club

President's message

Hello VVGMC Members,

Happy June and welcome to early summer... The heat is stifling, and it appears spring came and went with summer surely upon us. Is it too soon to start wishing for fall to hurry up and arrive?

URGENT NOTICE: Due to many factors, we will not be having Petrified Pups, General Meeting or Workshop this Saturday. Please take this weekend to enjoy Father's Day and other activities, we will resume workshop the following Saturday. Our general meeting will be next month on July 17th at noon. In celebration of summer and the end of masks and other restrictions, let's have our first potluck of the year, the club will supply pizzas and drinks, you all bring the fixings. There will also be no clean up day next weekend as the club is still in good condition. I will be working on getting some classes together for the summer and early fall. If there is something particular you want to learn, let me know. We have some great things in store for you.

Also, we're getting ready for the Tailgate at the end of September, hoping you already have it on your calendar and are spreading the word! Flyers will be available for distribution in the next week. Ruben and I distributed 450 flyers at the Vista show in April. There were several clubs present that were going to duplicate and pass them out at their shows and to their members. We've had a lot of positive response to having our show at the end of September. The weather may be warm during the day, but fantastic at night. No rain, mud, snow, sleet or freezing winds are expected, a big plus. At the July meeting we will start sign-ups requesting volunteers to assist in manning booths, taking equipment out to the site, setting up on Thursday and bringing it back to put it away on Sunday. Trucks, SUV's and a trailer are helpful vehicles, saves several trips.

Enrique and Yolanda have offered to do the food again this year and while they won't have the food truck, they will still be hosting the food booth and serving up deliciousness at great prices. Additionally, donations are being requested for the raffle and silent auction. More details will come at the July meeting.

Thank you to our instructors for their faithfulness for showing up and all they do, and equally to everyone who came in for clean-up last month, it is so appreciated when our members take time to assist with all the things that need to be taken care of. A special thank you to Ruben for repairing the fence, Janet Flecher and Jim Fosse for taking care of the electrical issue in the back and whatever else you guys do when no one is looking. I may not be there when things are going on, but I do notice and am grateful.

While I'm at it: To our board of directors, you guys all rock and are awesome people. Everyone has the club's best interest at heart and this makes everything smooth sailing. I could say more but will reserve it for our next meeting.

See you all soon,

Dwayna Barron President/Treasurer

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Officers, Committees

Board of Directors

Dwayna Barron - President/
Treasurer 909-234-5533
Ruben Martinez - 1st Vice-PresidentMembership 760-490-8263
Lynne Bradshaw - Recording
Secretary 909-534-0364
Sara Arnold - Corresponding
Secretary 760-221-3734
Gayland Graves - Board Member
760-902-3249
Board Member - Yolanda Flores
714-718-3181

Committees

Auctions - Lynne Bradshaw
Bulletin Editor - Doug Arnold
CFMS Director - Ruben Martinez
Displays - Board Members
Education - VACANT
Historian - Denise Millar
Hospitality - VACANT
Librarian - Denise Millar
Maintenance - John Bradshaw
Petrified Pups - Yolanda Flores
Photography - Denise Millar
Sunshine - Yolanda Flores
Tailgate - Committee
Wagon Master - Gayland Graves
Webmaster - Jim Fosse

Instructors

Dwayna Barron Gayland Graves
Lia Hamilton Chris Koch
Ruben Martinez Janet Flecher
Mary Lou Flecher

Brad's Bench Tips for June

DRILL PRESS VISE

A drill press vise is a versatile tool to hold a workpiece securely and in precise alignment. It reduces the of risks of working with high power motors, using larger drill bits, and dealing with heat generated in the operation. The vise can be clamped to the drill press table if needed and is quite handy for use at the bench to hold things for sawing or riveting.



You can find them at stores that carry machine tool supplies. My feeling is that the best ones are made from steel. In particular, I like the ones with V grooves cut into the jaw plates. That lets me hold a punch straight upright or hold a rod horizontal. To find a supplier, search on "drill press vise" at sites like micromark.com mscdirect.com/enco smallparts.com grizzly.com

DENTAL GOLD

You might think that a couple pieces of dental gold would be valuable, but if you only have a small amount, it can be a problem. Sending it to a refiner is expensive for small lots

I made the mistake of thinking I could melt it and roll out my own sheet. It turns out the trace metals in dental gold make it a good material in your mouth but cause it to crack if you try to forge it or roll it out as a sheet. They ruined my whole ingot.

So what to do with a couple gold crowns? A reasonable alternative is to try incorporating the metal into your jewelry. If you have enough material to do a casting, that's probably the best use for dental gold.

If you're not into casting, try melting it on a solder pad and while molten, divide it into small pieces with your solder pick. Then re-flow each piece to make little gold

Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems

Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems <u>amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith</u> See all of Brad's books on Amazon

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

Club Summer Schedule

1st Tuesday – Board Meeting – 4:00pm 1st and 3rd Saturday's Petrified Pups – 9:00am to 11:45am

3rd Saturday - General Meeting Noon to 1:30 Workshop after Gen. Meeting Workshop - Every Saturday - Noon to 5 pm, 2nd and 4th Sunday's Workshop - Noon to 6pm 4th Saturday Clean-up - 9am to Noon 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.









Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club

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