

THE POLISHED SLAB



Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society

July 2021

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 81 Issue 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jul 8rd - Board Mtg Jul 12th - General Mtg Jul 29th - Board Mtg Aug 2nd - General Mtg

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

SNGMS Contacts:

sngmspresident@gmail.com sngmsvicepresident@gmail.com sngmssecretary@gmail.com sngmstreasurer@gmail.com sngmsshowchair@gmail.com sngmspublicity@gmail.com sngmsnews@gmail.com www.snvgms.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JULY 2021

To all SNGMS Members:

Hello, fellow rockhounds!

It was great to see all the members who attended the July 12th General Meeting at the Eagle's Lodge. Ron Mazz did a superb job running the raffle and has volunteered to take this on for the next few meetings. Claudia Crouse has taken over as our membership committee chairperson and is expertly handling all the responsibilities associated with the position. Bruce Martin won first place and Ron Mazz was second place winner for the July cabochon contest. The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) Show at Big Piney, WY was a success with about 14 members who attended and represented our club. Lorrilee Stackhouse received two outstanding awards: first place webmaster award from RMFMS and second place webmaster award from nationwide American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Congratulations, Lorrilee and we're grateful for all the members who represented SNGMS at the show!

Cliff Jackson, our new RMFMS Show chairperson, is very busy with organizing and coordinating for the Orleans event on June 17th-19th, 2022. Any members wishing to help and volunteer for this show are welcome to contact Cliff or any board member.

Please watch out for announcements regarding our future field trips, classes and general membership meetings.

Thanks to all of the members and volunteers who put in a lot of hard work to make this one of the best clubs in the country!

See you at the next club event!

Lloyd Chayette, President SNGMS July 2021

Field Trips & Events

Rock Swap & BBQ, at the Shop, Oct 17th, 2021

Festival City Rock, Mineral, Gem & Jewelry Show, Cedar City, Utah, October 1-3, 2021

Outings Being Considered (Dates to Be Finalized):

Cedar City, UT: Sat-Sun, July 10th-11th 2021

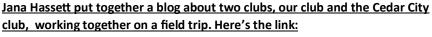
Silver Park, NV: Sat, July 24th

Kokoweef, CA: Sat, Sep 11th 2021

Tempiute: Sat, Oct 9th 2021 Parking Lot Sale: Sat, Nov 6th 2021

<u>Cedar City Field Trip:</u> (photos courtesy of Amber Palecek & Chops Wenzl





https://www.utahgemstonejewelers.com/rockhounding-2/







<u>Hardness Tester:</u> Diane Hale obtained the Hardness Tester and the club donated it to the UNLV Geology Department. Cliff Jackson and Ron Mazz delivered the heavy piece of equipment to UNLV to the delight of Dr. Tschauner. It will be put to good use.

Thanks to everyone involved!!

Dr. Oliver Tschauner and PhD. Students
UNLV recipients of Hardness Tester.

SNGMS Board Meeting minutes for July 8, 2021

On July 8, 2021, 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 board members except for the Vice President were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

<u>Treasurers Report:</u> Account Balances were reported.

Shop report:

The geode saw has been repaired and is working. The large flat lap machine needs a new circuit in order for it to work properly. The sign out front is being worked on an hopefully will be in working order soon. The new water system for the cab machines should be finished within the month. Fans in the saw room will need to be replaced, Del is working on purchasing and installing new ones.

Unfinished business:

The microscope that was donated to the club has in turn been donated to UNLV Geology department the professor was delighted with the new donation.

2021 Rocky Mountain show was well attended and Lorilee Stackhouse won awards from both the Rocky Mountain Federation and the American Federation for the clubs website.

A new volunteer for the raffle is needed.

Auction of the 16" slab saw is complete and won by Gary Webb.

Kids club will be having a field trip to the McCaw School of Mines as soon as Mary Beth arranges it possibly next month.

The UV flashlights for resale and Christmas gifts for the kids club have been ordered.

Peggy Sue is working on the order of tools from Sona for resale in the shop.

New Business:

The next General Membership will be held July 12, 2021 at the Eagles Lodge.

Upcoming field trips are July 24th to Silver Park being led by Cliff Jackson. September 11, 2021 Kokoweef, October 10, 2021 Tempiute.

There will be a rock swap and BBQ at the shop on October 17, 2021 from 12:00PM to 3:00PM

The Cabochon contests for 2022 will be Celestial Bodies.

January – Sun, February – Moon, March – Mars, April – Saturn, May – Jupiter, June – Milky Way, July – Nebula, August – Black Hole, September – Comet, October- Earth November - Venus

There will be no beading class for July, also a beginning cabochon class on July 18, 2021. The silversmithing classes are full at this time. Wire wrapping class will be on July 19, 2021.

Claudia has volunteered to take over as Membership Chair from John Stackhouse.

There will be a meeting on July 15, 2021 at 4PM at Desert Art Supplies to discuss the 2022 show.

Cliff Jackson requested that Doris Currington be reinstated posthumously to her Lifetime membership request was approved.

Debbie Bucknam has requested that a contest be held at the August General Meeting for design ideas for patches to be sold at the 2022 show. This will be done as a blind contest similar to the cabochon

contest held each month.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ananaka Rau and 2^{nd} by Chops the meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM

SNGMS general meeting minutes July 12, 2021

On July 12, 2021, 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 May 2021 meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer reported on account balances.

Reports:

Classes:

- Metal Smithing: Bob Belcher reported that all spaces are filled for his class but he is forming a waiting list. Classes are on July 25 th and 26th. Tracy will be holding a class on July 18th at Desert Art Supplies to help those with on going projects from 9:30 am to 3:30 PM.
- There will be a beginning cabochon class on July 18, 2021 at 10:00AM class is limited to 6 students please contact Beth Jones to reserve a spot.
- Faceting Class will be at 9:00 AM every Saturday at the shop.
 Wire wrapping class will be on July 19, 2021.

o Shop report: Chops

• Everything is up and running. The new fans for the saw room are installed, still working on the lighting for the sign out front. There are issues with the toilet taking a long time to fill but they are being worked on. The new water system for the cab machines is almost complete.

Sunshine: Doris Currington passed away. Peggy Sue had surgery to remove a cancer spot on her face but is doing fine now.

Kids Club: The kids all earned their first 2 badges and will start working on the 3rd at the August meeting. Levie Strauss donated a \$200 grant to the kids for the purchase of fossils to help them earn their collecting badge. Next meeting will be the 2nd Sunday in August from 3-5 at the shop.

New Business:

Cabochon contest Valley of Fire Bruce Martin won 2 hours of shop time and Ron Mazz and James Sloan tied and each won 1 hour of shop time. The subject for August will be Virgin Valley Opal. Field trips – July 24th Silver Park NV. September 11th Kokoweef.

Next Board Meeting will be July 29th at Desert Art Supply starting at 4:00PM.

Next general Meeting will be August 2th at the Eagles Lodge starting at 6:00PM.

Volunteers are still needed for various functions, members and volunteers are what makes our club work and are deeply appreciated.

Gary Webb won the auction for the 18" slab saw.

There will be a committee meeting for the 2022 show at Desert Art Supplies on July 15 at 4PM.

There will be contest for the design on the patches for the 2022 RMFS show at the general membership meeting in August.

Elections of 2022 Board and Officers is right around the corner and volunteers are always needed to fill positions.

A motion from Orville Wiemers seconded by Beth Jones was made to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23PM

A <u>big shout out</u> goes to Lorrilee Stackhouse for her excellent work on our website. She won <u>1st place</u> in the Website Contest at the Big Piney, Wy Show for the Rocky Mountain Federation and <u>2nd place</u> for the American Federation. With all the clubs involved it's a great tribute to Lorrilee's efforts.

Congratulations Lorrilee.







Photos from the Big Piney, Wy Show (Courtesy of Chops Wenzl)





















<u>Birthstones for the Month of July is Ruby</u>: Ruby is a pink to blood-red colored gemstone, a variety of the mineral corundum (aluminium oxide). Ruby is one of the traditional cardinal gems, together with amethyst, sapphire, emerald, and diamond. The word *ruby* comes from *ruber*, Latin for red. The color of a ruby is due to the element chromium. A

clear stone will command a premium, but a ruby without any needlelike rutile inclusions may indicate that the stone has been treated. Ruby Symbolizes love and passion. The Stone is associated with vitality and strong feelings. Because of its beauty and rarity, the Greeks called it the mother of all gemstones.



SNGMS 2021 Meetings

Dec 28 Board 08 Board Jan 04 General 12 General 28 Board 29 Board Feb 08 General Aug 02 General 25 Board Sep 09 Board Mar 01 General 13 General Apr 01 Board 30 Board 05 General Oct 04 General 27 Board 28 Board May 03 General Nov 01 General Jun 03 Board Dec 02 Board Dec 5th (Annual 07 General Awards Banquet)

Board Meetings (site to be announced) General Meetings at

Eagles Lodge, 1601 E. Washington Ave.

SNGMS General Meeting

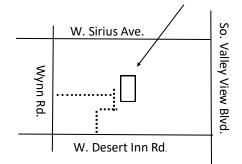
1st Monday of every month (2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday) No meeting in December.

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



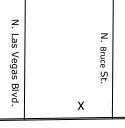
Finding the Shop Location

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.snvgms.org





E. Washington Ave.

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!!!

Our Sunday meeting started off with a demonstration from Linda on how to add a jump ring to a necklace. She gave

each Rock Star a beautiful zoned blue crystal to use. Thank you Linda Each member received their first Jr. Rock hound patch from the American Federation. They all signed up to receive their next collecting patch.

There were also Fish fossils for everyone to choose from. Each willing member got to help split a limestone slab. How fun was that?

As always thank you to the SNGMS members who volunteer to help with the Rock Stars. It is much appreciated.

Mary Beth







Shop Talk: Brad's Bench Tips

FANCY RIVET HEADS

For a nice looking rivet head, use brass escutcheon pins. You'll have perfectly rounded heads that are all the same size and shape. The pins are a little hard to find, so try the best hardware stores first. Be sure to get solid brass pins, not brass plated steel. If unsure, test them with a magnet.

The pins are readily available online. Lee Valley Tools has them in 16 or 18 gauge and lengths from 1/4 inch to 1 inch. Go to http://www.LeeValley.com and do an item search on "escutcheon pin".



For best results, select a drill that gives you a hole with a close fit to the rivet. Trim the rivet to a leave a little less than one sticking out the back side. Place the head on a scrap of hard plastic on the anvil so as to not flatten the head. I prefer a ball peen hammer (with a small 3/8 inch ball) for setting the rivet.

EASIER PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount, the tool is less likely to slip off the prong if you grind a shallow groove into its face or rough up the face a bit with sandpaper. Some folks prefer a prong pusher for doing this, and others like a set of pliers with a slight groove on one jaw.

The easiest way to create a slot on the pusher is with a file, and the quickest way to create a slot on one jaw of your pliers is with a separating disc. Then do a rough polish on the slot with a medium grit, knife-edge silicone wheel.

Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems
<u>Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith</u>



Classes

<u>Wire wrapping</u>, 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.

<u>Silver Smithing</u>: Bob Belcher will be teaching the silversmithing classes. They are scheduled for the fourth Sunday and Monday of the month at 3 pm. <u>f35fighterman@yahoo.com</u>

<u>Faceting classes.</u> Saturdays 9 am to 12 pm. Please contact Peggy Sue Moore <u>moorepeggysue@gmail.com</u> in advance to see if a machine is available. Class fee is \$ 20.00, \$15.00 for the class 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 \$10..00 per session, that goes to the club. Faceting class fee is \$15.00 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)

We lost Doris Currington July 6, 2021 at the age of 93. She passed away due to dehydration & kidney failure. She was a Lifetime member who specialized in fossils and did so much for the club. She did a lot of events, decorating the Christmas party tables. She also worked with Mary Beth and the kids club.

Peggy Sue Moore is recovering from having some cancers removed from her face. Get well soon.

Wayne and Rimma Muth both have Covid. Both are at home and Wayne is feeling better. Rimma is still down but is getting better.

Claudia Crouse had a light breakthrough of Covid and is doing very well.

Toni Tyson has Covid but I have not talked her to talk.

Barbra Belcher just had her Knee replace today and is doing okay.

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



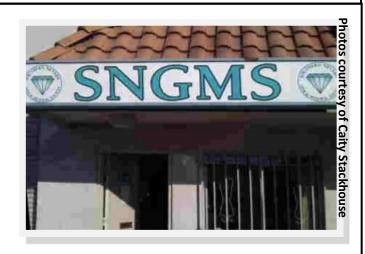
2nd Sunday of every Month For Kids Club

Board Meeting: Various Thursday Nights 6 pm to

Approx 7 pm

Check Email and "Polished Slab" for possible date

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







2021 Monthly Cabochon Contest: (Nevada Points of Interest)

Aug Virgin Valley Opal Sep Boulder Dam Oct Ichthyosaur National Park Nov Cathedral Gorge

First Place

Tie for Second:

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

May's "Valley of Fire" Cabochon

Bruce Martin

James Sloan

Ron Mazz



Shop Time 2 Hours



Shop Time 1 Hour

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!

July

Jeffery Abbas, Cindy Allison, Ayla Amberson, Ipuna Black, Joseph Boisvenu, Scott Coggins, Julie Cooley, Taylor Curley, Mike Dandridge, Jackson Davis, Joshua Davis, Leander Dockens, Terry Donhoff, Erica Hare, Panida Jager, Jim Jones, Adam Keller, Kaya Keller, Richard Leal, Nate Ludens, Katherine Matthews, Caroline McCaw, Hope McCaw, Alejandro Muniz, Nelson Muniz, Amanda Munson, Edward Munson, Madira Negrette, Richard Nell, Dari Pereira, Jerilynn Shirtz, Caity Stackhouse, Heather Stinnett, Dylan Vanderber, Tim Vanderber, Zander Wade, Casey Wagoner, Gabriel Ward, Lyvia Ward, Carolyn Webb, Kim Wenzl, Stephen Wessells, Orville Wiemers.

August

If you have a August birthday, Please bring something for the refreshment table at August's meeting.

Olamide Ajayi, Xavier Avina, Linda Ball, David Barker, Maddie Callaway, Andy Collier, Jana Cote-Cartwright, Ava Curley-Weeda, Gwern Deaver, Quinn Dresser, Ivan Erwin, Michelle Geromel, Brianna Glaude, Kathleen Greene, Jeff Greenwood, Melanie Guzman, Merina Hansen, Jana Hassett, Steve Hopkins, Aidan Hudson, Mitzi Jarrett, Louis Jarrett, Louis Laffin, Cheyenne Likens, Sarah Marks, Edith Marty, Steven McCaw, Aaron McElyea, Priscilla Messenger, Michelle Muniz, Stephanie Pattisn, Mary Savage, Patrick Shaffer, Kimberly Shiver, Joann Sprott, Shane Stuzman, Phylilis Syzdek, Jillian Szsymanski, Lori Terry, Michael Thomas, Paul Toves, Sophia Vanderber, Anthony Viacava, Trenda Walgren, Colt Walgren, Bea Wilcox, Henry Wing.

Welcome New Members!

A hearty welcome to members who joined or rejoined SNGMS. We look forward to getting to know you better.

Mary Avina, Mary Jane Avina, Javier Avina, Xavier Avina, Michael Biddison, Qiang Biddison, Rena Carrera, Ali Ess-Haghabadi, Derek Glaude, Brianna Glaude, Rhaelyn Heath, Rodger Heath, Anna Kaiser, George Kaiser, Matt Loeschner, Jack McNeel, Emily McNeel, Gerardo Melendrez, Cassandra Melendrez, Michael Miller, Kaleigh Pellissier, John Pellissier, Anthony Rivas, Lizbeth Weihs.

SNGMS 2021 Board of Directors

President: Lloyd Chayette sngmspresident@gmail.com 714 474-6384

Vice-President: Wayne Muth sngmsvicepresident@gmail.com 702 285-7878 Secretary: Debbie Bucknam sngmssecretary@gmail.com 805 415-1870

Treasurer: **Gary Webb** sngmstreasurer@gmail.com 702 876-2592 Parliamentarian: **Ananaka Rau** aarau3@yahoo.com 775 400-6511

One Year Board Remaining: **Bruce Martin** brucemartinlv@yahoo.com 725 400 1472 Two Year Board Remaining: **Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl** Kheffner @levi.com 702 378-2205

Three Year Board: Ron Mazz zman8229@gmail.com 586 914-4130

Past President: : Peggy Sue Moore moorepeggysue@gmail.com 702 348-9600

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...... Open

Field Trip.....SNGMS Board

Shop Foreman Kerry "Choppers" Wenzl

Historian..... Jack Toogood

Hospitality..... Mary Beth Paladino

Inventory......Gary Webb sngmstreasurer@gmail.com

Librarian..... Mario Luchetta

New Member Liaison... Joann Sprott
Program...... Cindy Allison
Publicity..... Andrea Packo
Raffle Steve Chavez

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

Sunshine...... Beth Jones punkyjones@hotmail.com

702-505-5819

Webmaster..... Lorrilee Stackhouse lorrilee@cox.net

SNGMS Contact:

 sngmspresident@gmail.com
 sngmsvicepresident@gmail.com

 sngmssecretary@gmail.com
 sngmstreasurer@gmail.com

 Sngmsshowchair@gmail.com
 sngmspublicity@gmail.com

 sngmsnews@gmail.com
 www.snvgms.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.

Festival City Rock Show, Cedar City Ut: Oct 1-3, 2021

SNGMS Rocks, Gems & Jewelry Show,: Las Vegas, NV June 17-19, 2022

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.rmfms.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

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