

SAVE THE DATES:

Oct. 16 Petrified Pups
Pups 9am
General Meeting Noon to 1:30
Theme Mexican food
Workshop 1:30 -6

Oct. 23 Clean up 9 a.m.

Nov, 2nd Instructors
Meeting 2:30 p.m.
Board Meeting 4 p.m.

Nov. 6th and 20th
Petrified Pups 9am

Nov 20th General
Meeting and Elections
noon to 1:30 p.m.
Theme: Hamburger Fest

Dec. 11 General Meeting
and Christmas Party and
Intro to new board
noon to 1:30 p.m.
Theme: Catered!

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The Bulletin

VICTOR VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB



DWAYNA BARRON
President

OCTOBER 2021

President's Message

Happy October to everyone, hope this month's newsletter finds you all in good health and prospering as 2021 is rapidly approaching its end. There's a chill in the air this morning as I sit down to begin writing this month's letter while enjoying a cup of freshly brewed hot coffee. I'm keenly aware that fall has arrived and while it is a welcomed relief from the sweltering heat of this past summer, it's also a reminder that winter will be knocking on our doors soon. With that in mind, don't forget to turn your clocks back at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 7th as Daylight Savings Time comes to an end.

Our 45th Annual Tailgate is now two weeks behind us and I think Ruben and I finally consider ourselves recovered from the hustle and bustle. While we do have a few residual things at home and at the club to put away (mostly rocks), we will call it a done deal for this year. Most of you know that we had some extraordinary expenses this year with replacing everything that was stolen out of the Pod at the beginning of the year, but this is what insurance is for, after adjustments, any amount they give us to offset our replacement costs will be a welcomed gift.

All things considered; the Tailgate was fairly successful. While we didn't have our usual 45+ vendors, most did well, some did exceptionally well I'm happy to report. Those people showed it with their donations and support of the food tent.

PETRIFIED PUPS

The pups have finished their cabs and will be working on the display for December. We have signed up three new students from the tailgate.

CFMS SOCIETY/CLUB SHOWS

November 6-7 2021 Ridgecrest CA
Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society
Desert Empire Fairgrounds
520 Richmond Rd,
Ridgecrest CA 93555
Sat. & Sun. 9 am - 5 pm
Fieldtrip Nov. 7 at 9 am
Free admission, Vendor spaces
Available. Geode purchasing &
Cutting, petroglyph slabs painting
Gems & minerals & jewelry
Contact (760) 375-7905
fjrocks@dslexreme.com

December 5 2021 - Lake Elsinore, CA Lake Elsinore Gem and Mineral Society Rock & Craft Winter Festival 32097 Corydon Rd, Lake Elsinore CA 92530 Hours: Sunday Dec. 5 10 am to 4 pm
Contact (909) 208-6956 berylman50@aol.com

Website facebook: Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society
These are the local CFMS shows. For other shows and locations visit cfmssinc.org

President's Message

Thank you to all who made contributions, every bit helped as expenses increased significantly this year, from the porta-potties to the food and everything in between.

A very special thank you to certain people that if it had not been for you, the Tailgate would have looked a lot different. Our landscaper Mike... if he had not mentioned to us that he had graded property earlier in the year on Stoddard Wells Road and put Ruben and I in touch with the owner of the property we were on, we weren't sure what we were going to do. Our usual property was uninhabitable until the very last minute, but that's a different story. However, thank you to Ms. Houser for agreeing to let us use her property for the week. What a truly nice human being she is. We had the privilege of meeting her on Saturday when she came for a visit with her five adorable grandchildren. Her and I walked the property, giving her a clear view of what we do and to see the potential in her property. Thank you, Marlo!

Helping with preset-up: A great big thank you to Robert Swenson who helped with so many things to get ready from making stakes, making signs to putting them out, marking the site and so much more

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 on a committee or chairperson. There are several positions available. Join in and be a voice for positive change at VVGMC!!

Board Members

President	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533	president@vvgmc.org
1st VP Membership	Ruben Martinez	760-490-8263	vp@vvgmc.org
Recording Secretary	Sara Arnold	760-221-3734	recording-secretary@vvgmc.org
Treasurer	Dwayna Barron	909-234-5533	treasurer@vvgmc.org
Board Members:	Yolanda Flores		

Committee Chairs

CFMS Director	Ruben Martinez	760-490-8263	cfms-rep@vvgmc.org	Instructors: Ruben Martinez Dwayna Barron Chris Koch Lia Hamilton Gayland Graves Janet Flecher Mary Lou Flecher Yolanda Flores
Wagon Master	Janet Flecher			
Petrified Pups	Yolanda Flores	714-718-3181	pups@vvgmc.org	
Historian	Denise Millar			
Librarian	Denise Millar			
Newsletter	Doug Arnold	661-208-0096	editor@vvgmc.org	
Photography	Denise Millar			
Sunshine	Yolanda Flores			
Displays	Board Members			
Security	Ruben Martinez & Louise Herington			
Webmaster/Tech	Jim Fosse	760-245-8644	info@vvgmc.org	
Tailgate	Board of Directors	760-243-2330 (club)		

Maintenance:
Ruben Martinez
Robert Swenson

What's Happening...

On Sunday October 10, the VVGMC held its first field trip since Covid restrictions were put into place. The trip was to a unknown section in the Lavic Siding collecting area where high levels of jasper, chalcedony, and jasp-agate that Lavic Siding is famous for were found.

The day was the perfect day to be in the desert with temps in the mid 70's, no wind, and a deep blue sky, 26 rock collectors including 4 children attended. This also included folks from Bakersfield and Torrance. The only problem was when the truck owned and driven by the trip leader refused to start (dead starter) and the truck had to be towed out to the highway. Attendees chipped in and this was easily accomplished. The trip leaders and the club want to extend a deep thanks to the folks who stepped forward and made the rescue possible.

Janet Flecher

Wagon Master



Sunshine

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

Lia had therapy for her knee and is at home now and is doing fine.

Please let me know if anyone hears of any of our members that are under the weather.

Sunshine

Yolanda Flores

President's Letter, cont.

He made several trips with us to scope out property, discuss food with Yolanda, and I don't think I know the whole of it. We are really quite grateful for all your efforts and hard work.

To Joseph Washington who had only been a member a week, you are not only a nice guy but very helpful to Ruben, he so enjoyed your company. Janet and Mary Lou Flecher, you were helpful in big and little ways and we're very grateful to you both for your assistance. Denise Millar for painting extra signs and Pam Golightly who is ever so faithful to help take things out to the site, provide goodies and be of service where you can. Sasha and Thomas Holtkamp: thank you for coming to help set-up in spite of how you were feeling, you knew you were needed and rose to the occasion.

I hope I didn't leave anyone out, if I did, let me know because it is important to me that everyone know who you are. I'm not leaving Yolanda out as she was shopping for last minute food and came out later with her children to prepare the food booth for Friday morning breakfast burritos. A giant thanks to Steve Peltier, you're the best of the best Steve. Not a member of our club, but he got up every morning at dark thirty to make coffee. He also set up a PA system so that we could make announcements throughout each day. What a difference it made! Even Roadhouse Ron who lullabied me to sleep Friday night. Steve and Linda for feeding me Saturday night. What a pleasure. Others: Kathryn and Betty, Jim and Sherry, Dave and Liz. How it was our pleasure to get to know you all or know you even better. We appreciate you guys more than you know. Ray Pierce... We love you!

There are so many things that go on behind the scenes that few people actually see. Yolanda Martinez Flores and Sasha Holtkamp... I have nothing but a deep appreciation and admiration for what you did, how you handled things and kept the wheels of the food tent moving along seamlessly even when the pressure was on. Everyone loved you, the food you made and your attitudes. How grateful I am to you both. A note of observation; you worked together like you had been doing this all your lives (they are sisters for those of you who didn't know). The other sisters... Lynne Bradshaw and Nancy Napier for your help. You are not only helpful but a lot of fun as well, thank you! John Bradshaw, you are a dear man. He spent time raking a path to the porta potty behind the food tent so people could get back there without tripping and falling over sticks. Thank you to Doug and Sara for the goodies and your support.

Dave and Lorie who have been members only a short time jumped in and worked themselves into exhaustion all three days taking care of memberships, the silent auction Saturday and Sunday and the grab bags. Dave helped take everything out to the site and with Lorie helped take it all back to the club staying to help put it all away. Dave came out on Thursday to load vehicles and get it all out to the site and set it all up. I can't thank these two enough. It is worth mentioning here that three individual memberships, five couples and three pups signed up for a total of 16 new members. That is how it's done folks! Bring your friends and sign them up...

Thank you to Dean Brunell for security and being a general all-around helpful guy, we didn't forget you. I would be remiss for not thanking other people who assisted Ruben regarding the field trip. Jim Fosse sent coordinates, Blaine and Judy Witte went out with him and found a collection site, Dale and Fran Lorz who also went out to find the illusive site and to Rex Nishimura and his family from the Pasadena Lapidary Society. Rex was responsible for getting out to the original site and finding great specimen and cutting material. Rex, you really are a Rock Star. He is Pasadena's Field Trip Chair and is a great resource for the high desert. We can't thank you enough for coming out and bringing your family and club with you.

We went to the Vista show the following weekend and people were commenting to us how few members they noticed participated in the tailgate. That is an unfortunate observation. We really do want people to notice the opposite and have a positive perspective on our club.

If it were not for every single member of Ruben's family showing up to cook, help with either the set-up or tear-down or both then taking it back to the club and putting it away, that would have all been a two or three-day process for a very few select. We owe those kids and the grandkids a huge debt of gratitude for the third year in a row. These are not all members but do it at the bequest of their father whom they love: The Flores family; Enrique, Yolanda, Damian, Sammy and Val. The Holtkamps; Sasha, Thomas and Alex. The Martinez family; Cy, Gabby, Leo and Gabriel. How blessed he is and how blessed I am to be able to partake.

For everyone that helped in any part even the non-members, how appreciative we are. Ruben worked tirelessly for weeks; without his partnership this would have been so much more difficult.

The October meeting is this Saturday, and the theme is Mexican Food. Now, I know there are some great cooks in this club, can't wait to see (and taste) what you bring. While Del Taco is next door and an easy fix for some of you, lol... I'll leave it at that.

Reminder: Elections are coming on Saturday, November 20th at noon. We generally have a traditional Thanksgiving Potluck however, we have 3 boxes of hamburgers, buns and condiments galore left from the tailgate, so we are having a Burger-Fest instead. It will be another opportunity to use that beautiful grill we bought.

We changed the date for the Christmas party to the 2nd Saturday, December 11th so that we're not so close to Christmas. This year we will attempt to have it catered (at least most of it) and have the traditional installation of officers for the 2022 year along with presenting any badges the pups earned this year. We have some really nice rocks that were donated at the tailgate, and we will be auctioning them off as well. If you would donate some nice rocks and finished jewelry, or other rock-related items, we would be grateful.

There are more field trips and classes coming soon. Watch your email and the website for updates as they come.

Hope to see you Saturday and any future events.

Bench Tips for October

BenchTips@yahoo.com



LAYOUT TOOLS

Dimensions on some features of a design can be fluid while others must be accurate for the design to work. When precision on a piece is important, good layout techniques are essential.

These are the tools that I rely upon to get holes in the right place, to achieve correct angles, and to cut pieces the correct length.

I like crisp sharp lines to follow, so I often coat surfaces with a dark marker and scribe my layout lines onto the metal. A square makes quick work of checking right angles or marking where to cut, and the thin center punch helps me mark a place to drill holes exactly where I want them.

INVENTORY RECORD

In an ideal world each of us who sells their jewelry has a good record with photos of all pieces in our inventory. We use it for insurance purposes, to record the cost to produce, to note where the item was sent out on consignment, and maybe to store descriptive text for marketing. Eventually, we note in the record when the piece was sold and for how much.

It's nice to also have good pictures of each piece, but sometimes we don't have time for a full-on photo session. In situations like this it's worth doing a quick group shot with the help of a phone, a camera, a scanner, or even a color copier. The quality is at least sufficient for an accurate identification in case a piece is lost.

Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems

Check out all of Brad's books on Amazon

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Instructors Meeting—1st Tuesday 2:30pm
Board of Directors—1st Tuesday 4:00pm
Potluck and General Membership Meeting—
3rd Saturday Noon to 1:30pm
Club Clean Up Day—4th Saturday 9:00am

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

Catch us on the web!
vvgmc.org



SHOP DAYS:

Saturdays: Noon—5:00pm
3rd Saturday following General Meeting 1:30-5:00pm
2nd and 4th Sunday—Noon to 6pm

Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club
15056-B Seventh Street
Victorville, CA 92395-3811
760-243-2330

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