



SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY
Las Vegas, Nevada

The Polished Slab

Volume 63, Issue 3

March 2003

Message From The President *Craig A. Edmonds*

Dear Members and Friends,

We have made some important decisions at the February meeting and there is more to follow in the proceeding months. Our new name is the SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY. Our club colors are Turquoise and Silver, club gemstone is Turquoise, and club motto is Rocks-R US. We have decided to leave the newsletter titled the Polished Slab.

I would like to thank everyone who was nominated and who ran in our elections. Congratulations to Frank Auerswald, Priscilla Messenger, Dave Finch, Nancy Tatom, Rick Kasky, Art Lory, George Messenger and Bruce Wingate. These our new officers and board members and they will be leading us into the future. Talk to them and express your thoughts and ideas with them.

Our shop foremen are Ed Rupprecht, Carl Richwine and Patrick Leary. They are in the process of updating and repairing the shop equipment. At our March meeting they will be presenting a quote to repair and replace some of the equipment. They will be able to answer any questions you have at the meeting. If you have not been to the shop please stop by and they will show you around.

In merging our clubs I have been in contact with Mike Kokinos. Mike is the tax advisor for the California Federation of Mineralogical society. He answered many of the questions I had during the merger. This is one of the many things the CFMS do for us. The board has decided to donate \$100.00 in the name of Mike Kikinos to the CFMS Endowment Fund. The money will stay, as principal and only the interest acquired will be used

for programs and services of the CFMS.

I would like to thank Glen Beye and Camilla Restrepo for accepting the position of co-chairmen of our shows. Camillia is also doing special events and publicity and Glen is also doing membership. Take the time to assist them whenever they need the help.

Ellen Reeves almost has our website up and running and is working on the finishing touches. Will have the site address for you as soon as it's approved.

Final cut off for membership dues is March 1. If you have not paid your dues by then you will not receive the April newsletter. Thank You everyone for your hard work so far this year.

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Director's Meeting Notes for February 2003

Priscilla Messenger, Secretary

President Craig Edmonds called the meeting to order at 7 PM and welcomed all the new officers of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society. Seventeen people were in attendance. Corrections of the General Meeting Notes were made and then accepted. Craig announced that Co-Chairman of the Gem Shows Committee would be Glen Beye and Camilla Restrepo. It was decided to reimburse the Field Trip Chairman, Bruce Wingate, 20 cents per mile for exploratory trips to determine that no access roads had been washed out or blocked. etc. A cap of \$100 per month was set and long trips over 300 miles round trip must be pre-approved by the Board of Directors.

Glen Beye and his Telephone Committee will contact members who must pay their annual dues before March or be dropped from the club roster.

The California Federation of Mineral Societies annual dues will be paid in March, and \$100 will be donated to the CFMS Endowment Fund in the name of the tax advisor, Michael Kokinos, who has assisted us in the legal considerations of our recent merger. Ellen Reeves has the new club website set up and has submitted the application for the new domain name. She will work with Larry Foutz, the newsletter editor, to link that publication to the website.

Bruce Wingate, Field Trip Chair, will arrange for chicken, charcoal, aluminum foil and other supplies for the Burro Creek Potluck Cookout on Saturday, April 12th. Patrick Leary will provide

boxes of firewood.

Bruce is trying to organize the material he has been given on past field trips and still must contact Beth Cardin for her materials.

Craig reported that the club earned \$441 at the Cloud's Jamboree Show in Avi in January. He also noted that the ten older showcases were all sold at the last general meeting.

Treasurer David Finch gave his monthly report and further discussion of the Prudential investments to earn money to help defray club costs ensued.

Patrick Leary discussed the proposed workshop budget and reported he is checking for discounts on equipment with Roy Beeson, Bob Heim and Glen Beye.

Club members must vote on these expenditures. A discussion of workshop fees followed. Vice-President Frank Auerswald reported that the club purchased 200 pounds of larger geodes and an obsidian globe for a club raffle at the Quartzsite show.

Mona Howells, Heritage Museum Show coordinator, will check to see if our club could take over the food concession at that show. Glen Beye will check on club name tags with names in large letters on a contrasting background. The purchase of supplies for silversmithing classes by Mona Howells was approved. Class participants buy these supplies at the classes so the treasury will be reimbursed over time. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

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Minutes of the General Meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society for February 2003

Priscilla Messenger, Secretary

We began our meeting with our Pledge of Allegiance, exchange of greetings and a moment of silence honoring the Columbia astronauts.

Tom Skeary, Chairman of the Nominations Committee, handed out the election ballots and requested further nominations from the floor. George Messenger was nominated for the Board and Marybeth Paladino withdrew her name from the ballot. Brief introduction of each candidate running for a contested office was made. The results of the election were:

President - Craig Edmonds, Vice-President-Frank Auerswald, Secretary - Priscilla Messenger, Treasurer - David Finch, 3-Year Board - George Messenger, 2-Year Board - Nancy Tatom, 1-Year Board - Art Lory, 1-Year Board - Rich Kasky, Field Trip Chair - Bruce Wingate.

Parliamentarian Scott Kramer presided while the new officers were sworn in. The members selected Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society for the club name, Rocks-R Us as the club motto, turquoise as the club gemstone and turquoise and silver as the club colors. After Glen Beyé of the Audit Committee reported the books of both clubs were in order, David Finch, Treasurer, gave his report on the combined assets of the now merged clubs.

Bruce Wingate, Field Trip Chair, announced a field

trip to Enterprise, Utah for Indian blanket agate on March 1, 2003. There is an open mine there and it is \$10 per 5 gallon bucket

to take the surface specimens home. Our annual Burro Creek weekend will be April 10-12 and as usual the club will provide meat for the Saturday evening cookout and each attending member should bring a potluck dish for 6 people.

Jaen Rupprecht announced a few changes in Club Workshop hours. The Silver Jewelry class is from 6-9 PM on Tuesday evenings, and the Faceting class is Thursday evening from 6-9 PM. Monday-Wednesday the Workshop is open noon to 4 PM and 6-9 PM. For Friday or Saturday opening, you must contact Jaen to arrange a mutually agreeable time. Jaen presented award certificates to Craig and Frank for their extra work in arranging the merger of our two clubs.

Marybeth Paladino, Program Chair, announced the next 3 months' programs as follows: March-GSA speaker; April-Richard Huntington, Certified Gemologist; and May-A beading specialist. She introduced Mona Howells, one of our workshop teachers, who spoke on the art of making silver jewelry and what supplies her students need to purchase for classes this February. Camilla Restrepo, co-chair of the Special Events including community service, reminded members to bring in the tabs from soft drink cans for the Ronald McDonald House and to save old glasses to donate to the Lions Club project to provide glasses for the needy. A ten minute refreshment break was then taken at 8:35 PM.

President Craig Edmonds called the meeting to order again at 8:45 PM and welcomed new members-Robert and Sophie Skulsky, James McLachlan and Joe Panek. Guests at tonight's meeting were Custer Hawley and Art Patton.

A hand vote was taken on the name of the club newsletter. After suggestions from the floor, the vote was taken and the membership voted to retain the name of the Polished Slab.

Interested members may submit an 8"x 11" sketch of a new Club logo before the March meeting. If you

(Continued on page 5)

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March 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Field Trip
2	3 Club Meeting	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Board Meeting	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Class Schedule

Cabochon—Every Wednesday from 6 until 9. Call Ed Rupprecht at 459-8747 to schedule.

Beadworking—Every Wednesday from 6 until 9 (Some Saturday classes may be available.). Call Jaen Reupprecht at 459-8747 to schedule.

Faceting—Every Thursday from 6 until 9. Call Art Lory at 648-3816 to schedule.

Silver Smithing—Every Tuesday from 6:30 until 9

Wire Wrapping—Saturdays. Call Jaen Reupprecht at 459-747 to schedule.

Call the instructors to schedule yourself into a class and to get the fees, material costs, and tools needed

Shop Schedule

Monday: 12 to 4, and 6 until 9

Tuesday: 12 until 4

Wednesday: 12 to 4, and 6 until 9

Saturday: By appointment. Call 459-8747 to schedule.

Instructors

Cabochons: Ed Rupprecht 459-8747

Faceting: Art Lory 648-3816

Wirewrapping: Jaen Rupprecht 459-8747

Beading: Jaen Rupprecht 459-8747

Silver Smithing: Mona Howells 645-3587

March Birthdays

Name	Day	Name	Day
Terry Wenstrand	6	Linda Rowley	19
Katherine Swope	6	Heriberto Corn	19
Elana Paladino	6	Jim Beyer	20
Bernard Paladino	7	Neil Phillips	21
Helen Cervantes	7	Corinne Silvia	22
Florence Turner	9	Mary Phillips	22
Tad Wadleigh	9	Corinne Silvia	22
Carol McGoern	10	Fred Smith	22
Charlotte Gastineau	11	Leon Turner	23
Jim Farrey	13	Rex Nielson	23
John Cripe	13	Donald Borisch	24
Jed Alsop	13	Tim Stoddard	24
Tom Gergits	14	Diane Hale	26
Tony Alviani	14	Vince D'Antonio	26
Mike Hardison	15	Doug Lorenz	26
Carl Schmutz	16	Mark Harmer	29
Patricia Vincent	16	Michael Blake	30
Dianna Davis	18		

General Meeting Notes (cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

can get it to Newsletter Editor, Larry Foutz, by February 15th, it can be included in the newsletter for member's information.

Camilla reported on her preliminary investigations on sites and prices for a club Christmas Awards Banquet. Room rentals range from \$200 at the Henderson American Legion to \$500 at the Convention Center. Price for catered dinner buffet ranges from \$10.00 to \$48. It was the consensus of members that we should try to keep expenses under \$2000 for 125 people. A vote will probably be taken at the March meeting on which site to reserve.

Joan Fortier, Sunshine Chair, expressed the club's sympathy to relatives and club friends of Dick Bayless who died last week at 82 years of age. Club members may want to contact longtime member, Joe Smalley, in Hawthorne, Nevada. His wife, Ann, is now confined to a nursing home. Joan wished David Finch a quick recovery from his surgery later this month.

Diane Hale suggested that each member bring to the March meeting a suggested site for a field trip. Sites can be found on the Internet in Utah and Arizona like Arrow Canyon. Diane reminded people that she has special subscriptions to Rock and Gem magazine. For every subscription, \$5 is returned to the club. Craig also reminded us that the club is selling 10 display cases at \$10 per case. Look for a Ride-Share column in the next newsletter for those who need transportation to meetings.

George Messenger made his recommendations for investment of club funds not needed for the year's budgeted expenses that would return about 5%. Pat Skeary made a motion that George be given authority to invest the amount that the Board specifies as he sees fit. The motion was seconded by Jerry Bertschi. After discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 PM and the Raffle followed.



Our Past

Submitted by Bruno and Phyllis Syzdek

Please, when saving a picture, clipping, an article or anything, note the full names of the people, the place, the date, and The source - newspaper, bulletin, book etc. This really helps in the future.

Reviewing some of the Las Vegas Gem Club history in a scrapbook given to us for filing in the club History Library we feel that these articles are appropriate at this time. Our merger/reorganization of the Las Vegas Gem Club and the Clark County Gem Collectors has been done in the past. Some 35 years ago the February 1968 Gem Time Bulletin of the Las Vegas Gem Club had the following page about their reorganization.

A newspaper article with no date or source (probably March or April of 1968) had the following:

Gem Club Installs New Officers

At the first meeting of the re-organized Las Vegas Gem Club, held at Dula Center, the new officers for the coming year were installed as follows: Charles Bejcek, President; Floyd Snyder, Vice-President; Nell McKean, secretary; and Margaret Hartwell, treasurer.

The first field trip was held February 11th, with the Field Chairman, Ron Fink; leading, the group to some fine Petrified Reed and Bacon Agate.

At the March 5 meeting Don Sheppard of the Bureau of Land Management, showed the group a film, "Our Last Frontier."

The Happy Valley Gem Club hosted the Kingman Gem Club and the Las Vegas Gem Club on an overnight trip for petrified Wood and Amethystine March 9, and 10. Saturday night a pot-luck dinner was held. The next Gem Club meeting will be held April 2, at the Dula Center at 7:30 p.m. A film will be shown, "Trips and Treasures of Utah," with refreshments served after the meeting.

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Orange Poached Pears

Lynne Whelan

- 1/2 C firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 1/2 C orange juice
- 4 Firm, ripe large pears, peeled, halved & cored

In large saucepan, combine brown sugar, cinnamon and orange juice. Cook over medium heat until sugar is dissolved, stirring constantly. Add pear halves; cover & simmer 15 to 20 minutes or until just tender. Remove from heat; cool in liquid. Spoon poaching liquid over pears to serve.

Variation: Orange poached peaches; Substitute peaches for the pears.

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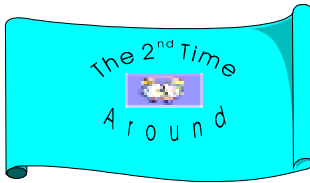
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Our Past

Submitted by Bruno and Phyllis Syzdek

(Continued from page 5)

* GEM TIME *

LAS VEGAS GEM CLUB

FEBRUARY 1968

P. O. BOX: 1177 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89114

AFFILIATED:

American and California Federation of Mineralogical Societies



THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

If you would be LOVED...LOVE, and be LOVABLE

COPYING THE MAIL

GOOD NEWS! We have a new meeting PLACE and DATE. Beginning with the next meeting, our date will be changed to the first Tues. night of each month and the place, the Dula Center, 430 Bonanza. Rd... Don't forget!...Next meeting, Feb. 6th. ...7:30
OUR CLUB has really got off to a good start this year. A committee was formed to rewrite the by-laws and Ron Fink re-ports they will be ready to present to the club for possible approval at the next meeting. After being approved each member will receive a copy. These are your by-laws, so be at the meeting to get your two cents worth in!

*

RAY SIMPSON was appointed to do some research on a possible official STONE and SYMBOL for our club. We know he will come up with something swell for us.

STUB FLEMING, Ron Fink and Ray Simpson have had their heads together and I hear we have a swell fieldtrip coming up for the month of Feb. And with this beautiful weather we've been having. I'm READY I The date, time and place will be announced at the next meeting.

GRACE CLEMENT is our new "publicity chairman". A good choice.



VIRGINIA WIOKHAM has sure been spoiling us with those good home-made cakes, and we are hoping she will stay on as our "onewoman" refreshment committee.

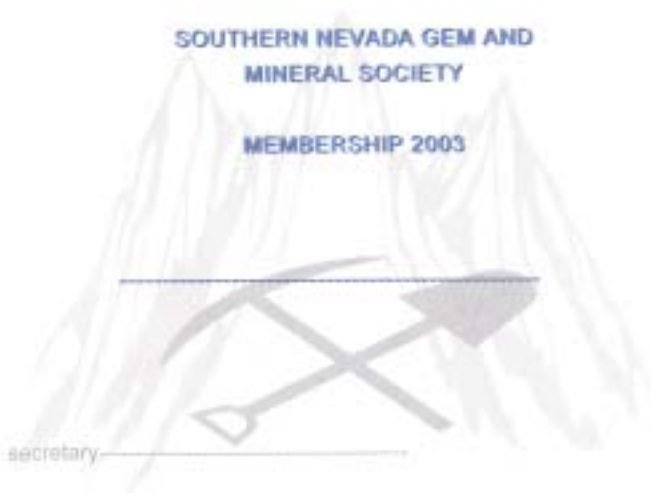
Notice:

As promised at the February meeting, here are some ideas for the new club logo. I would give credit to the submitters, but I am clueless.

Editor



Logo Number One



Logo Number Two

Shop Hints

Lynne Whelan

Pelon, a synthetic fabric, makes a good polishing surface. It generates little heat, polishes rapidly and retains the polishing compound very well. Once the pelon is well charged, only water is needed for quite a while. From Polished Slab January 1987.

When polishing hard-to-reach places with your flex shaft machine, try using a Q-tip cut in half in the hand piece. Charged with your favorite polishing compound, it can produce some surprising results. From Burro Express.

March Trip to Find Indian Blanket Jasper

Field Trips

Bruce Wingate

Club members will have the chance to gather Indian Blanket Jasper at Enterprise, Utah, this March 1. The site is an open pit mine where you can gather as much as you want for \$10 per five-gallon bucket. Bring plenty of buckets, for good specimens are plentiful but the buckets are not.

We will meet that Saturday morning at Apex, exit 58, where Las Vegas Blvd. meets I15. We will be heading out at 7:30 and regroup at about 10:00 at the hardware store in Enterprise.

Give Bruce Wingate a call at 547-6590 and we will be looking for you.

Arizona camp out at Burro Creek

Our club trek to Burro Creek, Arizona, for Burro Creek agate will be coming up the weekend of April 10-12. Do not forget to add your name to the sign up sheet at the next club meeting.

We have the group campground reserved for all three days, with a pot luck dinner planned for that Saturday. The club is providing all the fire-roasted chicken you can eat. Come for the dinner even if you don't stay the night.

If camping in the Arizona desert is not your style, you can camp out in one of the motels in Wikieup. There are not many rooms, though, so make your reservation early.

Rock Lickers, Squirt for Safety

Lynne Whelan

Safety Item

Are you a Rock Licker?

I have seen items in many of the bulletins on the subject of Rock Licking. Here is one from "Rockhound Newsletter" of West Palm Beach Florida, 5/86. At least one death has been attributed to a fungus contracted by licking a rock specimen. Arsenic, Mercury, Selenium, some of the Boron minerals, and some of the Phosphates can be deadly. **USE YOUR SQUIRT GUN TO WET ROCKS.**

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society

P.O. Box 7432, Las Vegas NV 89125

HTTP://www.ccg.org

E-mail: admin@ccgc.org

(702) 431-3005

The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was organized to educate ourselves and the community in the science and arts related to rocks, mineral, gems, fossils, and nature in general. Fostering an understanding and appreciation of the physical world, we can use it and protect it for future generations. We are incorporated for the purpose of promoting an active interest in Geology, Gemology and facilitate an improvement in knowledge of the art of cutting, polishing, collecting and displaying gems. We began in 1932, and became the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society in 2003. The very first Polished Slab was published in 1940 by Paul Mercer.

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Editors: Please send exchanges to: Polished Slab Editor *P.O.*

Box 7432 Las Vegas NV 89125

The Polished Slab, March 2003

Club Gemstone: Turquoise

Club Colors: Turquoise and Silver

Club Logo: Arrowhead

Club Motto: Rocks-R Us

Annual Dues

Individual: \$10.00

Family: \$15.00

Club / Membership Name Badges are available at \$8 each

Meetings: 7:00 PM the first Monday of each month at the Senior Center 450 Bonanza at Las Vegas Boulevard Las Vegas, Nevada 702-229-6454

Visitors are always welcome.

Please bring a friend or two.

The Polished Slab
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