



THE POLISHED SLAB

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



November 2020

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 80 Issue 11

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 16th - General Mtg
Dec 10th - Board Mtg
Dec 13th - Awards Dinner

See page 8 for details on scheduled classes and instructor contact information

SNGMS Contact :
sngms2013@gmail.com
sngmsnews@gmail.com
www.snvngms.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER 2020

To all SNGMS Members:

Greetings my fellow lapidary and rock enthusiasts:

We held our elections last night at our General Membership meeting, at the Eagles Aerie. We were delighted to have been able to gather and hold a normal meeting. We followed the rules regarding masks and distancing, and everyone had a fun time. Our local weather has been very nice, so we are taking advantage with a rock trip to Ute on November 21st. It is a fun place to bring your ATV to rockhound.

It saddens me to report the death of Scott Edwards, one of our Life-Time members. He passed away after a long illness and is survived by his sister, and a member of SNGMS, Ananaka Rau, and other family members. We will be putting a longer article together for a future publication. Final services will be announced.

Getting back to the elections, we have an energetic Board elected and they will be sworn in at our Awards Banquet. Tickets are available every Wednesday, at the shop from Chops Wenzl. You can also get your tickets at Desert Art Supply.

Membership dues must be paid by December 31st, in order to continue your uninterrupted membership. You can renew at the shop or through the mail. The membership form is downloadable from our Website.

I am looking forward to a great new year for all of us in 2021. The thing that has saved all of us rockhounds is the fact that we can still get out in the "wild" and look for rocks and specimens. Quartzsite is coming up and I am hoping that there will be outside vendors available to us. As you have probably heard, the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show was cancelled for next year, however, many of the other vendors may still be open. We will have to wait and see what happens with the various groups. The one thing that we still have going for us is our shop. We are still open during the posted hours and all of our machinery is operational. Christmas is coming so let's see everyone at the shop making all kinds of wonderful items to exchange or sell. I am personally focusing on my home shop at least 4 days of the week. Our hobbies will get us through this crazy year.

Keep your enthusiasm and spirits up. Together, we will come out better than ever!

Sincerely,

Peggy Sue Moore, President,

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Field Trips & Events

Parking Lot Sale: Sat, Nov 7th

Ute, NV: Petrified Wood, Sat, Nov 21st

Awards Banquet: Sun, Dec 13th

Quartzsite, AZ: Jan 21th-24th 2021

Outings Being Considered (Dates to Be Finalized):

Wickenburg, AZ: Feb 2021

Parking Lot Sale : Sat, Mar 6th 2021

GPS Geocaching: Sat, April 17th 2021

Spring Jamboree, May 1st-2nd 2021

Tonopah/Fallon, NV: June 4th-6th, 2021

Lund, NV: June 19th-20th 2021

McDermitt, NV : July 9th-12th 2021

Goldfield, NV: Aug 2021

Hinkley, CA: Sep 2021

North Cady's, CA: Oct 2021

Parking Lot Sale: Sat, Nov 6th 2021

Oatman, AZ: Feb 2022

Utah: July 2022

Nov Parking Lot Event:



SNGMS Board Meeting minutes for October 29, 2020

On October 29, 2020, the regular Board of Directors meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 4:00 PM by the President. All but Kerry Wenzl were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting read by Secretary were approved as read.

Treasurers Report: Account Balances were reported.

Shop report:

All equipment is up and running well.

Unfinished business:

Show report: The next meeting for the 2021 show will be held sometime in January. Everything else is going well.

The November general membership meeting will be held on Monday November, 16, 2020 as the Eagles Lodge, they won't be open until the 14th of November.

Field trip report: There will be a field trip to Ute to collect petrified wood on the 21st of November 2020. Particulars will be emailed to members.

Parking lot sale for November 7, 2020 will start at 9:00 AM and end at 4:00 PM with set up starting at 8:00 AM. All vendors must wear masks.

Amendments to the By-Laws regarding a contingency plan for future issues will need to be addressed. Also an amendment to deal with voting upon issues by the general membership when in person meetings are not able to be held need to be addressed. Also and amendment to the By-Laws allowing expenditures by the board of up to \$2000.00 when general membership cannot meet will be presented to the membership at the general meeting. These issues will be addressed in 2021.

New Business:

A list of ideas for the 2021 Cabochon contests was submitted and agreed upon. The theme for 2021 will be Nevada locations. Full list will be published in the Slab.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bob Belcher and seconded by Bruce Martin the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.



SNGMS general meeting minutes November 16, 2020

On November 16, 2020, the regular meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 6:00 PM by the President. The Secretary was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

The minutes of the October 12, 2020 meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer reported on account balances.

Reports:

Show report: Everything is on track for the 2021 Spring Jamboree. The next meeting will be held after the 1st of the year. Information on the 2022 RMF show is being gathered with information provided after the 1st of the year for general membership to vote on.

Classes:

- Metal Smithing: Bob Belcher is holding a metal smithing class on Monday November 23, 2020 5:00 PM at the shop.
- Beading class on December 14, 2020 information on it will be emailed at a later date.
- The next wire wrapping class will be November 30, 2020 at 5:00PM at the shop and will be joining Cabochons for design work.
- Faceting Class will be at 9:00 AM every Saturday at the shop.
- Shop report: Chops
 - All equipment is running and good.

Sunshine: Scott Edwards passed away on November 14, 2020. Anne Harris is recovering from a 2nd ankle surgery. Mike Kirk will be having back surgery in December, Jaen Rupprecht is undergoing another round of chem. Diane Burgess and Debra Daily are both recovering from knee surgery.

The **awards banquet** is still on unless there are changes or another lockdown.

Membership: there are 484 adult members and 80 junior members.

New Business:

Cabochon contest "Peacock" was won by Lloyd Chayette with 2 hours shop time and Gail Wisniewski with 1 hour shop time.

For the January meeting the Cabochon contest will be Lake Tahoe.

Kids club meeting was held on November 8, 2020, they learned about crystals and Native American folklore. The December meeting will be the Christmas Party for the kids. The club will be provided gifts of rock hammers to the kids.

Awards Banquet tickets are on sale until November 25, 2020. They are on sale at the November meetings also at the shop on Wednesdays and at Desert Art Supplies on Sunset. Cost is \$30.00 per member and \$60.00 for guests. Due to no nominations from the floor and only one individual per opening on the board, all nominees were elected by a show of hands. The new board for 2021 is as follows:

President: Lloyd Chayette

Vice President: Wayne Muth

Secretary: Debbie Bucknam

Treasurer: Gary Webb

Parliamentarian: Ananka Rau

1 year board: Bruce Martin

2 year board: Chops Wenzl

3 Year board (new): Ron Mazz

Past president (new): Peggy Sue Moore

A motion was made to excuse Ananka Rau from being absent due to a death in the family. Motion by Bill Moore 2nd by Marilyn McDougal. Motion passed.

Chinese auction donations can be dropped off at the shop. Make sure to label them with your name and that they are for the Chinese Auction. Donations need to be received no later than December 10, 2020.

A motion from Wayne Muth seconded by Ron Mazz was made to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57PM

**Congratulations !!!
Lorrilee,
Great Job!!!**



Birthstone for the Month of November is Topaz: Topaz in its natural state is a golden brown to yellow, a characteristic which means it is sometimes confused with the less valuable gemstone citrine. A variety of impurities and treatments may make topaz wine red, pale gray, reddish-orange, pale green, or pink (rare), and opaque to translucent/transparent. The pink and red varieties come from chromium replacing aluminium in its crystalline structure. Orange topaz, also known as precious topaz, is the traditional November birthstone, the symbol of friendship, and the state gemstone of the US state of **Utah**. It is unquestionably an ancient healing stone and gemstone. Topaz symbolizes the joy of life. Its wearer will take delight in the world and embark on a path of self-realization. Gold topaz is linked to Virgo, pink to Leo and blue to Aquarius.



SNGMS 2020 Meetings

Jan 02 Board	Jul 02 Board
06 General	Jul 06 General
30 Board	30 Board
Feb 03 General	Aug 03 General
27 Board	Sep 10 Board
Mar 02 General	14 General
Apr 02 Board	Oct 05 General ?
06 General	08 Board
30 Board	29 Board
May 04 General	Nov 16 General
28 Board	Dec 10 Board
Jun 01 General	Dec 13th (Annual Awards Banquet)

Board Meetings (site to be announced)
 General Meetings at
 Eagles Lodge, 1601 E. Washington Ave.

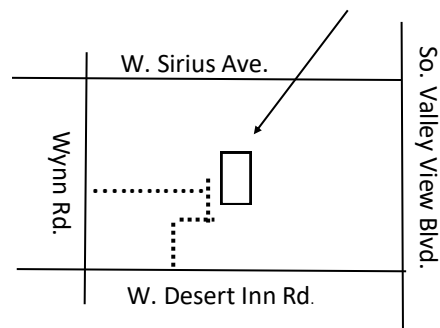
SNGMS General Meeting

1st Monday of every month
 (2nd Monday if holiday falls on
 the first Monday) No meeting in
 December.

Non-members welcome!

Eagles Lodge 1601 E Washington
 Ave.

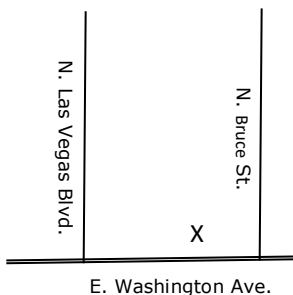
Show & Sell 5-6 PM
 General Meeting 6-8 PM

**3111 So. Valley View Blvd,
 Building E Shop Suite 125****Finding the Shop Location**

Proceeding west on Desert Inn Road, take the first right past So. Valley View Blvd. into the industrial park area. Drive past the building on your right, then jog right, then left and you will be in front of Building E. Another option is to enter off of Wynn Rd. Go

west on Desert Inn Rd. to Wynn Rd., turn right onto Wynn Rd. and go to the first entrance on the right (past the BIG white Commercial building sign) turn right and straight in front of you is Building E #125.

SNGMS Contact:
sngms2013@gmail.com
www.snvngms.org

**Finding the General Meeting Location**

Eagles Lodge #1213
 1601 E Washington Avenue, Las Vegas,
 NV
 (702) 642-1213

KIDS CLUB / EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

The Kids Club meets on the second Sunday of most months at the SNGMS Shop from 3-5. As always, for more information, or to volunteer to lead an activity, or to help with an educational event contact Mary Beth Paladino at 702-255-1647

Are you smarter than a Rock Star?

The November meeting consisted of talking about Crystals, Amethyst, topaz and garnets. Mary Beth read about all of the uses of crystals. They also learned about Native American Traditions.

Again, Thanks to the SNGMS for your continued support.

Mary Beth

Shop Talk : What are Fluorescent Minerals? (Courtesy USGS)

Fluorescent Minerals are those minerals that “glow” (emit visible light) when illuminated with invisible ultraviolet light (UV) commonly known as “black light”.

Ultraviolet light is part of the electromagnetic spectrum that lies beyond the short wave (violet) end of the visible spectrum. The visible spectrum extends from red light (wavelength=700 nanometer, nm or 700 Angstrom Units), to violet at 400 nm. Two wavelengths of UV commonly used are long wave UV (about 365 nm) and short wave UV (254 nm). Long wave UV, closest to the visible spectrum, is the least energetic and causes a few minerals to fluoresce. Short wave UV has the higher energy and produces brighter fluorescence in more minerals.

UV lamps are available in a wide range of cost and power. Long wave (LW) lamps are cheaper but only a few minerals fluoresce with them; they are more useful for fluorescent paints and posters, and the inexpensive lamps sold in novelty shops are strictly LW. Short wave (SW) lamps are the best for minerals but they are more expensive. Short wave UV also causes suntan and sunburn, and prolonged exposure can badly irritate or burn the skin and especially the eyes. Never look directly at a SW lamp, and wear special protective goggles to block UV (even regular glasses help) if using one for a long period of time. Small portable lights powered by flashlight batteries cost about \$25 (LW) to \$50 (SW) an up; more powerful , 110 V lamps can cost from \$100-\$500. Look for them at Rock shops or ads on the internet.

What's Fluorescent? Not every mineral is fluorescent; most are not. Often an absolutely pure mineral (such as pure SiO₂, quartz) is not fluorescent, but if that same mineral contains the right impurities, it will be. Minerals which are fluorescent contain atoms of certain chemical elements, or combinations of elements, which cause them to absorb ultraviolet light and re-emit this electromagnetic energy as visible fluorescence. Chemical elements which cause fluorescence are called **activators**. A few minerals are almost always fluorescent (scheelite, autunite, hydrozincite); many minerals are sometimes fluorescent, sometimes not (calcite, barite, gypsum, apatite, diamond). Most metallic minerals, such as pyrite, magnetite, galena, azurite, and malachite, are never fluorescent.

<u>Mineral</u>	<u>UV type</u>	<u>Color of fluorescence</u>	<u>Activator(s)</u>
Apatite	SW	yellow, blue pink	manganese
Autunite	SW	green	uranium
Calcite	SW	orange-red	manganese
Calcite	LW,SW	white, yellow, blue	mostly unknown
Corundum (ruby)	LW	red	chromium
Fluorite	LW	violet	europium
Halite	SW	orange-red	manganese
Gypsum	LW,SW	white, yellow, green	various, mostly unknown
Opal	SW	green	uranium
Powellite	SW	yellow	molybdenum
Quartz (agate)	SW	green	uranium
Scapolite (wernerite)	LW	yellow	sulfur
Scheelite	SW	blue, blue-white	tungsten
Sodalite (hackmanite)	LW	orange	sulfur
Willemite	SW	green	manganese
Zircon	SW	yellow, blue, white	rare earth elements

Fluorescent minerals can be found in every state of the U.S. One mining area famous for its outstanding and brightly fluorescent minerals is Franklin and Sterling Hill, in the northern New Jersey, source of fluorescent calcite (red), willemite (a zinc silicate, green), franklinite (black, non-fluorescent), and many other fluorescent and non-fluorescent minerals.

Classes

Wire wrapping, led by Peggy Sue Moore meets on most Mondays (except for the General Meeting night). Hours for the class are 5 - 8 PM. The fee is \$7.00 for the shop and \$1.00 pattern fee.

Beading: Gary Webb and Sue Dobson will be hosting the beading class. Classes will be the 2nd Monday of the month at 5 pm.

Silver Smithing: Bob Belcher will be teaching the silversmithing classes. They are scheduled for the forth Monday of the month at 5 pm.

Faceting classes. Saturdays 9 am to 12 pm. Please contact Peggy Sue Moore (moorepeggysue@gmail.com) in advance to see if a machine is available. Class fee is \$10.00 plus a \$5.00 fuel fund for the instructor, Tom Kidwell.

Wire wrapping, metal smithing, flint knapping, and silver smithing have a very modest donation of \$7.00 per session, that goes to the club. Faceting class fee is \$10.00 plus a \$5.00 fuel fund for the instructor. Other class donations may vary, depending on what is included in the class. All donations go to SNGMS, all instructors volunteer their time and expertise to help extend the knowledge of our members.



Sunshine Report

from Beth Jones

Please if you hear of any SNGMS member in need of a bit of sunshine due to accident, illness, death in the family or other need, call Beth Jones at 702-505-5819 or email her at Punkyjones@hotmail.com (please put SNGMS Sunshine in the Subject)

Scott Edwards passed away on November 14,2020. Services to be announced.

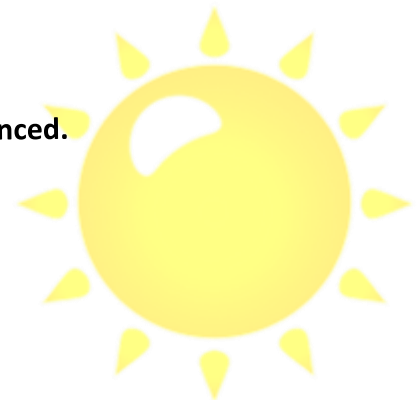
Anne Harris is recovering from a 2nd ankle surgery.

Mike Kirk will be having back surgery in December.

Jaen Rupprecht is undergoing another round of chemo.

Diane Burgess and Debra Daily are both recovering from knee surgery.

Fran and Allen Stratton are both having problems with some of their joints.



SHOP INFORMATION

"New" SNGMS Workshop Schedule

SHOP HOURS

Sunday 10 am to 3 pm

Monday Closed for general use: Various Classes

Tuesday 10 am to 7 pm

Wednesday 10 am to 7 pm

Thursday 12 pm to 9 pm

Friday 12 pm to 9 pm

Saturday 1 pm to 6 pm

SHOP CLOSED :

2nd Sunday of every Month For Kids Club

Board Meeting: Various Thursday Nights 6 pm to

Approx 7 pm

Check Email and "Polished Slab" for possible date changes.



Photos courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse



2020 Monthly Cabochon Contest: (Birds)

Nov Peacock Dec (None)

2021 Monthly Cabochon Contest: (Nevada Points of Interest)

Jan Lake Tahoe

Feb Ruby Mountains

Mar Great Basin-Star Gazing

Apr Lehman Caves

May Black Rock Desert

Jun Nevada Test Site

July Valley of Fire

Aug Virgin Valley Opal

Sep Boulder Dam

Oct Ichthyosaur National Park

Nov Cathedral Gorge

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE CABOCHON CONTEST YOU MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE HOUR OF SHOP TIME. THE WINNERS RECEIVE FREE SHOP TIME. A "NV" cabochon will be the contest entry to be judged at January's general meeting. *Good Luck!*

November's "Peacock" winners

1st Place: Lloyd Chayette



2nd Place: Gail Wisniewski



Please, **under no circumstances**, park in front of Unit 124 or Unit 126 (the units next to the Shop). The owners of the units come in at odd hours and need access to their parking spaces. There is ample parking across from the Shop that is not in front of any unit.



Happy Birthdays!

November

Kirsten Ashley, Dick Askew, Rick Brown, Debbie Bucknam, Megan Caliendo, Craig Campbell, Rene Cantu Jr., Jim Carrabis, Peyton Cole, Charles B. Davis, Tammy Davis, Tony De La Paz, June Dechand, Ried Dechand, Sonya Edwards, Joe Ferriolo, Greg Flansaas, David Ford, George Graham, Jim Grothuesmann, Vicki Holt, Nancy Huffine, Danny Huxford, Brian Jacoby, Lisa James, Sandra Johnson, Aiden Kerr, Liam Kerr, Joan Kettleon, Wayne Logan, Jaden Manina, Trevor Manuel-Vuffek, Gloria Martines, Marilyn McDougal, Richard Miller, Peggy Sue Moore, Stephen Nordstrom, Jill Ono, Tony Peltz, Ananaka Rua, Jaen Rupprecht, Dietmar Selzer, Linda Shaffer, James Shirley-Tecumseh, Bennett Stewart, Olivia Stewart, Perry Swanson, Renee Swanson, L.D. Tripp, Gary Tucker Jr., Jacyne Tucker, Brody Washburn, Paul Watteson, Madilynn Zangger.

December

Awards Banquet, Sunday, December 13th, 3 pm to 8 pm

Debra Altergott, Steven Altergott, Samantha Alverson, Karen Barrett, Bob Belcher, Kayzle Black, Celeste Cobbs, Alex Curran, Tony Duran, Gina Greco, Song Hageman, Shane Hayes, Mona Howell, Randy Huffine, Mitch La Fortune, Nicholas Lash, Paula Lawlor, Rita Lencioni, Caroline Leone, Patty Leppert, Raquel Lohmann, Robert Madow, John Miller, Kathryn Mundine, Anatalia Muniz, Julia Paladino, Stephen Palecek, Ernie Parrish, Holly Pelka, Danny Prince, Rhett Richins, Sharon Rogow, Sierra Rosten, Kay Scheel, Konner Skougard, Bart Solomon, Doug Storseth, Frances Stratton, James Testa, Dan B. Toney Jr., Del Walkenshaw, Mercedes Warrick, Karen Warsech, Nora Washburn, Gary Webb, Peter Welty, Marc Winters, George Yago, C.T. Yu.

Welcome New Members!

A hearty welcome to members who joined or rejoined SNGMS .

We look forward to getting to know you better

Eric Cifani, Tony De La Paz, Nancy Eash-Heyl, Michael Heyl, Aidan Hudson, Finn Hudson, Jim Hudson, Elana Hu-Peisert, Mitch La Fortune, Chase Leugers, Jeromy Leugers, Bode Ludens, Ian Ludens, Karthryn Ludens, Nate Ludens, Chris Oremus,, Julia Paladino, Michael Paladino, Enrique Perez, Lillian Prather, Sierra Rosten, Heather Stinnett, Morgan Stinnett, Trev Stinnett, Kristy Toguchi-Leugers, Anthony Viacava, Andrea Vidmar, Bea Wilcox.

SNGMS 2020 Board of Directors

President: Peggy Sue Moore moorepeggysue@gmail.com 702 348-9600
 Vice-President: Sheri Johnson sherisrocks89121@gmail.com 702 525-0256
 Secretary: Debbie Bucknam grandmadeb10@gmail.com 805 415-1870
 Treasurer: Gary Webb SNGMSTreasurer@gmail.com 702 876-2592
 Parliamentarian: Ananaka Rau arau3@yahoo.com 775 400-6511
 One Year Board Remaining: Del Walkenshaw desertartsupply@aol.com 702 451-8040
 Two Year Board Remaining: Bruce Martin brucemartinlv@yahoo.com 725 400-1472
 Three Year Board: Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl 702 378-2205 Kheffner@levi.com
 Past President: Bob Belcher f35fighterman@yahoo.com 702 210-9612

Contact any Board member to volunteer for a position, or a Committee Chairman to offer to help on their committee.

Committee Chairperson

Bulletin.....Del Walkenshaw & Deb Koladziej
desertartsupply@aol.com
 Communications.....Del Walkenshaw sngmsnews@gmail.com
 Federation.....Peggy Sue Moore
 Alt. Federation.....Sheri Johnson 702 525-0256
 Field Trip.....SNGMS Board
 Shop Foreman Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl
 Historian.....Jack Toogood
 Hospitality.....Open
 Inventory.....Frank Timbers ftimbers@centurylink.net
 Librarian..... Mario Luchetta
 Membership..... John Stackhouse 702-239-0437
 New Member Liaison... Joann Spratt
 Program..... Cindy Allison
 Publicity.....Open
 Raffle.....Steve Chavez
 50-50 Raffle.....Orville and Lisa Wiemers
 Refreshments..... Fran & Allen Stratton
 Rock Stars.....Mary Beth Paladino.....702-255-1647
 Show Chairperson.....Sheri Johnson 702 525-0256
 Sunshine.....Beth Jones punkyjones@hotmail.com
 702-505-5819
 Webmaster.....Lorrilee Stackhouse lorrilee@cox.net
SNGMS Contact:
sngms2013@gmail.com sngmsnews@gmail.com
www.sngms.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

There are rock clubs throughout the United States and the computer is your friend in finding information about clubs and shows. Just search for the area you are interested in and rock club and you should find plenty to keep you busy, wherever you are going.

Quartzsite, AZ: Jan 21th-24th 2021

Some links that you may find helpful:



<https://www.rockandmineralshows.com/>

American Federation Of Mineralogical Societies-
<http://www.amfed.org>
Rocky Mountain Federation -
<http://www.rmfm.org>
and the Rock & Gem website -
<http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society
3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Return Service Requested



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.

Club Mascot: Rock Wren

Club Gemstone: Turquoise

Club Logo: Rocks-R-Us

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in: Rocks, Gems, Geology, Fossils, Lapidary Arts or Silversmithing

Annual Dues: Individual - \$25; Family - \$35

Meetings are held the first Monday of the month at the Eagles Lodge #1213, 1601 E Washington

No meeting is held in December. Instead we have our annual awards dinner.

**POLISHED SLAB
 ADVERTISING RATES**

<i>Ad Size</i>	<i>Six Months</i>	<i>Yearly</i>
<i>Business Card</i>	\$18	\$30
<i>Quarter Page</i>	\$48	\$90
<i>Half Page</i>	\$90	\$170
<i>Full Page</i>	\$150	\$275