

# SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY

Las Vegas, Nevada



# The Polished Slab

Volume 63, Issue 4

April 2003

## Message From The President *Craig A. Edmonds*

Dear Members and Friends,

I would like to start out by providing our new website address: [www.sngms.org](http://www.sngms.org). If you have not taken the time to check it out, please do.

We have taken a big step in updating our shop equipment. I thank everyone involved in this endeavor. The motion has been passed to purchase the equipment and the board has accepted a bid. Once the equipment arrives we will need to do repairs and get things updated. If you have some time to assist our shop foremen than please contact them to assist.

We are in search of a member to be selected as Rock Hound of The Year for our society. We will have a write-up on the member or members and submit it to the CFMS Newsletter. Please contact me if you have someone to recommend, and also the reasons for your selection.

We have a few members that will be doing some filming for a Clark County Outdoor Show on channel 4. When we find out when it will be, we will let you know. Thank you everyone for your support.

## They are out there

*Iris Bernikow*

There are three different rattlesnakes in Southern Nevada: the sidewinder, the speckled rattlesnake and the Mojave green rattlesnake.

The poison from the Mojave rattler is more lethal than that of the Indian cobra (10 to 15 mg. of Mojave venom equals 15 to 20 mg of cobra venom). Knowing that 15 mg can be lethal, consider that a four foot long desert rattlesnake can inject as much as 70 mg of venom when really aroused.



*Sidewinder Rattlesnake*

Do be careful when hiking and don't expect a warning "rattle." Keep your hands and feet from

any place your eyes haven't examined, like the other side of the log.



*Mojave Green Rattlesnake*

Should you get bitten, stay calm. Send someone else to telephone for help. If a car is nearby, get to a hospital as fast as possible. Be

sure you can identify the snake since it takes 10 vials of medicine for a Mojave rattler's bite, compared to 4 vials for the ordinary rattler bite.

(Continued on page 8)



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# Director's Meeting Notes for March 2003

*Priscilla Messenger, Secretary*

The meeting was called to order at 7PM by President Craig Edmonds. Revisions were made to the Secretary Priscilla Messenger 's General Meeting Report and it was then accepted. The Treasurer's Report by David Finch was accepted also.

A motion was made by Membership Chair, Glenn Beye, that a special ruling allowing a membership exception be allowed because of a misunderstanding. Nancy Tatum seconded the motion and it was passed. Glen also announced that his 9-member Telephone Committee each had a list of about 17 names to call when an important message needs to get out to members. A selection was made from the sample letterheads and membership forms submitted by Glen. Jerry Bertschi will make up 350 membership cards for 2003 by the April General Meeting.

Bruce Wingate, Field Trip Chair, will lead the Saturday, March 15 trip to Lida near the intersection of Route 95 and Route 266. He is ordering chicken for 40 people to be grilled at the Burro Creek potluck dinner on Saturday evening, April 12.

Glenn Beye who co-chairs the spring show with Camilla Restrepo announced that Diane Burgess would be in charge of 20 display cases and Priscilla Messenger would take charge of the membership table at the show. Jaen Rupprecht's assignment will be getting people to do demonstrations during the event. It was suggested that Camilla might be asked to handle signs and banners as she works in this field. Glen felt that we had sufficient goodes and supplies for the Wheel booth. Jett Erikson and Glenn Beye plan to inventory supplies in storage about 10 AM , March 24 and then organize

what will be needed for the upcoming show later in the day.

Patrick Leary and Jerry Bertschi presented comparisons of final bids for Workshop equipment. George Messenger made a motion that the directors authorize the purchase of the Windwalker equipment package and the oil drum package obtained by Glen Beye. Nancy Tatum seconded the motion and it passed.

Craig reported he had purchased 3 Raffle prizes from Walt Lombardo. He requested that some submissions including photos of member artisans be sent to Webmaster, Ellen Reeves. He requested nominations for the California Federation's annual Rockhound Awards be made. Names mentioned were Jerry Bertschi and Lynne Whalen, Bruno and Phyllis Syzdek, Mona Howells and Ray Simpson.

Frank Auerswald was asked to E-Mail Newsletter editor, Larry Foutz. with a paragraph for the March edition about collecting handmade jewelry , and other new goods suitable for giving people at the Ronald McDonald House on birthdays, and other holidays like Mother's Day. These will be given the organization in early May.

A deposit for a facility for the Holiday Banquet has not yet been made . Jaen Rupprecht is investigating the Senior Center at Stewart and Eastern since Camilla has been called out of town. Craig announced that the filming of "Clark County Outdoors " will be on Friday, March 14. The Treasurer, David Finch , will submit a proposed budget within a month now that this year's membership figure has been determined. The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

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

*Priscilla Messenger, Secretary*

President Craig Edmonds called our meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the salute to our American flag. We exchanged greetings with those around us.

Program Chair, Marybeth Paladino, introduced the speaker, Cindy Ramsey of the American Gem Society. Their facility is located on 8881 West Sahara near Fort Apache, and our members are invited to attend classes which are held in March, May and September for a fee of \$35.

Treasurer David Finch gave the Treasurer's Report. Field Trip Chair, Bruce Wingate, expressed regret that snowfall in southern Utah cancelled the Enterprise field trip. Please call Bruce Wingate at 547-6590 if you plan to attend the Beatty agate and petrified wood trip departing from the Park 'n Ride lot near Route 95 and Centennial Parkway at 7 a.m. on Saturday, March 15th. Also call Bruce to attend the Burro Creek Chicken Potluck dinner on Saturday, April 11th. He asked any persons interested in "hiking and prospecting" trips on foot of at least 3 to 5 miles to sign the appropriate sheet.

Librarian Tom Ainsworth announced many more books had been contributed so he was setting up an easier sign-out method and would contribute some of the accumulated magazines to schools and our own Kid's Rock Club.

Marybeth Paladino, advisor to the Kid's Club, announced that 9 kids could be accommodated at the Club Workshop on Harris Avenue for a tour and demonstrations of cabochon making at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 29th. Four adults will accompany them for their safety around the machinery. On Monday evening, May 5th at 6:30 p.m., there will be Kid's Club meeting with an instructor in beading.

After the three Workshop foremen reported on the estimated cost of replacing faceting machines, saw blades, wheels, workstools, and an oil supply, Tom Skeary made a motion to approve the

requirements for purchase of shop equipment for \$8,500 or less. Simi Bryant seconded the motion. Several other bids will be examined before final purchase. The motion passed.

New members Shirley Simon, Herbert Young, Ron and Alberta Woods, and Hugh and Barbara McConaghy were welcomed. Other guests were Charles and Linda Brinker, and Carlo Jacobs.

Tom Gergits urged members to look at photos of Roy Beeson and the school class that visited his rock and displays at his home. This is an annual event.

Jet Erickson asked people to buy one cherry pie for \$2 or a box of 10 pies for \$10 during the refreshment time to earn extra funds for the club. A Refreshment break was taken at 8:20 p.m.

Glenn Beye, Jaen Rupprecht, Craig Edmonds and Jerry Bertschi submitted and described possible logo designs for our new club. Jerry's design in silver and turquoise won the most votes.

Camilla Restrepo, Holiday Party Chair, asked for a motion for \$2,500 to be allocated for a hall for 160 people and a catered meal. Each person who attends will be charged \$5.00 only. Diane Hale made this motion and Phil Krumpas seconded the motion, and it passed. Camilla will check facilities at several Senior Centers.

Glenn Beye, Show Chair, called for volunteers to take charge of various segments of the Cashman Field gem show May 30-June 1. He needs demonstrators, 14 display cases filled, people to man the geode-cutting saw and the wheel. He also needs a Silent Auction leader, someone to be liason with the company in charge of the whole show, and someone to take charge of setup on Thursday and teardown on Sunday. Volunteers are needed for the Telephone Committee.

Larry Foutz, Editor of our newsletter, requested that all submissions reach him by the 15th of each month.

(Continued on page 7)

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# April 2003

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

## 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

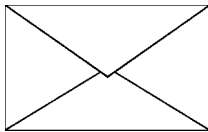
**Beading:** Jaen Rupprecht 459-8747

**Silver Smithing:** Mona Howells 645-3587

## April Birthdays

Name	Day
Nancy Tatom	1
Lewis Bright	3
Larry Foutz	6
Sue Goodloe	13
Rick Kasky	16
Richard Antonick	19
Jackie May	20
John Erdlen	23
Sherry Whitten	24
Robert Skulsky	26

# Letters

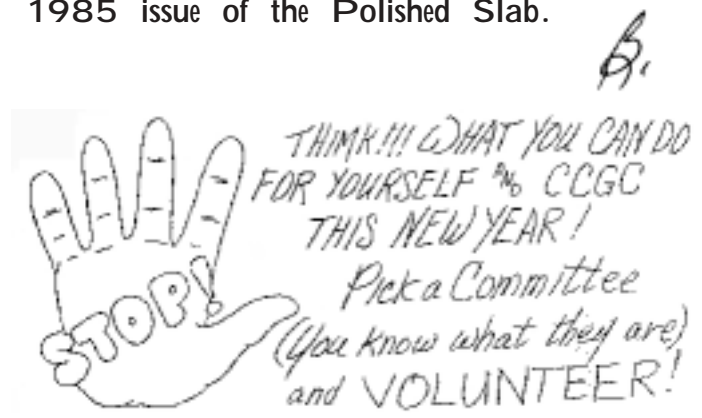
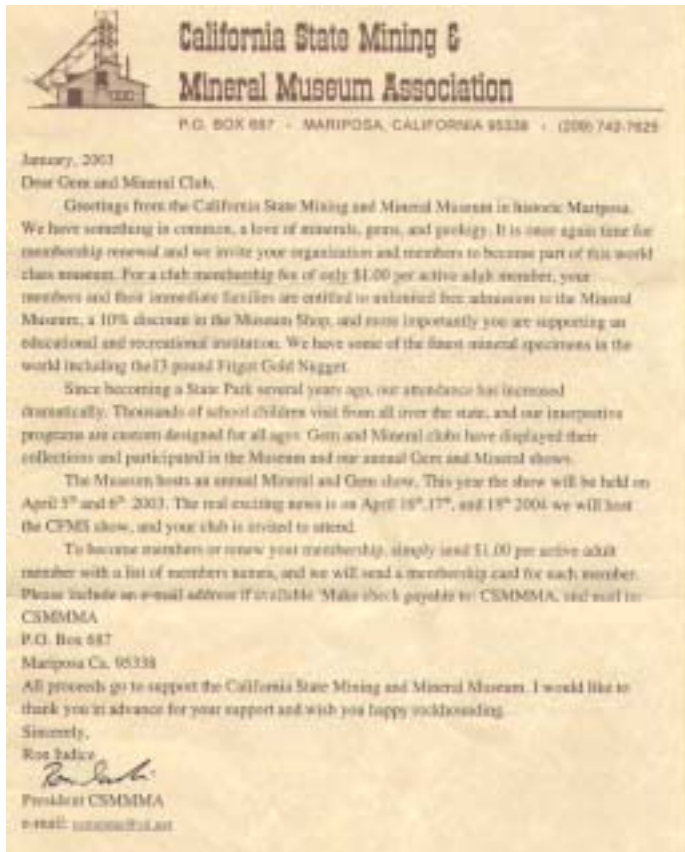


## Our Past

Submitted by Bruno and Phyllis Syzdek

Good thoughts from the mid 1980s which apply today. Please volunteer.

This article was published in the January 1985 issue of the Polished Slab.



The above message has been brought to you by "Rocky" (Your Roving Rockhound Reporter) on behalf of your CLARK COUNTY GEM COLLECTORS' Officers and Board of Directors, to promote a better CCGC for 1985. This thought is also completely and enthusiastically personally endorsed by your President, Leonard Curtis, who urges you to please comply with the above request for your assistance in Chairing and working with Committees during the upcoming new year. Should the volunteer system fail to fill committee positions, draftees will be selected where need requires. Remember -- this is not the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard - it is OKAY to VOLUNTEER!

We again look forward to another successful year for our Club and especially to a great "GEMS FOR THE 80's - '85" which will once again be held on the Las Vegas Strip in the beautiful HACIENDA HOTEL's Convention Center. This year, our Show has been expanded to include three (3) days: Friday, Saturday and Sunday - March 29, 30 and 31. Setup for the Show will be on Thursday (of course). Remember, this is a CLUB PROJECT - LET'S ALL WORK AT MAKING IT THE BEST SHOW EVER'!!

(Continued on page 7)

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# Orange Poached Pears

Lynne Whelan

## Basic Barbecue Rub

1/4 C firmly packed brown sugar  
1/4 c sweet paprika  
3 tbsp black pepper  
3 tbsp coarse salt  
1 tbsp hickory smoked salt  
2 tsp. garlic powder  
2 tsp. onion powder  
2 tsp. celery seeds  
1 tsp. cayenne pepper

Combine all the ingredients in a mixing bowl and stir to mix (actually, your hands work better than spoons or whisks) Use your fingers to break up any lumps. Store rub in airtight jar away from heat or light; it will keep for at least 6 months. Use the rub on ribs, pork shoulder, chicken or on anything you want to taste like American Barbecue. Use 2 or 3 tsps per pound of meat. To make a spicier rub, substitute hot paprika for some or all of the sweet paprika.

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# Shop Item for Sale

Toyo Tc-10 glass cutters with oil reservoir for sale. Normal price \$22.95. Will sell for \$12.00 each. Limited amount. Call 597-5104 ask for Jerry or Lynne



## Our Past

Submitted by Bruno and Phyllis Syzdek

(Continued from page 5)

WE DID MORE IN '84

KEEP UP THE DRIVE FOR '85

THINK OF NEW TRICKS FOR '86

OUR MOTORS WILL BE REVIN FOR '87

BY '88 WE'LL BE PERKIN' GREAT

'89 - LAST OF THE LINE - "GEMS FOR THE  
80's"

MAKE THEM ALL SHINE!

THEN WE'LL GO ON TO SOMETHING NEW

FOR OUR ANNUAL GEM SHOW FOR YOU



# Invitation to SNGMS Kids to Learn About Shop Equipment

Mary Beth Paladino

*Kids Day at the shop*

On March 29<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m., all Kids Club members (which includes all paid Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society members between the ages of 6 and 18) are invited to visit our workshop.

They will have a chance to learn about the equipment and experienced members will show them the basics of cab making with hands-on instruction.

There is limited space. So, if you are interested please contact Mary Beth Paladino at 255-1647 to reserve your space.

# Minutes of the General Meeting (cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

Ellen Reeves, Website manager, announced that the new website, [www.sngms.org](http://www.sngms.org), is up and running.

Gerry Bertschi said there would be a special Raffle of a brand new rocktumbler and 20 pounds of grit at the May meeting. Tickets are \$1 a piece or 6 tickets for \$5 on sale until the day of the raffle.

Mona Howells, Director of Classes, announced there were 13 people in her silversmithing class and that Art Lory has a waiting list for his faceting classes.

Ron Woods of the Goldseekers of Southern Nevada invited anyone interested in joining his group to 7 p.m. meetings at the Nevada Palace, the first Wednesday of every month. Initial fee is \$35 and annual dues thereafter are \$20. Call him at 362-2307.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m. The Raffle followed.

# Arizona Campout at Burro Creek

## Field Trips

*Bruce Wingate*

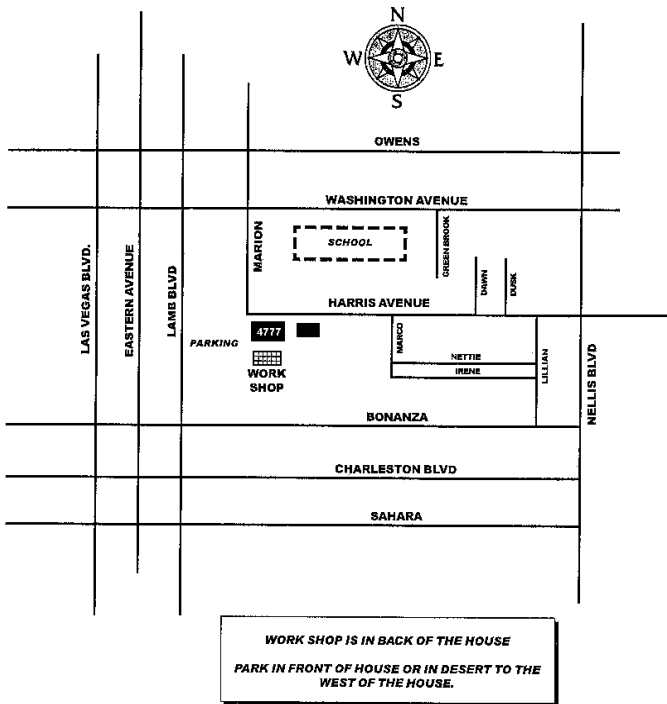
Our club trek to Burro Creek, Arizona, for Burro Creek agate will be coming up the weekend of April 10-12. Do not forget to add your name to the sign up sheet at the next club meeting.

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.

### WORKSHOP ADDRESS

4777 EAST HARRIS AVENUE  
459-8747



## Gracious Member Donates Raffle Items

*JerryBertschi*

Eloise Rhodes, a club member, has graciously donated to us a number of things. She has donated a grinder-polisher, polishing pads, findings, slabs, abalone shells, grit, etc. Also, she donated a brand new tumbler which we will sell raffle-tickets on for the next couple of months. The winner of the tumbler will also receive some grit and a large box of rock to get them started.

We thank Eloise for being so generous.

## Your Beautiful Work Needed

*Frank Auerswald*

Generosity time!

We need you to donate some of your beautiful work to a worth cause—the Ronald McDonald house.

This drive is to collect items that would raise the spirits of mothers, fathers, and children on special occasions such as birthdays, Mothers' Day, or Fathers' Day, while they wait for their children to get better.

We will be collecting these things only at the April and May meetings.

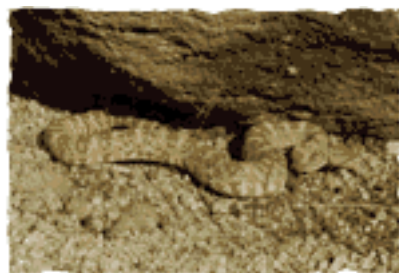
There is a wish list of always-welcomed items such as paper towels, detergent, and any personal items you can think of.

## They are out there

(Continued from page 1)

Do not "get even" and beat the snake to death (you don't want the exercise at that particular time). Do not use ice or a tourniquet. Do not cut the wound open. Doing nothing is better than doing something. The required medicine must be administered intravenously; keep calm (try self-hypnosis) and get to a hospital.

Have fun In our desert, but look before you leap!



*Speckled Rattlesnake*

## Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society

P.O. Box 94774, Las Vegas NV 89193

HTTP://www.sngms.org

E-mail: admin@sngms.com

(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.

### Officers - Board of Director - Committee Chairmen

**President:** Craig Edmonds 838-0012

**Vice President:** Frank Auerswald 365-8306

**Secretary:** Priscilla Messenger 733-6578

**Treasurer:** Dave Finch 655-6344

**Parliamentarian & Sergeant at Arms:** Scott Kramer 565-5256

**Three-Year Board:** George Messenger 733-6578

**Two-Year Board:** Nancy Tatom 566-1698

**One Year Board:** Art Lorey 648-3816

**One Year Board:** Rich Kasky 254-1547

**Editor:** Larry Foutz 896-7757

Email: Lfoutz@excite.com

**Webmaster:** Ellen Reeves 242-4105

**Website Liaison:** Carolyn Edmonds 838-0012

**Federation Director:** Jaen Rupprecht 459-8747

**Show Chairman:** Glenn Beye 655-0280

Camilla Restrepo 737-1741

**Field Trips:** Bruce Wingate 547-6590

**Hospitality:** Carl and Marcia Richwine 263-4846

**Historian:** Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek 876-3861

**Librarian:** Tom Ainsworth 384-9935

**Refreshments:** Ron Antoku 871-0170

**Raffle:** Joe Lavryk 898-1447

**Inventory:** Jett Erikson 457-3561

**Sunshine:** Joan Fortier 457-3561

**Publicity:** Camilla Restrepo 737-1741

**Special Events:** Camilla Restrepo 737-1741

Glenn Beye 655-0280

**Class Coordinator:** Jaen Rupprecht 459-8747

**Programs:** Marybeth Paladino 255-1647

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Editors: Please send exchanges to: Polished Slab Editor *P.O. Box 94774 Las Vegas NV 89193*

**The Polished Slab, April 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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