

# THE BULLETIN

## Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club

### Calendar

- The shop is open Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday noon-5 pm.
- Instructors Meeting first Tuesday at 6 p.m.
- Board Meeting first Tuesday 7 P.M.
- Education night third Tuesday at 7.
- General potluck and General Meeting fourth Tuesday. Potluck 6 p.m. meeting at 7 p.m..
- Pebble Pups 1st & 2nd Saturdays of the month

### Instructors

Dwayna Barron    Gayland Graves  
Lia Hamilton      Chris Koch  
Ruben Martinez  
Don Pomerence

### Pot Luck Themes

March - Irish Food - St. Patrick's Day  
April - Mexican Food - Cinco de Mayo  
May - Favorite Casserole Night  
June - Tropical Foods - Hawaiian Night  
July - BBQ Night - 4th of July Celebration  
August - Salad and Sandwich Night - It's Summer and Hot  
September - Chinese Food Night  
October - Harvest Food Night  
November - Thanksgiving - We provide the Turkey/Stuffing  
December - Christmas Party - We provide the meal

## Pebble Pups Erupts



By Joyce DeGarmo

Amazing, the volcano erupted right on schedule the 1st day of February. Of course the Pebble Pups on hand primed it & got it flowing.

Picture shows most of the Micheners on hand, beginning with Lily Zander. Peeking under Zander's

arm is oldest son Bryndon with father Bryndon keeping a close eye on proceedings. The blue plaid belongs to Keith Johnson, not to be left out of the event

## Shop Talk by Ruben Martinez

### Guidelines for a Successful Field Trip

Both field trip members and field trip leaders should be familiar with these simple suggestions. Try to follow them to make our field trip fun and smooth running for you, the participants and for the field trip leaders. These guidelines apply to most outings.

1. Be on-time to the designated meeting place and ready to go.
2. Sign-in on the sign-in sheet so we know that you have joined us.
3. Sign the appropriate waiver form.
4. Listen to all instructions given by the field trip leaders.
5. Field trip leaders typically use cell phones. If you are using your cell phone, consider exchanging numbers with others in the group, most particularly the leaders.
6. When in convoy, follow the vehicle immediately in front of you and keep an eye on the vehicle immediately behind you. Do not pass the vehicle in front of you. If you no

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## **President's message**

### **Officers, Committees**

#### **Board of Directors**

Dwayna Barron - President/  
Treasurer 909-234-5533  
Ruben Martinez - 1st Vice-President-  
Membership 760-490-8263  
Lynne Bradshaw - Recording  
Secretary 909-534-0364  
Sara Arnold - Corresponding  
Secretary 760-221-3734  
Don Pomeranke - Board Member  
760-596-7424  
Gayland Graves - Board Member  
760-902-3249  
Sandra Skidmore - Past President  
760-617-6001

#### **Committees**

Auctions - VACANT  
Bulletin Editor - Doug Arnold  
CFMS Director - Ruben Martinez  
Displays - Don Pomeranke  
Education - VACANT  
Historian - Denise Millar  
Hospitality - VACANT  
Librarian - Denise Millar  
Maintenance - John Bradshaw  
Petrified Pups - Joyce DeGarmo  
Photography - Rose Padilla  
Social Media - Sasha Holtkamp  
Sunshine - Don Pomeranke  
Tailgate - Committee  
Wagon Master - Gayland Graves  
Webmaster - Jim Fosse

### **Strategic Planning Committee**

Dwayna Barron  
Sasha Holtkamp  
Sharon Mabon  
Ruben Martinez  
Don Pomeranke  
Sandra Skidmore

Welcome VVGMC members to March 2020.

It is an awesome time; winter seems like it's trying to come to an end and

spring appears on the horizon, but then we've all been fooled before. It's the month for St. Patrick's Day celebrations and a host of other holiday's celebrated all around the country. But one of my favorite celebrations will take place here locally in just two and a half weeks - we are about to embark on our 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Stoddard Wells Tailgate and all that goes with it. I hope you are just as excited. From what I hear, a few of our members will be first time vendors, what a thrill and I wish you all great success. So far, things are well under way and great care has been made to ensure we have vendors and attendees alike. In any case, we are poised for an excellent event, so let's all agree that the weather will be exceptional this year.

If you haven't yet signed up to assist, please do so right away. We may not be cooking and serving food, however there are many areas that need coverage. The silent auction, the grab bags, membership table, set-up and tear down, even the Petrified Pups will need assistance. Some help is available to get it all out there, but we also need to be sure we have enough people to get everything back to the club in one trip, everyone is tired by Sunday afternoon, meaning extra trips have proven to be overwhelming. It's every member's responsibility to volunteer in order for our functions to be successful. If you haven't had a chance to look at the write-up on Rock and Gem's website, please do so, the article is very good thanks to their editor Antoinette. <https://www.rockngem.com/club-spotlight-victor-valley-gem-and-mineral-club-vvgmc/>

Thank you, Joyce, Sandra, Lynne, Sarah Johnson and her kid's, along with Jonathan and Aurora Cook for getting the grab bags completed. We have 295 \$2.00 bags and 62 \$5.00 bags, woohoo team, you all rock! This will pay for the rocks that were purchased last year and the bags we got this year with a little left over to go toward other expenses. The kids are also going to operate the "spin the wheel" game, the proceeds will go to their program. **WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS** for the Spin the Wheel game and the silent auction. Unusual rocks, jewelry, small toys, etc. are great items. We also need purchased desserts and fruit brought in on Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning before 9am to take out with us. Fruit and berry pies or turnovers are great sellers as is pumpkin pie and cookies. Don't forget to bring some sugar-free and gluten-free things for those who can't eat regular sweets, I know the thoughtfulness is appreciated.

This month we had a lot of fun for Education Night and a great class making three different wire clasps. It occurred to me that maybe we should have some daytime classes as well for those that don't do night-time classes. After learning to make different components with wire, we should then have a class to put it all together. I love fabricating metal and am sure others do too. Let's talk about it at the meeting, I'm interested in your thoughts.

Thank you as always to the clean-up crew this past Saturday. Gary, Ruben, Lynne, John, Louise, Gayland and yours truly. Brett came in to assist with finding things in the pod for the Tailgate, so a big thank you for that as well. You guys are awesome!

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# Desert users need to get fire permits

Did you know that we are now required to have a California Campfire Permit yearly when on federal public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management or the USDA Forest Service? National and State Parks also require special campfire permits.

“Campfire” for their purposes means a fire which is used for cooking, personal warmth, lighting, ceremonial, or aesthetic purposes, including fires contained within outdoor fireplaces and enclosed stoves with flues or chimneys, stoves using jellied, liquid, solid, or gaseous fuels, portable BBQ pits and space heating devices, which are used outside any structure.

It’s a very simple process and will only take about 10-15 minutes of time. Go to [www.PreventWildfireCA.org](http://www.PreventWildfireCA.org) for more information. You will need to register your name, address and email, watch a 2½ minute video, answer 8 simple questions and you can print the permit or save it to a device and have it available wherever you are. We’ve never had a problem and this year will not be the exception. The laws are changing rapidly, let’s be legal and do our part in being safe out in the desert.

Thank you for being conscientious club members and being an example of excellence and safety for all our visitors.

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Thank you everyone for volunteering to help our club be successful. Many people have gone before us to establish a solid foundation from which we have been able to grow from.

They’ve left us with knowledge, financial stability, a clubhouse and equipment that is not easily come by. I have talked to several people lately whose clubs don’t have nearly as much as much to offer their members as we have. I hope you are appreciative and thankful because we are truly a blessed organization. This year my hope is that we can document and take pictures of all our activities so that we can enter the C.F.M.S. All American Club contest at the end of the year. We accomplished a great deal last year and I want the momentum to continue into this year. I believe in our club and in each of YOU!

See you at the Tailgate,  
Dwayna Barron  
President

## *Shop Talk Continued from page 1*

longer see the vehicle behind you, stop and wait; there could be a problem and they might not have a cell phone that can reach the leaders. By doing this, having a large “break” in the convoy can be minimized.

7. Once at our collection site, a sample of what to find and where to find it will be made available by the field trip leader.
8. Remember to pay attention to your field trip leader’s directions and guidance; they are more familiar with the territory.
9. If you are going to leave the group to make a “side trip”

or to explore a surrounding area, be sure to notify your field trip leader.

10. If you are leaving the group early, let your field trip leaders know.

## Some Etiquette and Safety Tips

1. Do not litter! Pick up all of your cans, bottles and lunch sacks. Always leave the place cleaner than when you arrived.
2. Be sure to bury any toilet tissue
3. Try to stay on existing roads when traveling, and park to the side of the road so others can get around your vehicle to pass if necessary.
4. Maintain a good attitude, use common sense and have fun!

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# Grab Bags Are Completed!

Thank you Sandra for leading the team to put the grab bags together along with Joyce, Lynne, the Johnson's and the Cook's while I printed and cut out the information insert sheets. Always a great day when something important is accomplished!



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## Equipment Checklist

Following is a list of items to take on our next field trip at Stoddard Wells.

### For Yourself

- Hat/Head Covering with large brim
- Jacket
- Boots/Sturdy footwear
- Sunscreen
- Food, Plenty of Water, Drinks
- Toilet Paper
- Clothing should be a long-sleeve shirt and long pants
- Handi Wipes
- Trash Bags
- Binoculars/Camera

### For Your Vehicle (recommended)

- Gas in your tank
- Spare tire and jack
- Shovel (in case you have to dig your vehicle out

- of the sand)
- Can of Fix a Flat/Tire Repair kit
- Extra water
- Knife

### For Collecting

(Some items are optional, you decide what you will need).

- Protective eyewear
- Gloves
- Knee-pads if you're planning on kneeling and can't handle rocky ground
- 5-gallon buckets, tote bag, backpacks (for carrying rocks)
- Spray bottle of water for exposing specimen
- Paper towels, newspaper and plastic bags to wrap your rocks
- Small or collapsible shovel
- Rock pick, garden claws and long screwdrivers
- Small and large sledge hammers
- Pry bar
- Various chisel sizes

## Contact 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

## March Birthdays

Kathleen Boyd	Janet Fleeter
Mary Lou Flecher	Gayland Graves
Kyle Johnson	Ruben Martinez
Lois Papner	Sandra Skidmore



**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.

**Catch us on the web!**  
**vvgmc.org**



**Shop Days**

**Wednesdays: Noon - 5 p.m.**

**Thursday: Noon - 5 p.m.**

**Saturday: Noon - 5 p.m.**

**Instructor Days: Monday & Fridays**

**Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club**

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