

CHIP 'N' TUMBLE

March 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Marcia Betz

Hi to all, hope everyone is doing fine. We have a lot planned for the next few months. Remember to sign up with CJ for the Poppy Festival and the AVGMC Show that are coming up in April. We need all of your support to make these shows a big success. We need bags made, so, if you can and if you have a sewing machine, CJ will be bringing some material to hand out at the next General Meeting. I want to thank everyone who has made bags in the past. Remember that on April 2nd, Saturday, at CJ and Ray's house in Rosemond, we will be having a Potluck and "Bag Stuffing Day". We need everyone to be there. Don't forget to bring your rocks that you have collected to stuff the bags with. I would like to thank Christine for a wonderful program last month in wire wrapping. I missed the last field trip, but heard from Jim it was great. Thank you both, Paul and Ruth, for planning and leading our field trips. This is the month for St. Patrick Day and Easter. Enjoy and be Safe. May the Luck of the Irish be with us this Month!

March Program "VOLCANISM & JASPER"

WAYS YOU CAN HELP *CLUB SHOW *

Needed:

Rocks for the Rock Bags

Slabs for Critters

CRITTERS

We also need people to serve as security during the Show & to sleep over Friday & Saturday night as Security as well!

Don't forget to put your name on the Sign-up sheets to work at the Club Show at this month's Meeting!

Calendar of Events!

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 3/22 | March General Meeting |
| 3/26 | Field Trip Black Mountains |
| 4/12 | April Board Meeting |
| 4/22 | Show Set-up |
| 4/23 & 24 | CLUB SHOW |
| 4/25 | General Meeting |
| 5/10 | May Board Meeting |

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR FAVORITE ROCK TO THE MEETING THIS MONTH!

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February Field Trip Report

By: Paul Hobbs



Perfect weather and a great bunch of rockhounds made for a awesome field trip 2/27 to the Ludlow area.

Our first stop was to Lavic which is mostly surface collecting for Jasper. I saw several people picking up small pieces for the club grab bags.

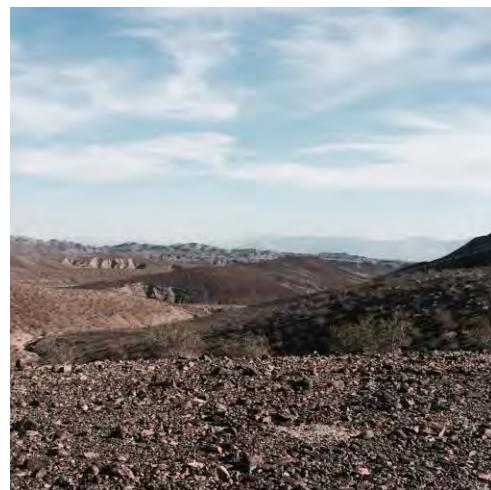
Our next stop was about 12 miles east for Thulite. Lana, guided by Ron Lawrence and Guest Sandy, explored a nearby canyon where Ruth had found some pinkish chalcedony some years back. She came back

with her shirt and pockets full. Lots of little pieces of Thulite collected for the club grab bags here too. Special thanks to all that did so!!!

Also want to thank Ron for his help in making sure everyone got unstuck and to the collecting sites.

***NOTE* - change in location for March field trip.
It will be 3/26 to Kramer Junction and North Edwards. Check your emails for details.**

Paul



I am open to suggestions for future field trips, so let me know if there is a place you would like the club to visit. Thank you.





The Last of Lavic
by: Jim Betz

The field trip to lavic siding offered up a few "gems" of beautifully brecciated jasper in my bucket when I got home and really looked at what I'd found. Getting out the hose and tooth brush and cleaning off the grit revealed dramatically fragmented shapes in rich browns, reds, yellows, and creams all in one stone there in the palm of my hand, beautiful multicolored jasper. There was also a lot of layered jasper, gorgeous in its own right. Most of the layered jasper I found was dark chocolate and red, but pieces of layered yellow and milk chocolate were there as well as a few in-betweens. I brought home six or seven pieces larger than my fist and a couple I'd call two fist size. Most of the big pieces I found I dug out, a tip or an edge of the long buried stone having been uncovered by the recent rains. It's a shame to think we were the last rockhounds ever to be there, this collection spot is soon to be claimed as monument territory by Obama's decree. My personal thanks goes out to Jules Ficke, for getting the skinny (inside information) on the legality of collecting at the site, and Paul Hobbs and Ruth Hidalgo, who's leadership and 4 wheeled drive made this field trip both fun and rewarding.



THE CLUB E-MAIL
avgemclub@gmail.com
CLUB WEBSITE
www.avgem.weebly.com

The web master is always in need of club related pictures!

Web Master

By: David Haven

I had been a grandfather for ten years when I finally joined the Antelope Valley Gem and Mineral Club. My wife and I had been telling our granddaughter Lana that she could join when she got older. It is a decision I do not regret, in some ways, I wish I had joined sooner.

By way of introduction, My name is David, I'm retired from air conditioning at several military industrial complex's, and have jumped into rock tumbling, lapidary and jewelry making with both feet, and hands. My first interest in things came in 1980 when I took a geology class to satisfy my science requirement. It was really starting to be a hobby even then. As a boy, I brought home many many samples of rocks from around the western U.S. Of course, at an early age, I didn't know a geode from sandstone, and my grand-daughter Lana is still far superior to me at identification.

Speaking of Lana, she is a Future Rock hound member, and the primary reason we joined the club. She had been asking for some years to join, every time we saw the booth at the Antelope Valley Fair. We have amassed quite a collection of samples from the many field trips we have had the blessing to attend. Her favorite part was the spinning wheel! Now she helps out at the booth and loves the chance to participate.

Early on in our year and a half membership, we started going to the field trips, first to Kearnville, then to Trona. We were hooked. There is nothing to replace the light in the eye of a geologist in early training, seeing crystals for the first time in nature as they are grown.

Some of the material I collect will eventually become part of my other hobby, making jewelry. I'm a beginner, I have much to learn. Between the club and shows, I have been able to develop my skills and stockpile my inventory.

A few years ago, I became disabled and can no longer do the rigorous collecting during the field trips. That's ok, I do just fine with what I do, and Lana gets to really get her hands dirty doing what I can only wish I were doing. However, I find that I can do the jewelry, and I do make treasure sacks for the club booths. Recently, I have taken on the responsibility of maintaining the club website and Facebook page.

Being a member of the club and being involved is a way to spend time with others, feel like maybe I'm contributing to something of worth and being part of a larger community.



Rock Bags are needed!
**CJ will be bringing material
for "ROCK BAGS" to hand
out at this month's meeting.**



March Refreshments

Snacks: Jean Jensen
Snacks: Maria Quinones
Drinks: Ray Quitoriano



BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

March Birthdays



Aquamarine



Jonquil

3/1 Josephine Smith
 3/2 Sonny Nuduvitch
 3/7 Jonathan Numer
 3/10 Ruth Hidalgo
 3/20 Susan Chaisson-Walblom
 3/28 Grace Fink

Anniversaries

3/18 Sheila & John Berger
 3/22 David & Susan Walblom
 3/28 Ed & Rhonda Hedgecock



Paul and I attended the BLM Desert Advisory Council Meeting yesterday to see if there is any chance of saving Rockhounding in the newly proclaimed Mojave Trails National Monument.

Between Randy Banis' DAC report (he is a great advocate for Rockhounds and serves on the DAC as a advisor for recreation) and my comment we were able to get, on the record, that collecting rocks is currently still allowed.

Teri Raml, BLM Ca Desert District Manager, indicated that jasper and agate are not specified in the proclamation as something that is to be protected, so they see no harm of the monuments resources with collecting them as of now.

Fossils are, however, specified in the proclamation, as should no longer be collected.

Additionally, aside from learning my voice cracks when I speak publicly, I learned the following:

1- Both Teri Raml and Katrina Symons, Barstow Field Manager, understand the significance of the Cady's and Lavic to our hobby. They both seem to hope they can include it in the management plan and urged our participation in that process.

The fact that Rockhounding was specified in Feinstein's original legislation as a continued recreational activity could help. Katrina approached me and suggested we go to Feinstein, Cook and / or any other local representatives and get their support.

The fact that fossils are to be protected poses a problem for the BLM in that it would be hard to protect fossils if you allow people to collect rocks. However, given the size of the monument, perhaps

collecting can continue in areas that don't contain fossils.

Bottom line- yes casual collecting of jasper and agate is still allowed in the Cady's and Lavic at this time.

You should not collect fossils anymore.

Any hope of continued collecting in the Cady's and Lavic areas depends on our participation in the management plan.

You can contact either the Barstow field office or the Desert District Office of the BLM with any question or concerns.

Call me an optimists but I think it is worth the effort to try to save these collecting areas or any portion of them we can.

Ruth Hidalgo

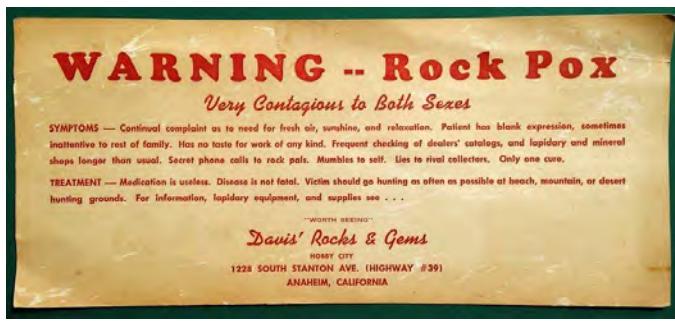
Stoddard Wells Tailgate

By:Vivian Watts

March 11,12 and 13th was Stoddard Wells Tailgate. We all knew Mother Nature had plans to come visit us during the show. Not as many vendors came out to sell this year. True hard core rock hounds showed her they wasn't scared. Friday the 11th was a great day , the rock hounds came out and bought . There was some great deals to be found. We sold and we bought. Then we watched Mother Nature come . Not many slept much Friday night . Saturday we woke to a dusty cool morning . A few tents and trucks felt the blast of her, but we still held our ground. Saturday turned out to be a great day for the Die hard rock hounders. Sales was good for many Vendors. We got to see a few club members Saturday and Friday. Sunday was a slow day, not many ventured out to the show. About 1/3 of the vendors had packed up and left by 1 pm

During the show many found out we had lost a dear friend just weeks ago. Mr Nick Beall He was a big presences at the tail gate for many years. A club member to both Victorville and Barstow. I myself will miss him dearly. I'll miss his hugs and funny comments that followed by his laughter.

Rock hounders have big soft hearts, and when we have to say goodbye it's very hard on us.



Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral February 22 General Meeting Minutes

Treasurers report - We ended 2015 in the green. Everything looks good.

Bulletin - Extra ones are available at the front. Please send Susan pictures and articles if you have them. If you have suggestions or ideas, please let her know.

Federation News - The Show will be in Northern California in Sept in conjunction with the World Gold Panning show. There is more info on the CFMS website.

BREAK - vote on Rockhound of the month, buy 50/50 tickets and enjoy some snacks.

Field Trips - Feb. 27th we will be going to Lavic Siding. Meet at the Dairy Queen in Ludlow at 10 a.m. Please let Paul know if you are going.

Program next month is undecided at this time, but it might be a video on what to collect on the moon.

Scholarships - We are taking applications. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please let them know.

Web Site - There have been over 1300 visits to our site.

Future Rockhounds - Nothing new to report. Christine is hoping to have kid oriented field trips in the near future.

Club House news - The committee will be meeting next Wednesday, Mar 3rd at 9:30 to lay the floor.

Refreshments - Please sign up to bring refreshments one month this year.

Poppy Show - April 16-17. We still need people to sign up for a shift.

Rock Show - We have sign up sheets being passed around. Please sign up where you are

available to work. We also need everyone to help with set up and providing dinner sides on the Friday night before the Show. Some of the parking lot dealers have requested we provide a porta potty. CJ will check on that. We still need to make bags. There will be a bag stuffing and pot luck on the 2nd of April at the Clubhouse.

Old Business - We need to replace the bearings in the saw.

50/50 of \$34 was won by David W. Rockhound of the month is Dan and Jean. Meeting adjourned at 9:02.

Jean made a motion to add \$30 to the purchase of poppy painted rocks making it a total of \$60. Jim seconded, all in favor.



Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral March Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:17. Those present were Marcia & Jim, Ruth & Paul, Susan & David, CJ & Ray and Lorelei & Jerry.

Minutes from last month's meeting were approved as printed. CJ made the motion and it was seconded by Jerry.

Treasurer's report - Jerry made a motion to accept the report as printed. It was seconded by CJ. All in favor.

Sunshine fund was discussed and it was decided it is not going to work due to the insurance and legal technicalities. Donations will be returned.

Bulletin - Articles and minutes are due by next Monday.

Federation - CFMS is leading a field trip to Lavic Siding. The Show will be in Placerville in Sept. The 2017 CFMS/AFMS show will be in Ventura.

Field Trips - This month will be to Kramer Junction and North Edwards. The field trip for our Show will be on Sunday, April 24th to Kramer Junction.

Membership - A new membership application has been printed up. "Badges required" should be added to it.

Refreshments for March will be provided by Jean, Maria and Ray. The April refreshments will be provided by Marcia, Carol and Lorelei. Program for March is uncertain at this time. Publicity - We need to get our show info into Rock and Gem magazine. Ruth volunteered to contact them. We need to send some pictures of last year's show to the AV Press.

Web Site - 1306 hits this month.

Clubhouse - Trailer now has new floor installed in the back room. We need a few more things fire and CO2 detectors. The committee will be addressing these safety issues. Classes may be held during the week to instruct on how to use the machines. One must be on the list to be able to use them. The question was brought up on how we should pay for electricity. It was decided that a "Shop Committee" will be appointed to get a proposal together on how much to charge for shop fees, shop rules, etc. A bathroom is also needed. Maybe Harvey's Haulaway can provide us with a porta potty.. The committee should come up with an idea on how much it costs to run the shop so a fee can be set accordingly.

Poppy Festival - The fees went up this year and we are also being charged for electrical, which is not guaranteed. Application has to be in by this Friday. It was decided that we will get the free insurance from CFMS and get the city's endorsement if necessary.

Spring Show - Still need people to sign up for shifts. CJ will check with the school to see if we are allowed to put up a porta potty.

Pricing for the items to be sold at the Fair will be done at the bag stuffing on April 2nd. We might be able to get a bismuth demo. We still need to have more bags made.

New Business - Elaine's house is being renovated because of flooding. She will be inactive until further notice. We will need a new membership chairman.

Next board meeting will be at Ruth's on April 12th. Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

2016 Local CFMS Show Listings



CJ Demonstrating at the Turlock Show!

March 19 & 20: LEMOORE, CA

Lemoore Gem & Mineral Club
Lemoore Trinity Hall
470 Champion Street
Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-4
Christopher Wertenberger (559) 309-3433
kim-morrell@hotmail.com

April 2 - 3: TORRANCE, CA

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society
Ken Miller Recreation Center
3341 Torrance Blvd (entrance on Madrona Ave)
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Contact: Larry Hoskinson / Leslie Neff, (310) 318-2170
Email: lesneff@aol.com

April 8 - 10: VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 North Santa Fe Avenue
Hours: 9 - 5 daily
Contact: Ray Pearce, (760) 726-7570
Email: raysrocks@cox.net

April 16 - 17: THOUSAND OAKS, CA

Conejo Gem & Mineral Club
Borchard Park Community Center
190 Reino Road at Borchard Road
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Robert Sankovich, (805) 494-7734
Email: rmsorca@roadrunner.com
Website: www.cgamc.org

April 23 - 24: ESCONDIDO, CA

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club
California Center for the Arts
340 N. Escondido Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Gayle Hamilton, (760) 726-0131
Email: gemshow@palomargem.org
Website: www.palomargem.org