



July 2024

THE POLISHED SLAB

SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940



VOLUME 84 ISSUE 7

UPCOMING MEETINGS

August 5, 2024 - Board Mtg
August 5, 2024 – Genl Mtg

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Media Coordinator for social media volunteers needed.
Please contact Andrea Packo
sngmspresident@gmail.com

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Hello!

I hope you had a safe 4th of July and are managing to stay cool.

At our meeting this month we met a new silversmith. His name is Andy Gomez and he will offer an introduction to his classes at 3 pm Sunday July 7, 2024 at the SNGMS Lapidary Shop. This will not be a class but more of a demonstration of what he will be teaching and the type of materials and tools you might need if attending his classes.

The Viva Las Vegas Rocks show is now 73% sold out of vendor spaces. Orville Wiemers expects to sell out soon so if you have been thinking of getting a space, please hurry.

We now have a scholarship program thanks to Debbie Bucknam and her committee. And Jonathan Tredwell plans to lay out all our field trips with his committee for the next year. That’s exciting news!

Congrats to new Lifetime members Chops Wenzl and Gary Webb!

Although a bit early, it was brought up that many of the current board members will be stepping down at the end of this year for various reasons. So we ask members to consider running for the following positions:

President, Vice President, Parliamentarian, and 3 year Board Member.

Please check page 5 of this newsletter for descriptions of qualifications and duties so you can see if your skill set is a good match. The duties are also in the online bylaws: <https://www.snvgs.org/bylaws>



In addition, Del Walkenshaw is giving up the monthly meeting Projector Screen assembly and Ron Mazz will no longer run the Raffle. Please consider volunteering for these positions.

Keep Cool!

Andrea Packo, President



2024 Field Trips¹ & Events

Field Trip ¹ /Event	Date	Location
Semi-Annual SNGMS Financial Review	Tuesday, July 9, 4-5 pm	Desert Art Supplies 2750 N Green Valley Pky Suite D Henderson NV 89014
Rocky Mountain Federation of Gem & Mineral Societies Show	October 2024	Oklahoma City, OK

1) Field trip destinations, dates, and times are subject to change. Contact Jonathan Tredwell (sngmsfieldtrip@gmail.com)

Some links with information you may find helpful:

American Federation Of Mineralogical Societies – www.amfed.org/whatsnew.htm

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies – www.rmfm.org

Rock & Gem Magazine website – www.rockngem.com



Field Trip to Holbrook, AZ for Petrified Wood
June 2024

Photo courtesy of Andrea Kincannon



Variscite from Broken Arrow Mine,
Tonopah, NV June 2024

Photo courtesy of Del Walkenshaw



Cabochons Made of Turquoise from
Montezuma Mine, Tonopah, NV June 2024

Photo courtesy of Del Walkenshaw

Did You Know?

Storage lockers for your tools and supplies are available for \$3/month at the SNGMS Lapidary Shop. Any Shop Supervisor can help make arrangements. Bring your own lock.



Holbrook, AZ Field Trip Participants
June 2024

Photo courtesy of Andrea Kincannon

SECOND ANNUAL TONOPAH NEVADA

ROCK & BOTTLE SHOW

JULY 19TH, 20TH & 21ST 2024

Vendors please contact Chrissy Pope, Tourism & Events Coordinator Town of Tonopah at 775-277-0804 or email: chrissy.townoftonopah@gmail.com

To view a full list of vendors please visit TONOPAHNEVADA.COM/TONOPAH-ROCK

Logos for Robert Otteson Turquoise, Otteson Turquoise, and Turquoise Fever.

THIS EVENT IS HOSTED BY THE TOWN OF TONOPAH



SNGMS Board Meeting Minutes for 7/1/2024

On July 1st 2024, the regular Board of Directors meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at the Eagles' Lodge at 4:08 PM by the President. All Board members were present. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 3rd 2024 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurers Report: Balance of checking account is \$30,652. The decrease from the previous month was \$3,692, primarily due to the purchase of a new flat lap machine, as approved at the June General Meeting. The investments balance is \$125,474. The Personal Property Report will be due to the City of Las Vegas. A special meeting to discuss finances will be held on Tuesday, July 9 2024 at 4 pm at Dessert Art Supply. Everyone is welcome to come and learn more about our club finances.

Shop Report: Everything is fine at the SNGMS Lapidary Shop. A new silversmith instructor, Andy Gomez, will hold a silversmith class orientation at the Shop on Sunday, July 7, 2024 at 4 pm. There will be no charge and attendees will be advised of necessary materials they must have for the classes.

Unfinished Business: Scholarship Chair, Debbie Bucknam, discussed the proposed criteria for the UNLV Scholarship. The criteria used by the Rocky Mountain Federation was consulted. Some of the criteria are that they must be a full time Junior or Senior at UNLV with a 3.0 GPA and be a U.S. Citizen. The proposed criteria will be presented to the General membership for approval. Orville Wiemers reported on the Viva Las Vegas Rocks Show – 73% of vendor slots are taken. With the sale of seven more booths the break-even point will be reached. The booth number has been reduced from 64 to 63 to allow for a case display area.

New Business: Mary Savage discussed the last of the SNGMS documents. She has finished scanning documents and dispersing documents with approval from the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

SOUTHERN NEVADA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
**ROCKS, GEMS
& JEWELRY SHOW**

**VIVA LAS VEGAS
ROCKS**

VENDORS, DISPLAYS, DOOR PRIZES AND MORE!

SANTA FE STATION
HOTEL-CABINO
November
1st, 2nd & 3rd

SOUTHERN NEVADA
GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY



SNGMS General meeting minutes for 7/1/2024

On July 1st 2024, the regular meeting of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society was called to order at 6 PM by the President. The Secretary was present. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited. The minutes of the June 3rd 2024 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurers Report: Balance of checking account is \$30,652. The decrease from the previous month was \$3,692, primarily due to the purchase of a new flat lap machine, as approved at the June 2024 General Meeting. The investments balance is \$125,474 as we continue with the two 12 month CDs, expiring six months apart. The Personal Property Report will be due to the City of Las Vegas. A special meeting to discuss finances will be held on Tuesday, July 9th at 4 PM at Dessert Art Supply. It will be an approximately one-hour finance discussion. The club has seen a slight profit over the previous six months.

Shop Report: Chops Wenzl reported that the Shop is in good condition. Silversmith Andy Gomez is going to have a silversmith class orientation at the Shop on Sunday, July 7, 2024 at 3 PM. There will be no charge for the introductory class and attendees will be advised of necessary materials they must have for the classes.

Unfinished Business: Wendy Dresser reported on the Kids' Club activities. She thanked members who have donated to and helped with the Kid's Club. July 13th will be a field trip to the Planetarium, and the Aug. 11th meeting at the SNGMS Lapidary Shop will focus on the Special Effects Badge. July 14th and September 8th there will be no meeting. There will be September field trip to the Moqui Cave, funded by David Ford. Donations to the Kids' Club should be taken to the Shop, with a note saying the donation is for the Kids' Club and with your name.

Scholarship Chair, Debbie Bucknam, discussed the proposed criteria for the UNLV Scholarship. The criteria used by the Rocky Mountain Federation was consulted. Some of the criteria are that they must be a full time Junior or Senior at UNLV with a 3.0 GPA and be a U.S. Citizen. Lloyd Chayette proposed, seconded by Wendy Dresser, and accepted by the membership, that "a \$1,000 UNLV scholarship be awarded using the proposed guidelines."

RMFMS & AFMS Updates: Sheri Johnson discussed the federation liaison position which will need to be filled.

Lifetime Memberships: Del Walkenshaw nominated Kerry (Chops) Wenzl and Gary Webb for Lifetime Membership. Amber Palecek proposed, seconded by Wendy Dresser, and accepted by the membership, that "Kerry Wenzl be awarded Lifetime Membership." Lloyd Chayette proposed, seconded by Bruce Martin, and accepted by the membership, that "Gary Webb be awarded Lifetime Membership."

Sunshine: Mary Beth Paladino shared news from the membership. The Sunshine report is available in the Polished Slab.

Cabochon Contest: The theme for July 2024 was Mountains. First place was Bruce Martin and second place was Ron Mazz. The August 2024 theme is "Tropical."

Shows: Orville Wiemers reported that 73% of vendor slots for the Viva Las Vegas Rocks show are taken. With the sale of seven more booths the break-even point will be reached. The booth number has been reduced from 64 to 63 to allow for a case display area.

New Business: Jonathan Tredwell reported that a field trip committee has been successfully formed and is working on a schedule for trips through 2025. See the Slab and emails for details on upcoming events.

Classes were discussed, see emails and Slab for details. Wire wrapping and beading classes will be \$5 during the summer. Peggy Sue Moore has offered to teach beginning cab making on Saturday mornings with a limit of three people. Watch for announcement of an August resin clock class.

Volunteers are needed for Publicity & Media Chairmanship, and for Facebook. A backup person is needed for the website.

Visit shows and support your rock clubs during the summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

**CONGRATULATIONS
LIFE TIME MEMBERS**

**Kerry "Chops" Wenzl
and
Gary Webb**



Sunshine Report

from Mary Beth Paladino



If you hear of any SNGMS member with an event to celebrate (wedding, anniversary, etc.) or who is in need of a bit of sunshine due to accident, illness, etc., please contact Mary Beth Paladino at 702-255-1647.

Wendy Dresser’s husband is recovering from an emergency appendectomy, and Wendy has a new nephew. Amber Palcek’s mother is doing better. Lori Syddall came to the July SNGMS meeting! Barbara Belcher is under the weather. Mike Jenkins is back at work.

SNGMS Elections

Several SNGMS Board of Director members are stepping down at the end of 2024. This leaves openings for the following positions: President, Vice President, Parliamentarian, Three Year Board Member. Additionally, the 2025 Federation Director position is open.

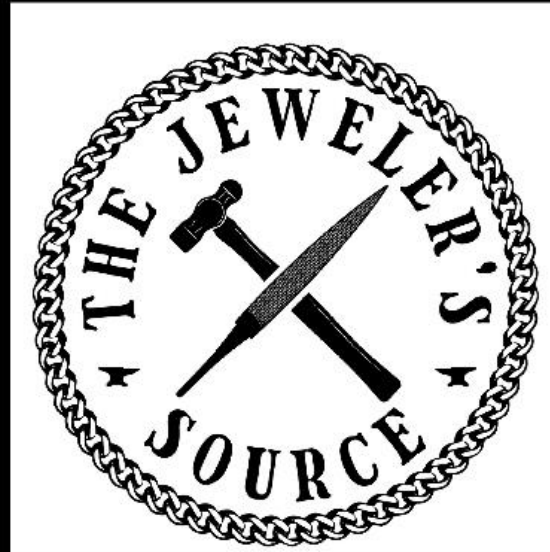
Please consider running for these positions. The responsibilities are BRIEFLY listed below, for full descriptions please visit <https://www.sngms.org/bylaws>



SNGMS Board of Director Responsibilities for Open Positions, 2025

<p>President:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presides at Board of Directors and Membership meetings. - Is an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee. - Have a working knowledge of the SNGMS by-Laws and Roberts Rules of Order - Be courteous, prompt and decided in manner. - Remember that power is to be exercised for the good of SNGMS - Maintain order and see that SNGMS business is transacted promptly and thoroughly. - Be impartial in treatment of SNGMS members and see that all have an opportunity to participate in SNGMS business, debates, committees, etc. 	<p>Vice-President:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preside at meetings in the absence of the President. - Be knowledgeable of all club business. - Perform other duties as directed by the President. - Have a working knowledge of the SNGMS by-Laws and Roberts Rules of Order.
<p>Parliamentarian :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist the President in maintaining order at all meetings. - Advise on matters of proper parliamentary procedures. - Bring copies of the current SNGMS by-Laws and Roberts Rules of Order to all Membership and Board meetings. 	<p>Three Year Board Member:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend all Board and General Membership meetings - Act on all matters of SNGMS policy. - Refer appropriate matters to the General Membership for discussion and vote. - Meet once a month to transact business and formulate plans. - Arrive on time for Board and General Membership meetings. - Request an audit of the books at any time deemed necessary. - Appoint Committee Chairpersons - Appoint Special Committees - Select replacements of any Officer/Board vacancy that may arise, to be affirmed by the General Membership. - Act as ex-officio member of all committees except Nominating Committee.
<p>Federation Director:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform SNGMS membership about Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies activities - Keep in touch with the Rocky Mountain Federation and attend Federation conferences. - Swear in all newly elected officers at the SNGMS Awards Banquet. - Give a monthly report to the General Membership of Federation activities. 	





Members Receive 5% Off

- **JEWELRY SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT**
- **JEWELRY FINDINGS & METALS**
- **LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES**
- **JEWELRY WORKSHOPS**

7022 West Charleston Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89117

702-745-1127

thejewelerssource@gmail.com

IG - thejewelerssource



SNGMS Meeting Schedules and Lapidary Shop Hours

SNGMS 2024 Meeting Schedule		
Board Meeting ¹	General Meeting ²	Kids Club Meeting ⁴
Aug. 5	Aug. 5	See Page 11
Sep. 9	Sep. 9	
Oct. 7	Oct. 7	
Nov. 4	Nov. 4	
Dec. 5	Dec. – no general mtg, Awards Banquet	

Due to limited staffing of the SNGMS Lapidary Shop on Sundays, shop users are asked to help keep the trash emptied and the floor mopped

- 1) Meets at Eagles' Lodge, 4 pm, before the general meeting
- 2) Meets at Eagles' Lodge 1st Monday of the month, unless there's a holiday, open to the public. Show & Sell 5-6 pm, meeting 6-8 pm
- 3) Meets at SNGMS Lapidary Shop, membership required, meeting starts at 6:30 pm
- 4) Meets at SNGMS Lapidary Shop with exception of some field trips, membership required

Location of the SNGMS Lapidary Shop

The SNGMS Lapidary Shop is located at:
 3111 South Valley View Blvd,
 Building E Shop Suite 125
 Las Vegas, NV 89102

Please, **under no circumstances**, park in front of Unit 124 or Unit 126 (the units next to the SNGMS Lapidary 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 SNGMS Lapidary Shop that is not in front of any unit.

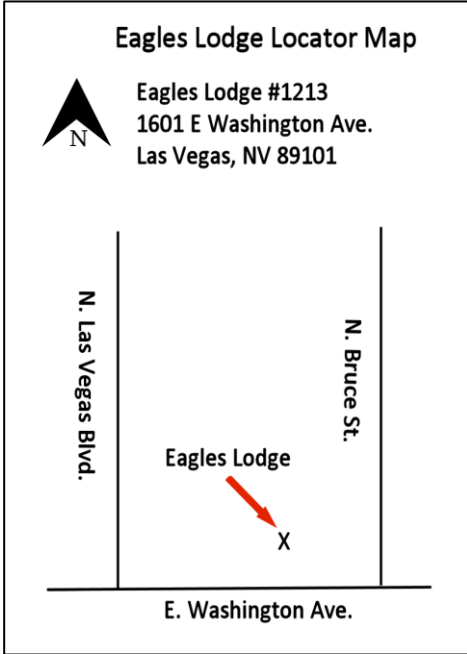
SNGMS LAPIDARY SHOP HOURS*

Sunday 10 am - 3 pm
 Monday Closed for general use:
 Various Classes
 Tuesday 10 am - 7 pm
 Wednesday 10 am – 7 pm
 Thursday 12 - 9 pm
 Friday 12 - 9 pm
 Saturday 1 - 6 pm
SHOP EQUIPMENT FEES:
 All equipment is \$6/hour. Machines are metered, so you only pay for the time the equipment is actually running.
SHOP CLOSED:
 Kids Club: 3- 5 pm 2nd Sunday of the Month
 Board Mtg: Various Thursday 6-7 pm
 *Check Email and "Polished Slab" for possible date changes.



Finding the SNGMS Lapidary Shop

Proceeding west on Desert Inn Road, take the first right past South 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, Suite #125.



Location of the Eagles' Lodge

The Eagles' Lodge is located at:
 1601 E Washington Ave.
 Las Vegas, NV 89101

SNGMS Lapidary Shop Code of Conduct

- I will treat all Supervisors and other Volunteers with respect
- I will treat all shop equipment with respect
- I will leave all equipment that I use as clean or cleaner than I found it
- If I use a CabKing, I will have the wheels inspected by the shop supervisor before I start and after I finish
- I understand if I abuse and harm club equipment, I may lose the privilege to use it



Lapidary/Jewelry Studio Tips & Tricks

Intarsia

Intarsia is the art of making a gem stone or a picture using slices of stone. The stones are cut so they line up against each other with no gaps. This is not the same as mosaics where the pieces of stone are separated by grout lines. Intarsia is also different from channel inlay. In channel inlay, the stones are separated by strips of metal.



Intarsia – No Gaps Between Stones Which Are Glued Together To Form Image
<https://www.lapidary.org/lapidary-jewelry-arts>



Mosaic Design
 Stones Set In Grout



Edison Yazzie
Channel Inlay Bracelet
 Stones Are Separated By
 Metal Strips



Intarsia Earrings

Stones are shaped using some sort of flat lap type machine/grinder to get precise, clean edges. Stones are cut starting with the center stone, and working your way out. The piece is usually finished with a beveled edge. Intarsia is a great way to use small bits and pieces of stones that might go to waste otherwise. For detailed instructions on how to create intarsia, check this 2-part youtube series:

<https://youtu.be/eddivmncwke>
<https://youtu.be/C2zuZGNW-UY>



Here is an overview of the intarsia process:

- 1) Create design
- 2) Find appropriate stones to execute the design. Using stones of similar hardness helps when it is time to polish the piece.
- 3) Rough out the required shapes with a trim saw
- 4) Refine the rough shapes with a lap/grinder
- 5) Clean the edges of the stones to be glued with rubbing alcohol. Glue the edges of the stones together with no gaps between them using super glue, working from the center outwards.
- 6) Grind the ends of the stones so they are perfectly flush
- 7) Repeat Steps 5 & 6 until all the pieces have been assembled
- 8) Clean the back of the glued intarsia piece and the THIN slab base with rubbing alcohol. Use 2-part epoxy to glue the intarsia to the base. Let it cure overnight.
- 9) Polish the entire intarsia as if it was a cabochon. Having stones with similar hardness makes it easier to polish the intarsia.

The intarsia process can be difficult, tedious, and time-consuming. Some special pieces of equipment make the work easier. Specifically, a lap with a fence to help ensure edges are flat speeds up the process. You can buy a commercial intarsia machine with built-in fences from Highland Park (<https://hplapidary.com/collections/intarsia-machines>), or you can make a fence for an existing flat lap machine as shown in the photo above. There are many other options for making your own fence as discussed here:

https://youtu.be/J_g62n-A_-E?si=VSB9qTfDhppNFb38



Flat Lap Machine with DIY Fence
https://youtu.be/J_g62n-A_-E?si=VSB9qTfDhppNFb38



2024 Cabochon Contests

MONTH	CABOCHON THEME	CONTEST WINNERS
January	Snow	1 st – George Stewart, 2 nd – Del Walkenshaw
February	Forest Colors	1 st – Mary Savage 2 nd – Joel Coombs
March	Spring Flowers	1 st – Joel Coombs 2 nd – Lloyd Chayette
April	Storm Clouds	1 st – Lloyd Chayette, Bruce Martin, tie 2 nd – Ron Mazz
May	Blue Skies	1 st – Peggy Sue Moore, 2 nd – tied, Ron Mazz & Lloyd Chayette
June	Sunset	1 st – Bruce Martin 2 nd – tied, Peggy Sue Moore & Bill Moore
July	Mountains	1 st – Bruce Martin 2 nd – Ron Mazz
August	Tropical	
September	Ocean Blues	
October	Fall Leaf Colors	
November	Landscapes	
December	No Contest	

The SNGMS hosts a cabochon contest at each of our monthly meetings. Bring a cab you have cut that matches that month’s theme. Meeting attendees vote on their favorite cab, and the first and second places winners are announced at the meeting. The first place award is 2 hours of free shop time, and the second place winner gets 1 hour of free shop time. The August 2024 cabochon theme is “Tropical.”

Good Luck!

Tropical Theme



<https://www.the-sun.com/news/8975957/tropical-island-pay-move-prove-worth/>



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:ARS_tropical_fruit_no_labels.jpg



<https://www.ahsam.com/blog/six-awesome-tropical-flowers/>



<https://www.bloomsofhawaii.com/products/purple-orchid-leis-bulk-50-leis-free-shipping>

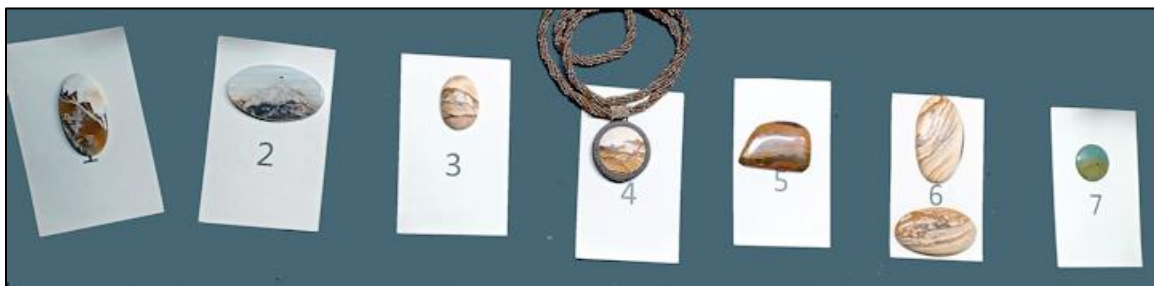


Left to right: Bruce Martin Entry 2 - 1st Place, Ron Mazz Entry 1- 2nd Place

Digging Through Time

There was a gem and mineral club at Nellis Air Force Base from about 1957 - early 1960s. It was called the Nellis Gem and Mineral Club. The organizers of the Nellis club were Keith and June Grove, Bob Walker, Ed Rupprecht, and Bruno and Phyllis Syzdek. In addition to organizing the club, these folks served as club officers and instructors. The Nellis Club went on field trips by themselves and with the Clark County Gem Collectors (CCGC). Within a few years, the Nellis Club dissolved due to military personnel reassignments. Members who remained in Las Vegas were absorbed by the CCGC, since members of the Nellis Club also belonged to the CCGC.

(The digging continues next month!)



July 2024 Cabochon Contest Entries



BIRTHDAYS

If you have an AUGUST birthday, Please bring something for the refreshment table at AUGUST’s meeting.

JULY BIRTHDAYS



LINDA BALL, DAVID BARKER, RICHARD BAUGH, WILLIAM BOWER JR. , THERESA BROOKS, AVA CURLEY-WEEDA, KRISTINA DEPRE, QUINN DRESSER, MARCY EZELL, ADAM FLINK, KATHLEEN GREENE, JEFF GREENWOOD, JANA HASSETT, CHRIS HAYDEN, STEVE HOPKINS, CHRISTINE KRAWTZ, LOUIS LAFFIN, PAMELA LAUBY, GAIL LEHTINEN, NATASHA MATKIA-HAYES, THOMAS MCBRIDE, STEVEN MCCAW, PATRICK MCLAREN, ROBERT A. MCLAUGHLIN, PRISCILLA MESSENGER, GEORGE MONREAL, MICHELLE MUNIZ, CATHERINE O’ROURKE, AARON POKORNEY, ANDRIA REICHEL, JASON RICHLIN, KRISTIN RILEY, JASON ROSSI, NICK SHARRER, SUSAN SHARRER, AARON RAY SIMPSON, JOANN SPROTT, PHYLLIS SYZDEK, PAUL TOVES, SOCORRO WALKER, GEORGE WALLACE, DEBBRA WEIBERT, GARET WIMMER, JAMIE YOSHIDA

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome to members who recently/rejoined SNGMS. We look forward to getting to know you better.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Welcome new members to the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society! Your passion for gemstones and minerals is a perfect fit for our community of enthusiasts. To acquaint you with our workshop and equipment, we offer orientation and training sessions at the SNGMS Lapidary Shop.

To reserve your spot, please email Richard Nelson (richard_nelso89@hotmail.com) . There is a \$10 fee for the orientation to help cover the cost of materials which will be provided for you.

The session will include demonstrations on the use of rock saws, flat laps, a geode saw, and other equipment. Best practices for working safely and effectively will be reviewed. Orientations are offered as listed below.

New Member Orientation Sessions

Orientation and Training Date	Time	Cost	Location
Sunday, July 14, 2024	10 am - noon	\$10	SNGMS Lapidary Shop 3111 South Valley View Blvd, Building E Shop Suite 125 Las Vegas, NV 89102 Building E Suite 125 Las Vegas NV 89102

Speakers For 2024 General Meetings

(please contact Romy Umholtz romyvision@gmail.com with speaker suggestions)

Date	Speaker	Topic
Aug. 5, 2024	Desire Schultz, Protectors of Tule Springs	Horsemanship Program at Tule Springs
Sep. 9, 2004	Lorri Dee Dukes and Connor Murphy, BLM	How Mining is Established and Conducted on Federally Owned Public Lands
Oct. 7, 2024	James Sloan, SNGMS Member	Opal Formation and Its Relationship to Chalcedony
Nov. 2024	SNGMS Elections – no speaker	
Dec. 2024	Holiday Party, no meeting	

Speaker Gifts

Donations of mineral or fossil specimens for speaker gifts, and display stands for specimens are needed. Please leave donations at the SNGMS Lapidary Shop with “Romy” or “Speakers” written on it, AND contact Romy Umholtz (702-503-0252 or romyvision@gmail.com) .

Thank you to Ron Mazz for his numerous donations for speaker gifts, and to Ken Bucknam for donating display stands.



SNGMS Rock Stars Kids Club
2024 Field Trips and Meetings¹

Field Trip/Meeting	Date	Location
Field Trip – Planetarium – RSVP Required³	July 13, 2024	College of Southern Nevada North Las Vegas Campus 3200 E. Cheyenne Ave. North Las Vegas, NV 89030
NO MEETING	July 14, 2024	
Rock Stars Kids Club Meeting - Special Effects Merit Badge	August 11, 2024, 3 – 5 pm	SNGMS Lapidary Shop ²
Moqui Caves Field Trip – FREE and lunch provided courtesy of Dave Ford – RSVP Required⁴	September 7, 2024, 3 – 5 pm	Meet at SNGMS Lapidary Shop ²
NO MEETING	September 8, 2024	
Rock Stars Kids Club Meeting	October 13, 2024, 3- 5 pm	SNGMS Lapidary Shop ²
Rock Stars Kids Club Meeting	November 10, 2024, 3 – 5 pm	SNGMS Lapidary Shop ²
NO MEETING – HOLIDAY PARTY DATE TBD	December 8, 2024	

- 1) *Field trip destinations, dates, and times are subject to change.*
- 2) *3111 South Valley View Blvd., Building E Shop Suite 125, Las Vegas, NV 89102*
- 3) **RSVP REQUIRED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31, 2024 DUE TO LIMITED BUS SEATING.** *If you need to cancel after making an RSVP, please contact Wendy Dresser ASAP so the vacancy can be filled with someone else.*

**Rock Spotlight:
Apache Tears**

Excerpted from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apache_tears

Apache tears are rounded pebbles of obsidian or volcanic glass. Apache tears fall between 5 and 5.5 in hardness on the Mohs scale. Sometimes they are called marekanite.

Apache tears are all over the western U.S. Several places in western Nevada have Apache tears eroding from tuff beds. Specimens from many of these sites are popular with rock hounds and lapidary enthusiasts. Apache tears are often tumbled and are considered semi-precious gemstones.

The name "Apache Tears" comes from a legend of the Apache tribe. About 75 Apaches and the U.S. Cavalry fought on a mountain overlooking what is now Superior, Arizona, in the 1870s. Facing defeat, the outnumbered Apache warriors rode their horses off the mountain to their deaths rather than be killed by the Cavalry. According to the legend, the families of the warriors cried when they heard of the tragedy and their tears turned into stone upon hitting the ground.



Tumbled Apache Tears

<https://www.indiamart.com/proddetail/apache-tears-7002857488.html>

DIG WITH US!
Pleiades Stone

(725) 867-7009

booking@
tredstoneshop.com

TREDSTONE
Gems, Minerals, and Artistry







REGISTER HERE



Contact any Director to volunteer for a position, or a Committee Chair to offer to help on their committee.

SNGMS 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICE	DIRECTOR	EMAIL	PHONE
President	Andrea Packo	sngmspresident@gmail.com	702-279-7679
Vice-President	Orville Wiemers	owarea22@gmail.com	702-743-3277
Secretary	Lorrilee Stackhouse	lorrilee@proton.me	702-817-5602
Treasurer	Dave Ford	sngmstreasurer@gmail.com	831-521-0214
Parliamentarian	Jack Toogood	vegasbmw@hotmail.com	702-510-4192
One Year Board	Del Walkenshaw	desertartsupply@aol.com	702-451-8040
Two Year Board	Bob Belcher	f35fighterman@yahoo.com	702-210-9612
Three Year Board	Jean Chayette	jalmiz201@gmail.com	714-474-6384
One Year Board	Bruce Martin	brucemartinlv@yahoo.com	702-896-5811

SNGMS 2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	EMAIL	PHONE
Communication	Del Walkenshaw	sngmsnews@gmail.com	702-451-8040
Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies	Sheri Johnson		
Alt Federation	Mary Beth Paladino		702-255-1647
Media Committee	Kendra White	kendrarubywhite@gmail.com	
Field Trip	Jonathan Tredwell	sngmsfieldtrip@gmail.com	725-274-3003
Shop Manager	Chops Weinzl		702-378-2205
Historian	Open		
Hospitality	Mary Beth Paladino		
Inventory	Ron Mazz	zman8229@gmail.com	586-914-4130
Librarian	Mario Luchetta		
Membership	Claudia Crouse	ccrouse295@gmail.com	
Newsletter	Mary Savage	lasvegassilversmithing@protonmail.com	
New Member Liaison	Joann Sprott		
Program (Speakers)	Romy Umholtz	romyvision@gmail.com	
Raffle/Lottery	Ron Mazz	zman8229@gmail.com	586-914-4130
Refreshments	Open		
Rock Stars	Wendy Dresser	wndresser@gmail.com	702-556-2748
Scholarship	Debbie Bucknam	grandmadeb10@gmail.com	
Spring Jamboree Show	Orville Wiemers	sngmsjamboreeshowchair@gmail.com	702-743-3277
Sunshine	Mary Beth Paladino		702-255-1647
Viva Las Vegas Rocks Show	Orville Wiemers	sngmsshowchair@gmail.com	702-743-3277



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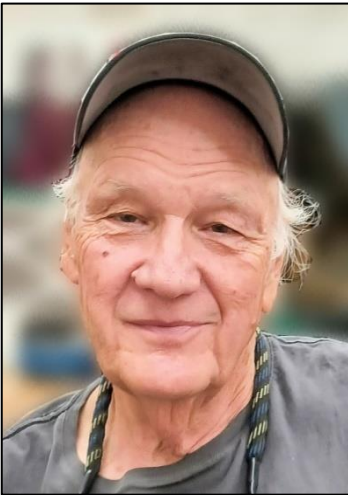
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**SNGMS Life Time Member Profile
Wayne Muth**

Wayne came to Las Vegas, Nevada with his family at age 10. He loved the desert and “went all over.” He found desert roses, but didn’t collect them, because he had not yet been bitten by the rockhound bug.

He graduated from Clark High School, and earned a B.A. from the University of Las Vegas in Hospitality. He worked for the Las Vegas Hilton (now the Westgate), followed by a stint with Santa Fe Station where he met his wife, Rimma.



Wayne Muth, 2024

The Muths enjoy the outdoors, ATVing, and fishing. Wayne noticed Rimma was interested in rocks, so they began going to ghost towns and abandoned mines. On a trip to the Lund, Nevada area they met Bill Kogan who told them about the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society (SNGMS). The Muths joined SNGMS in 2008.

The Muths are vendors at a select set of gem and mineral shows, with a preference for the Boulder City, Nevada Spring Jamboree and the Pomegranate Festival in Logandale, Nevada.

Wayne usually finds the places to rock hound – he likes mines and mine artifacts - and Rimma does the hunting. Rose quartz crystal, clear crystals, and chrysocolla are Wayne’s favorites. He says he looks for gold but has never found any!

Wayne has served as the SNGMS president (2 years), vice president (2 years), and board member (1 year). When he joined the board, Wayne felt it was important to know how to use the SNGMS Lapidary Shop equipment. The Shop supervisors worked with him to learn the ropes, and Wayne says he “knows how to slab rocks and make cabs.” His hope for the future of the SNGMS is that more members volunteer to support the Society’s activities. Wayne received a Life Time membership in June, 2021.



Mining in Nevada & Climate Change

Economic geologist Thomas Boes will discuss the wide range of uses and needs for minerals in today’s Nevada, a state whose rich & unique geology may help to mitigate climate change. Presentation includes rock & mineral samples, topographic maps and fossilized rock.

Free admission & open to the public. Seating is first come, first served and may be limited. For more information, please call 702.507.3458.

Tues July 30, 2024 at 1 p.m.
Clark County Library
1401 E. Flamingo Road
In the Large Conference Room

Mineral Musings
Goodsprings Mining District, Clark County, Nevada

The Goodsprings Mining District is located in the Spring Mountains, west of the town of Goodsprings. The town was named named after Joseph Good. He was a rancher who worked in the area. When the railroad came in 1911, the town quickly transformed from a cluster of tents and cabins into a boomtown.

Some mining claims were made near Goodsprings as early as 1868, but mining didn't take off until gold was discovered at the Keystone Mine in 1893. This area has the greatest known variety of minerals in Nevada. In addition to the gold, zinc and lead were located nearby. Smaller amounts of copper, molybdenum, vanadium, nickel, cobalt, platinum, palladium, and uranium have been mined. By 1903, the area had developed into a large mining district managed by the Yellow Pine Mining Company.

During WWI, Goodsprings became wealthy supplying zinc and lead for the war effort. Lead was used in ammunition. However, after World War I, mining slowed and families moved away. By 1918, the town's 800 residents had a hospital, luxury hotel, post office, and a weekly newspaper.

World War II created a second boom, but it too slowed after the war ended. Many of the original buildings burned, but the Goodsprings Schoolhouse still stands and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Pioneer Saloon also survived and is still in operation.

A founding member of the rockhound group that would become the SNGMS was Betsey O'Reilly Gamble. She is buried in the Goodsprings Cemetery near many of her miner friends. Today, about 200 people still live in Goodsprings.



Funeral of Betsey O'Reilly Gamble
Goodsprings, Nevada Cemetery, 1945
Photo courtesy Del Walkenshaw and Darren Welsh



The Goodsprings Waste Heat Recovery Station opened in 2010. It recovers energy from waste heat produced at a Kern River Pipeline compressor station. The pipeline moves natural gas from Nevada to California, and some waste heat is produced. This thermal energy is captured on converted to electricity. The Recovery Station can produce enough electricity for 3000 houses. The plant is owned and operated by Nevada Energy and was the first renewable energy facility owned by the company.

The SNGMS has collected from mine tailings in the Goodsprings District during field trips. The Columbia 23 claim operated by SNGMS members is within the Goldsprings District.



July 2024 Class Schedule

(see page 10 for New Member Orientation Schedule)

Class	Instructor	Date and Time	Cost	Location	Contact
Beading	Theresa Brooks	Monday, July 8 from 5 – 8 pm	\$5 (exact change only)	SNGMS Lapidary Shop, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, Bldg E Suite 125, Las Vegas, NV 89102	
Wire Wrapping	Peggy Sue Moore	Monday, July 15 5 pm	\$5 (for the summer only)	SNGMS Lapidary Shop, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, Bldg E Suite 125, Las Vegas, NV 89102	moorepeggysue@gmail.com
Faceting	Tom Kidwell	Saturdays 9 am - 1 pm	\$15.00 for the class plus \$5.00 for instructor fuel fund	SNGMS Lapidary Shop, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, Bldg E Suite 125, Las Vegas, NV 89102	moorepeggysue@gmail.com for reservations
Cabbing	Peggy Sue Moore	Saturdays 1 pm – class limited to 3 people		SNGMS Lapidary Shop, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, Bldg E Suite 125, Las Vegas, NV 89102	moorepeggysue@gmail.com for reservations
Silver Smithing	Andy Gomez	Sundays 3 – 7 pm	\$25, 1 st class is a free orientation	SNGMS Lapidary Shop, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, Bldg E Suite 125, Las Vegas, NV 89102	andrewquilesgomez415@gmail.com
Silver Smithing*	Bella Romero & Mary Savage	Fridays 12:30-3:30 pm	\$35, all materials provided for first class	Desert Art Supplies 2750 N Green Valley Pky Suite D Henderson NV 89014	Text 702-425-0149 no later than noon on Thursday before class for reservation

* Sponsored by Desert Art Supplies

All class fees include a modest donation to the SNGMS. SNGMS Instructors volunteer their time and expertise to help extend the knowledge of our members.



June 2024 Wire Wrapping Project



June 2024 Beading Project
Photo courtesy of Theresa Brooks



Sterling Silver Ring With Hand-Cut Cabochon
Photo courtesy of Bella Romero



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.

SNGMS Mascot: Rock Wren
 SNGMS Gemstone: Turquoise
 SNGMS Motto: Rocks-R-Us
 SNGMS Web Site: www.snvgs.org
 Membership is open to anyone with an interest in:
 Rocks, Gems, Geology, Fossils, Lapidary Arts or Silversmithing
 Annual Dues: Individual - \$25; Family - \$35
 Meetings start 6 pm on the first Monday of the month at:
 Eagles Lodge #1213
 1601 E Washington
 Las Vegas, NV 89101
 (702) 642-1213
 No meeting is held in December. Instead we have our annual awards dinner.

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