

# The Polished Slab

VOLUME 66, ISSUE 6

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS

JUNE 2006

## *President's Message*

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Gem Show on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th of June. Whether you volunteered, or just showed up to shop, thank you one and all. Tom & Pat Skeary, Sharon Rogow, Art Lory, Frank & Judi Auerswald, Arnold Wermes, Ken and Pepper Linder, Mark Clevenger, Clare Breneman, George and Priscilla Messenger. Michael Hardison, Ruth Holmstrom. An extra special thanks to Bob and Sue Lofaro and Ronald Antoku for working all three days. We had display cases featuring the outstanding craftsmanship of Art Lory, Arnold Wermes, Bob Skulsky and Roy Beeson. Thank you Roy, for trusting me to set up your display. Sharon Rogow also did a very nice display case with some beautiful specimens from her collection. Lynn Manthey, thank you for bringing the geode saw and the geodes to the show. Your help in setting up the saw was greatly appreciated. We made a little over a thousand dollars for the club and almost one fourth of that was from the sale of geodes. We also gained nine new members and gave out a lot of flyers. The tear down went very quickly. I was in the last vehicle, and we were rolling out the door about 5:45 to take everything back to storage. Next time I would like to see a few more volunteers. The more the merrier! If the same people aren't doing the same job every time; then we all become a little more knowledgeable in what needs to get done to put on a show and no one gets burned out. It's also a good chance to get to know some of your fellow club-members a little better. All in all, I think it was a worthwhile event. Thank you again to all.

I also met and talked with Dick Cloud, of Cloud's Jamboree. He is giving the club a complimentary space at the upcoming show in January at Avi. The

published monthly by: **Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.**  
POB 94744 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193

current rate for a vendor is presently \$400 for the entire month; so that is a nice little donation that we should take advantage of. If you would like to sell at Avi this year, I have all the info. Yes, it's still six months away, but it will be upon us before we know it, so start planing now. Stay well and I hope to see all of you at the July meeting.

Respectfully, *Jack Toogood*

### **CLUB LIBRARY BOOKS**

We are still looking for a few library books. Please return any that you may still have, to any board member. Thanks. *JT*

### **FIELD TRIP ALERT !!**

We are organizing a field trip for the end of the month on Saturday, June 24th. Any club member interested in attending this trip, please contact me ASAP with your name and contact phone number. Call me at 222-1946 between 9:30 AM and noon Monday through Friday. Roy Beeson will be leading and we will be going to the Ore Car Mine. Lots of good rocks are still to be found there. *JT*

### **SUMMER SOLSTICE JUNE 21st**

People around the world have observed spiritual and religious seasonal days of celebration during the month of June. Most have been religious holy days which are linked in some way to the summer solstice. On this day the daytime hours are at a maximum in the Northern hemisphere, and night time is at a minimum. It is officially the first day of summer.

## June Board Meeting Notes

JUNE board meeting was called to order at 6:23 PM. All board members present except Larry Foutz who arrived late. Business discussed - Frank Auerswald has purchased tools and supplies to be used at the workshop. The show at the convention center netted the club \$1010 in sales and \$160 in new memberships. In September we will start a volunteer list for the fall show and if we cannot get enough members to commit to help then we will cancel. The workshop space is still not ready yet. As soon as the permits are received from the building department; final construction will begin and should take about 30 days. No new business was introduced. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 PM. submitted by Clare Breneman

### PEARL JUNE BIRTHSTONE

From one of the humblest of life forms, the mollusk, comes the pearl - a gem of unsurpassed beauty and elegance. Ancient civilizations told many stories to explain the origin of June's birthstone, such as the Greek belief that pearls were the hardened tears of joy that the goddess of love shook from her eyes as she was born from the sea. According to Arab legend, pearls were formed when oysters were lured from the depths of the ocean by the beautiful moon and then swallowed moonlit dewdrops. And the Ancient Chinese thought that these gems originated from the brains of dragons.

The scientific explanation for natural pearls is almost as mystifying as folklore. When an irritant such as a small parasite or a fish lodges in the flesh of an oyster, mussel, or clam, a protective substance called "nacre" is produced. Over years, layer after layer of shimmering nacre coats the intruder, creating a lustrous pearl. Natural pearls are relatively rare, so a process evolved in which a piece of shell or bead was placed inside a mollusk to stimulate the production of nacre. This results in a cultured pearl, which accounts for about 90 per cent of the pearl industry. Divers find natural pearls in the Persian Gulf as well as in the waters off Japan, the South Pacific Islands off Northern

Australia, and the coasts of Panama, Venezuela, and California. Most of the cultured pearl industry is in Japanese and Australian coastal waters. These gems come in a variety of colors, from pure white, to pink, yellow, gray, and black. They also come in different shapes and sizes. Pearls have been a passion of people throughout the ages. They have been ground up and used in cosmetics and as medicine to treat heart and stomach conditions. Pearls are seen as a symbol of purity, and are often given to celebrate a marriage or the birth of a child. Pearls are nature's perfect gift, suitable for all ages and elegantly worn with everything from jeans to an evening gown.

.....from ABOUT BIRTHSTONES

## THE BEAD BUFFET

7380 S. Eastern ste 116

Las Vegas, NV 89123

(702) 364-1400

HOURS T-F 10-6 SAT 9-6

Beads Books Jewelry Accessories

Senior & Clubmember Discounts

Free Classes

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL YOU DADS  
JUNE 18th

TOM SKEARY  
PAUL SKEARY

Lic #0026123

PAINTING



DRYWALL

358 Beesley Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89110

Office (702) 453-2241  
Fax (702) 459-6704

## Desert Outfitters

www.desertoutfitters.com

Metal Detectors    Topo & City Maps  
Prospecting & Rockhounding  
Tools, Equipment & Supplies

**Rick - Howard - Pete**

3340 W. Sirius Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89102

702-362-7177

fax 702-362-2561

Mon-Fri 10-6

Sat -10-5

Sun - closed

**What's Happening ?**  
UPCOMING EVENTS

**NEVADA - CALIFORNIA - ARIZONA - UTAH**  
Show Schedule

- Jun 16-18 San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club  
Veteran's Hall , free admission  
Cayucos, CA
- Jun 23-25 Ogden, Utah free admission  
Bead Renaissance Show  
Ogden Eccles Conference Center  
505-894-1293
- Jul 7-9 Gem Faire \$5 weekend pass  
Utah State Fairpark  
155 N. 1000 W. Salt Lake City, UT  
503-252-8300

**UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS**

- June 24th - Ore Car Mine
- TBA - Kokoweef

**\*\* CFMS 4 Day Cruise to Mexico for Jade \*\***

January 19-22 \$255 to \$310 per person  
limited space - must book ASAP - \$100 deposit  
Lester Wong 323-223-6888 for more Info

**CLUB WORKSHOP UPDATE**

Three contractors had to co-ordinate with each other, plans drawn up and approved and permits issued. It's taking longer than originally thought, but it is still going to happen. The owner still expects about three to four weeks from permit issue to move in.

**Our next meeting is Monday, July 3rd.**  
**If your birthday falls in July, please don't forget to bring some goodies for the refreshment table.**

**A FIELD TRIP POSSIBILITY**

On May 20th, I took an exploratory field trip with several other clubmembers to Lucerne Valley, California to the OMYA mine. This is a large open pit mine that is mining calcium carbonate. There are a lot of other minerals there which the mine considers "waste rock". An introductory talk and slide presentation was given by the mine's geologist, Howard Brown. Then he turned out the lights and turned on a black light to show an amazing display of fluorescent minerals to be found in the area. Also to be found are chrysocolla, azurite, rhodochrosite, garnet, pyrite, sphalerite, magnetite, and epidote. We found nothing that was cabachon cutting material, but we did find a lot of great specimens. It is about a three hour drive from Las Vegas and the roads are all easy and paved. We can schedule a trip if we have enough interested members. This is a fun trip if you like minerals. The mine can handle about 20 to 30 visitors at a time and the trip has to be coordinated with them. *JT* PREZ

**KIDS CLUB - Pebble Pups**

Meeting will be at my home at 3740 Moss Ridge Court. This month will be a field trip to Roy Beeson's home. Call for directions. 702-255-1647  
..... *Mary Beth Paladino*



**SUNSHINE REPORT**

*by Priscilla Messenger*

I talked with Jaen Rupperecht recently, and she says Ed is now not using a wheelchair and is able to get out to the workshop for short periods. Scott Edwards stops by regularly to help.

Roy Beeson says he is back to his normal routine and may make the next meeting. He wanted to send greetings to all clubmembers.

*Feeding the Hungry,  
Sheltering the Homeless  
Offering Hope in Jesus' Name.*

**City Mission**

2214 N. Pecos Road  
Las Vegas, NV 89115  
(702) 384-1930

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

June meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by President. Clare Breneman read the minutes of the May meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Pat Skeary gave the Treasurer's report including the figures from the show. Show report given by Sharon Rogow included a list of everyone who helped make it a success, a special thanks to Ronald Antoku and Bob & Sue Lofaro for helping out on all three days, and to Michael Hardison for providing his truck with only an hour and a half advance notice.

Priscilla Messenger gave the sunshine report and noted that Mary Beth's mother had passed away.

Awards Banquet report - Pat Skeary is taking reservations and tickets should be available by August or September.

Jack Toogood gave editors report stating that anyone not receiving their newsletter should check on their address with Carolyn at the hospitality desk. Also the newsletter will be out a couple of days later than usual this month.

Kids club report given by Mary Beth: The July meeting will be a field trip to Roy Beeson's home.

Mary Beth also presented pens to the men for Father's Day and salt water taffy to the women.

Old business: Workshop update. The workshop construction will get underway as soon as the permits are received from the building department and is expected to take about 30 days to complete.

New business: None was introduced

Break at 8:00 PM for munchies.

Program - Doris Currington gave a slide show presentation on turquoise.

Announcements were made. Silversmith class Tuesday night at seven by Frank. Art clay class by Sharon if anyone signs up. A field trip for minerals is available to a mine in Lucerne Valley, California if people are interested. Roy Beeson will lead field trips if someone can drive him.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Submitted by .....Clare Breneman , Secretary

### USED EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

No equipment this month; but Frank Auerswald has some nice rough Opal for sale. 365-8306

Club Members only - call the Editor to place a free ad here

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



**A-TRADERS  
INDIAN JEWELRY  
COLLECTABLES  
TURQUOISE  
== CHIEF ==**

*Rob* Telephone  
**(702) 383-6069**

**MOVING SOON : TO 1616 LAS VEGAS BLVD**

## A BIT OF OUR HISTORY

Back in 1932 in Las Vegas, Nevada, the Prospector's club was organized. It's purpose; to educate and promote the unique and interesting variety of activities associated with gemstones and minerals. It was one of the oldest recorded clubs of it's kind in the nation.

This was the predecessor to the Clark County Gem Collectors, Inc. The Clark County Club was officially incorporated in Nevada on January 24th, 1950 as a non-profit corporation. Local attorney John G. Cope wrote the articles of incorporation for the club at no charge to the club. Club dues were \$2.00 per year. The very first board of directors were: President W.M. Brown, Carter Cooper, Annette Drury, Paul Mercer, and Paul Drury. The first business meeting was February 14th, 1950 and was held at the Parks Museum. One of the first guest speakers invited was local jeweler M.J. Christensen.

## \* Beads Plus \*

*Beads \* Findings \* Crafts \* Accessories*

4750 W. Sahara, Suite 13 (in the Sahara Pavilion)  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 702-259-6100  
[www.beadsplus.com](http://www.beadsplus.com)

Mon-Sat 10-6 Sun 12-5

Free Classes Daily 11-1:30

**WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:**

COREY MILLIREN  
SUSAN CRANDALL  
NICOLE HART  
MARK CLEVINGER  
DOUGLAS WEEMS  
WAYNE KINZER

LONNY MILLIREN  
WILDA GARBER  
DAN HART  
NATALIE SIGNOR  
CINDY KINZER

**WELCOME BACK RETURNING MEMBERS:**

JEFF HARPER  
FRANK ROWLEY

CARMEN HARPER  
BARRIE FOLSOM

**RIDESHARING PROGRAM**

Anyone who would like a ride to the monthly meeting should call 222-1946 and we will try and arrange for you to be picked up. Please call about a week in advance of the meeting to allow for arrangements to be made.

**HANDY THINGS FOR A FIELD TRIP**

Drinking Water, Hat, Snacks, 2-Way Radios, Maps  
Sunscreen, Sensible Shoes (not sandals), First Aid Kit, Poncho, Rock Hammer, Pick, Chisel, Safety Goggles, Pry Bar, Shovel, Bucket, Rock Bags, Gloves, Signal Mirror, Snake Bite Kit, Camera  
Watch the weather; rain can mean flash floods  
Check your vehicle before going. Tires (including your spare),Plenty of gas, Radiator coolant, Oil  
Know how to use your jack  
Take your cell phone, but don't rely on it; often there is no service in remote areas.

**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

Howard Abrams                      Robert Avery  
Clifton Garrett                     Red Gastineau  
Jim Jones                             Ellen Reeves  
Dave Rogers                         Jon Olsen  
Loretta Stuchowski                Betty Watson  
Douglas Weems

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM SNGMS !*

GEMSTONES    SILVER WIRE & SHEET    FINDINGS    LAPIDARY SUPPLIES

BOOKS

CRYSTALS

BEADS

TOOLS



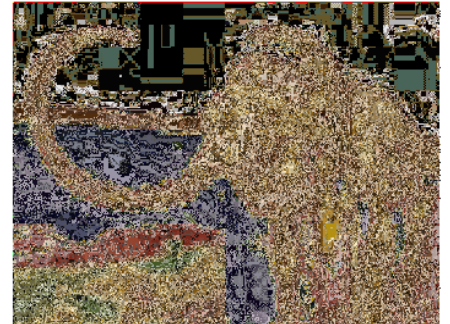
**A-1 Jewelry Supply**

2570 S. Decatur Blvd. Ste. G3  
Las Vegas, NV 89102

TUES-FRI 9-5    SAT 9-1

731-2663

**What's even bigger than a 13-foot high Columbian Mammoth with 10-foot long tusks?**



**A 48 foot long Ichthyosaur, of course.**



The Nevada State Museum's natural history galleries tell the violent story of Nevada- volcanoes that is, and include minerals, gems, and paleo specimens.

*The history galleries explore the human side of the shaping of Nevada.*

**Visit the Nevada State Museum**  
700 Twin Lakes Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89107 (702)486-5205  
www.nevadaculture.org

**BEADS & THINGS**



*There's Nothing Plastic About Us*

**UNIQUE BEADS SUPPLIES FREE CLASSES**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
SNGMS - 15% Discount with your club membership card  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
Mon-Sat 10-6 Sun 11-5  
9420 W SAHARA #107  
LAS VEGAS NV 89117  
702-220-3424

**SECOND TIME AROUND, OUR PAST** from May 1969 GEM TIMES Las Vegas Gem Club  
Courtesy of Bruno & Phyllis Syzdek ; Our Club Historians

GEM TIME.....PAGE TWO

***COPYING the MAIL***

Look who's not sleeping on the ground anymore.....Ben & Betty Barth have a new camp trailer. Congratulations!!!

It's good to see John Davies on weekend field trips again. John's work shift has been changed and he now has weekends free.

Ron Fink did a terrific job on a star garnet for a member of the movie crew. It is simply gorgeous.

If you want to hear some exciting tales around the camp fire, just get Carol Lawton or Roanne Lyall to tell of some of their weekend jogs. Boy...those gals aren't afraid of anything!

Margret Hartwell hopes to be back with us next meeting time. The Doctor says she is doing fine but it will be weeks yet before she can begin to try to walk without aid.

Seems Lydell Clement got off light this last field trip. He didn't have to pull Printess McCreless out from being stuck...not once...A new record for Printess.

Guess everyone knows whose camper to go to when you run out of water on a field trip.....Keith & Annabelle Farmer's....That's who!

*welcome* New Members..(Please add these to your roster)  
Lyman & Helen Zellar 1208 Palm Terrace, Las Vegas, Nev. 89106

James Cormack said to Pat West..!"We have been friends for a long time haven't we?" "We sure have," said Pat. "Didn't I help you with your radio?" ask James. "You sure did," answered Pat. "And didn't I bring you back some rocks from that last field trip?" says James. Again Pat answered smiling,"You sure did!" "Then don't you think it's time you did something for me?" says James. Again Pat answered, "I sure do!" .....!"Then tell Wilma that stag party ticket that she found on the floor ...fell out of your pocket."

I was in the Post Office the other day & asked Charles Wickham for a postage stamp. "Must I stick it on myself?" I asked. "Positively not," replied Charles. "It will accomplish more if you stick it on the envelope."

Linda Stiglitz has this to say about us women.  
The Lord made us beautiful and dumb...  
Beautiful so men could love us-  
And dumb so we could love them....



Floyd & Bert Snyder have just returned from a three weeks vacation in Washington. While there they had the opportunity of meeting and viewing the collection of Mr King of Chewelah, Washington. Mr King has been ask to show his Gems at the Big American Federation show in Salt lake in June. Bert says it is simply beautiful so be sure to see it.

My THANKS to Bert Snyder for helping me color the covers and Jean Cormack for typing the addresses. THANK YOU, THANK YOU...THANK YOU!

**SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAYS \_\_\_\_\_ (MONTH & DAY)

INTERESTS  Mineralogy  Lapidary  Field Trips  Geology  Beads  Silversmithing

NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES ARE: ADULTS \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \$30 \_\_\_\_\_**

MAIL IN OR TURN IN AT THE MEETING

**2006 Officers - Board of Directors - Committee Chairpersons**

Elected Officer	Name	Phone
<b>President</b>	Jack Toogood	222-1946
<b>Vice president</b>	Sharon Rogow	656-1144
<b>Secretary</b>	Clare Breneman	452-0175
<b>Treasurer</b>	Pat Skeary	459-2649
<b>One Year Board</b>	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
<b>Volunteer Chairpersons</b>		
<b>Parliamentarian /Sgt at Arms</b>	Craig Edmonds	838-0012
<b>Editor</b>	Jack Toogood	222-1946
<b>Webmaster</b>	Theresa Bower	837-0522
<b>Website Liason</b>	Carolyn Edmonds	838-0012
<b>Federation Director</b>	Carolyn Chervenak	274-2867
<b>Show Chairman</b>	Sharon Rogow	656-1144
<b>Hospitality</b>	Carolyn Chervenak	274-2867
<b>Historian</b>	Bruno & Phylis Syzdek	876-3861
<b>Financial Planner</b>	George Messenger	733-6578
<b>Awards Banquet</b>	Nancy Tatom	

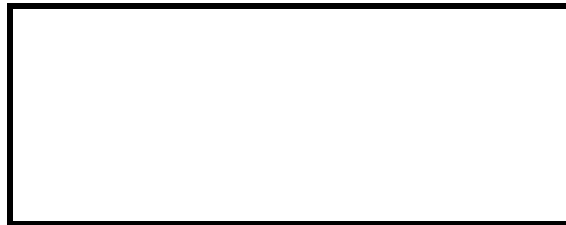
Elected Officer	Name	Phone
<b>One Year Board</b>	David Rogers	260-6344
<b>Two Year Board</b>	Tom Skeary	459-2649
<b>Three Year Board</b>	Larry Foutz	896-7757
<b>Field Trip Chair</b>	OPEN	
<b>Volunteer Chairpersons</b>		
<b>Refreshments</b>	Melinda Cohen & Paula Newman	
<b>Door Prizes</b>	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647
<b>Inventory</b>		
<b>Sunshine</b>	Priscilla Messenger	733-6578
<b>Publicity</b>	Erica Hamilton	364-1400
<b>Program Director</b>	Mary Beth Paladino	255-1647
<b>Class Coordinator</b>	Frank Auerswald	365-8306
<b>General Foreman</b>	Wes Bryant	
<b>Shop Foreman</b>	Carl Fields	
<b>Shop Foreman</b>		

**Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society P.O. Box 94744 Las Vegas, NV 89193  
website [www.sngms.com](http://www.sngms.com) E-mail: [sngmsweb@netscape.net](mailto:sngmsweb@netscape.net)**

***The Polished Slab*** published monthly by the  
**Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 94744**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89193**

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Las Vegas, NV Permit No. 2715
--

**Return Service Requested**



**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

**THE POLISHED SLAB IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [WWW.SNGMS.COM](http://WWW.SNGMS.COM)**

The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit corporation, organized to educate ourselves and the community in the science and arts related to rocks, minerals, 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 interest in Geology, Gemology, the Lapidary arts and related fields. We began in Las Vegas in 1932, and became the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society in 2003 with the merger of the Las Vegas Gem Club and the Clark County Gem Collectors. The first Polished Slab was published in 1940 by Paul Mercer.

<p><b>Club Gemstone:</b> Turquoise <b>Colors:</b> Turquoise &amp; Silver</p> <p><b>Club Logo:</b> Faceted stone <b>Club Motto:</b> Rocks-R Us</p> <p>Membership is open to anyone with an interest in; Rocks, Gems, Geology, Lapidary, Beads, Fossils, or Silversmithing</p> <p>Annual Dues - Individual: \$ 20.00 Family: \$ 30.00          Club Name Badges available at \$ 10.00 each</p> <p>Meetings: 7:00 PM the first Monday of the month at the Senior Center at 451 Bonanza just west of Las Vegas Blvd. Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada. 702-229-6454 for location info.</p> <p>No meeting is held in December - Annual awards dinner          Visitors are always welcome - Bring a friend or two.</p>
---

Polished Slab Advertising Rates		
Ad Size	Six Months	Yearly
2" x 3.5" Business Card	\$ 18	\$ 30
4.25" x 5.5" Quarter Page	\$ 48	\$ 90
5.5" x 8" Half Page	\$ 90	\$ 170
11" x 8" Full Page	\$ 150	\$ 275

First month free for club members. Ads must be paid prior to publication. Make checks payable to Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society. Mail to: SNGMS / attn: Editor  
 P.O. Box 94744  
 Las Vegas, NV 89193