



THE BULLETIN

APRILS FOOLS / MARCH 2024

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**LET'S HAVE A BIG
WELCOME TO OUR NEW
CLUB MEMBERS.
APRIL 2024**

**CINDY LAPP
BILLY STOLL
DAVID GARCIA
VICKEY RAMLEY
STEVE DIAS
MARTIN DePEDRO
PHILLIP MENDOZA
ELAINE SULLIVAN
JOE CORDOBA
KEN, BARBARA,
JACK & DARLA
ABBIE ROSENTHAL
KEVIN PARISH
THOMAS SAUCEDA
KATIE BOYD
GLEN BRAUKER
GOLDIE CROCKETT**

**HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT THE NEXT
GENERAL MEETING & EVENTS!**



Greetings and Happy Easter to all.

Well, we had a great tailgate. Special thanks to all of you that were able to help make this year's event a great success.

The weather was good for a change. Not too much wind and decent temperatures. We had lots of vendors and guests. The newer activities, including Pick Your prize, geode cutting and the kid's Scavenger hunt proved to be financially successful and fun for all.

Although many of you helped in this effort, I would like to recognize 2 individuals that stood out. First, Mark Lantz for all his efforts in planning, running, and following up on all the details. Mark's efforts are much of the reason for the success.

I would also like to recognize Nancy Disbrow for all her help at the booth. Although Nancy and her husband, David, are relatively new members (they joined last November), their willingness to help stands out and is greatly appreciated.

As many of you know, we got word on that Sunday that there is a new owner of that land and we are no longer welcome to host our event there. What does this mean for future tailgates? We have lots of options. These include finding an acceptable spot near there, finding a new spot closer to the pavement, or maybe even someplace in town. Each option has it's pros and cons. If you have any ideas or leads please let us know. We have several months to explore our options.

On to another subject, your club needs new blood on the Board of directors so that it can continue to thrive. Please consider loaning your knowledge and ideas to the club by running for a board position for 2025. We need you!

Meanwhile, Dwayna needs someone to help with the bookkeeping. If you have experience, or even a desire to learn, please contact Dwayna or myself to discuss how you can help us in this most important position.

Wishing you all a great April. *Dave Duncan, President*

FIELD TRIP REPORTS FROM WAGON MASTER SCOTT GRAY

TRI-COLOR AT THE TAILGATE! By Scott Gray

The weekend of March 8th-10th was the Annual VVGMC tailgate with Saturday the 9th being the yearly trip to the Tri-color Marble Quarry for the popular green collectible stone.

Friday was a busy day at the tailgate, setting up a display of rocks from previous field trips at various locations in the Mojave Desert. People marveled at some of the treasures found, especially the variety of rocks from the Yermo site. Then time running the booth with my wife Sasha, and signing up several attendees for the following days field trip. Those who did sign up seemed excited for the following morning's trip.



SCOTT GRAY



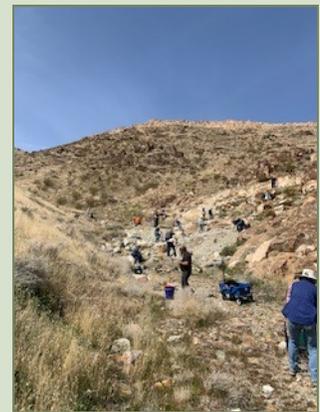
Just a portion of the large crowd at the collecting site.

Saturday morning started with me perusing the list of attendees: a modest amount of rockhounds for a tough to reach site. Unbeknownst to me there was a veritable army of field trippers waiting along Stoddard Wells Rd waiting to sign in! After picking my jaw up off the ground I got busy, with help from Brett Ward, signing all these eager rockhounds up on the check in sheet. It's a lousy road getting to the quarry, sadly many of those attempting the trip did not have vehicles that could handle the horrible road. However, rockhounds being the friendly bunch that we are, many made room in their vehicles so nearly everyone who wanted to go was able to get a ride. I had every spare seat available filled as did several others. Soon thereafter we rolled out 22 4WD jeeps and trucks in total.

After the short sandy stretch at the beginning of the Jeep road the trip became a lot slower as drivers negotiated the rough road at their own pace. More than once my ears buzzed with the probable curses from some of the drivers behind me. This was later confirmed by some of those drivers at the sight! Upon approaching the canyon's entrance I quickened my pace to get further ahead of the pack and park as deep into the quarry as room would allow and then jogged back down the road to run traffic control. This ended up being the biggest challenge of the day: getting everyone into an area with practically nowhere to park or turn around! Somehow we made it work, although some of those attending had a longer walk to the main collecting area

The quarry, Hillis Quarry to be exact, is definitely a place where it does not take long to load up on a quantity of choice material. The marble, actually a metamorphosed and later brecciated Dolomite, is found in shades of green, black, white, and rarely pinks and yellows, the marble is plentiful and varied in the patterns it contains. Many of the patterns lend themselves to larger ornamental items like bookends or spheres; specimens can also be found that have smaller patterns that lend themselves to cabs and tumbling projects. Everyone attending had no problem finding material to their liking; one rockhound brought a jackhammer and another was able to take home a single huge chunk: destined to become 2 or three spheres. I even filled up a bucket to later be dumped out at the Tailgate exclusively for any who may have been late or unaware of the trip. With about 40 folks in total, including members from The Yucca Valley Club, and Temecula Gold Prospectors, and some who traveled from as far as Los Angeles and San Diego this year's trip was a success. Check out those pictures and I think you will agree!

Extra thanks goes out to Dave Duncan for the gracious use of his 4WD to enable to lead the trip again this year, and to Brett Ward for helping with the sign in process and keeping the masses waiting patiently and helping folks find rides with other attendees who otherwise wouldn't have been able to make the trip. Thanks guys! SG



Rocks, Minerals and Today, some Marble! By Cristiane Stoll. VVGMC Contributor.

In the vast array of rocks and minerals that grace our planet, few can match the timeless charm and rich history of marble. Let's dive into the captivating world of this iconic stone—a symbol of luxury, refinement, and artistic expression.

Marble, a rock of stunning beauty and versatility, forms through the metamorphism of limestone, a sedimentary rock composed primarily of calcite or dolomite minerals. Under the intense heat and pressure deep within the Earth's crust, limestone undergoes a profound transformation, recrystallizing into marble. The process of metamorphism imbues marble with its characteristic veining, colors, and patterns, creating a breathtaking array of variations.



One of the marble's most distinguished features is its role in sculpture and architecture. From ancient Greek and Roman temples to majestic European palaces, marble has embellished some of the world's most famous structures, leaving a lasting impact on human history and culture. The purity and radiance of marble make it a favored medium for sculptors and artisans, who have fashioned it into enduring works of art that inspire wonder and admiration even today.

Marble is also valued for its aesthetic appeal, durability, and easy maintenance, enhancing various spaces with sophistication and luxury through applications like countertops, flooring, and decorative elements.

As admirers and enthusiasts, let's appreciate the timeless allure of marble and the enduring legacy it has imprinted on human civilization. Whether for its aesthetic appeal, practical uses, or geological importance, marble stands as a testament to its beauty



Rocks, minerals and today, Stunning Ruby Gemstone! by Cristiane Stoll

Hello all! This is Jake Brouwer, Editor of The Bulletin, for the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club. I wanted to publicly thank Cristiane Stoll for her third article for the newsletter. This one on the Ruby gemstone was to go in March 2024 newsletter, but somehow ended up in our spam file. Thank you Cristiane for what you do, and apologies for missing March. I am sure the club will appreciate you as I do for your Rocks, Minerals and Today column!



The ruby gemstone is a mesmerizing gem that has captivated hearts for centuries with its deep red hue and rich symbolism. Chemically, ruby is a variety of the mineral corundum, with the red color being caused by the presence of chromium in its crystal structure. This element gives ruby its characteristic hue and contributes to its value and beauty. Rubies typically form under high pressure and temperature conditions deep within the Earth's crust. Over millions of years, the combination of heat, pressure, and specific chemical elements has led to the crystallization of ruby gemstones. Their unique composition and stunning red color continue to captivate gemstone enthusiasts worldwide.

In addition to its physical beauty, the ruby is also steeped in cultural significance. In many cultures, the ruby is considered a stone of nobility and royalty, often used in crowns and other regal jewelry. It is also believed to enhance creativity, promote wisdom, and stimulate the heart chakra, fostering a sense of vitality and passion in its wearer. In ancient times, the ruby was believed to bring good fortune, protect its wearer from harm, and promote courage and strength.

Whether worn as a piece of jewelry or a precious stone, the ruby continues to symbolize love, power, and vitality. Its rich history and deep symbolism make it a cherished gemstone that holds a special place in the hearts of many and beauty of the natural world.



California Federation of Mineral Societies Show Dates

For the months of January, February, & March closest to our location



March 29, 2024 - March 31, 2024 Annual Pearblossom Gem & Mineral Show. Hours are 9am to 5pm daily. Venue is the Outpost. Address: 34141 116th Street East, Pearblossom, Ca. 93553. <http://facebook.com138outpost>.

April 13, 2024 – Lake Elsinore, CA Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society
32097 Corydon Road, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530 / 4th Annual Lake Elsinore Spring Rock & Craft Show
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 4 PM. Contact: (909) 208-6956, berylman50@aol.com

April 27 – 28, 2024 – Anaheim, CA Searchers Gem and Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Canter, 2271 W. Crescent Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4:30 PM
This show features displays of members work, demonstrations by Searchers (and some of our friends) of lapidary work, stone carving, jewelry making, wire wrap, faceting and many other rock and jewelry related skills. There is a children's jewelry area where children can make a piece of jewelry and take it home, and a wheel of fortune. There are many dealers with their rock and jewelry related wares, and the best silent auction around.

May 3-4, 2024 – Yucaipa, CA
Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Show will be held on Yucaipa Blvd near Adams Street, Yucaipa CA 92399
Hours: Friday 5 PM – 10 PM, Saturday noon – 9 PM
YVGMS annual show held in conjunction with the city of Yucaipa Music and Arts Festival (YMAF). The YVGMS show will include 15 dealers, kids activities, club store, geode cracker, and a great raffle.
YMAF will have name bands both nights, other arts and crafts dealers and food, beer and wine booths. Great for the whole family. Contact: grandpasgems@gmail.com. Website: <https://www.yvgms.org/>

May 4-5, 2024 – Lancaster
Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
2551 W Ave. H, Lancaster, CA 93536
Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM
AVGMC Rock, Jewelry and Gem Show. Parking and Admission are free. Plenty of vendors, displays and activities for the whole family.
Contact: marylandoriole@gmail.com



BOARD MEMBERS, CHAIRS, INSTRUCTORS.....

President. / Dave Duncan, EMAIL : president@vvgmc.org

Vice President / Membership. Beka McNeil / EMAIL: vp@vvgmc.org

2nd Vice President: Education. Lia Hamilton

3rd Vice President: Tailgate Chairman, Junior Rockhounds Chairman, Mark Lantz EMAIL marklantz53@gmail.com

Recording Secretary / Janalee Arnold / EMAIL: recordingsecretary@vvgmc.org

Treasurer / [Dwayna Barron](#)

Corresponding Secretary / Jake Brouwer

Board Member / 2 Year term - Lorie Cunningham, Pam Trozera

Board Member / Sara Arnold, Past President

Board Member / Cory Beck

Maintenance / Temporarily unavailable.



COMMITTEE CHAIRS.....

CFMS / Dwayne Barron.

Wagon Master / Scott Gray

Librarian / Algot Stephenson

Newsletter / Jake Brouwer / EMAIL: jakelsdg@verizon.net

Photography / Temporarily unavailable .

Webmaster / Tech / Jim Fosse / EMAIL: info@vvgmc.org, In training, Angela Auberry.

INSTRUCTORS:

Janet Fletcher Mary Lou Fletcher Dwayna Barron Chris Koch Stina Smith
 Mark Lantz Dave Duncan Lia Hamilton Gayland Graves Beka McNeil Lorie Cunningham

ASSOCIATE INSTRUCTORS Algot Stephenson. Ann Musik



Send your articles in by the 23rd of Each month! jakelsdg@verizon.net



Welcome all club members to APRIL 2024 Our **potluck luncheon** for April 20, 2024 starts at 12:00pm. Birthday cakes for those celebrating this month will be needed for deserts. We ask all, that you bring with you an entrée, side dish, salad or fruit to the luncheon. The meeting will start with the pledge of allegiance, followed by a moment of silence to remember members and friends that are no longer with us. The General Meeting will start after tables are cleaned up. Try to make it, as in these meetings we discuss state of affairs for the club, planning, and other news. Afterwards there are door prizes of rocks, and minerals, and other items. Tickets passed out at the door. Extra tickets are available. We will also have rocks on display to enjoy and to have some fun with exciting rocks, gems, fossils and other related items available to members. Once the meeting is over those that wish to work in the shop will start. This month we have some very good news for the club's growth, and like a phoenix rising, we are coming back strong for 2024.

APRIL'S BIRTHSTONE:

Natural diamonds are a rare and unique ultimate gift for a loved one. Thought to be one of the hardest substances on the globe, natural diamonds date back billions of years.

The diamond is the traditional birthstone of April and holds significant meaning for those born in that month, thought to provide the wearer with better relationships and an increase in inner strength.

Wearing diamonds is purported to bring other benefits such as balance, clarity and abundance. It's also symbolic of eternal love, and those fortunate to call April the month of their birth will enjoy the following history behind this rare gem.



As told through the Encarta, Sanskrit texts dating back before 400 B.C. found that people associated significant value and wonderment with crystals. There is also significant research dating back to 1330 showing diamond cutting in Venice. The diamond trading business flourished towards the 15th century with the opening of Eastern trade routes.

Ancient theories touting the magical powers of diamonds were prevalent: some thought lightning bolts formed diamonds, while other theories asserted that diamonds were the tears of god.

During the Middle Ages, diamonds were thought to hold healing powers and to cure ailments stemming from the pituitary gland and brain. By heating the crystal and taking it to bed, it was thought to draw out the harmful toxins that were crippling the body.

It was also believed that diamonds could have an effect on an individual's balance and clarity and could boost their energy when combined with other crystals like amethyst.



"DIAMONDS ARE A GIRLS BEST FRIEND"

MARILYN MONROE

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
SPECIAL DAY**

- STEVE SMITH
- JAKE MORRISON
- JUSTIN MORRISON
- COREY BECK
- ROSE WILSON
- ANGELA AUBERRY
- DANIEL FAVELA
- DAVE DISBROW
- CYNTHIA RUIZ
- CAT PETREY
- BONNIE HEMPHILL
- IONA ELLSWORTH



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
STINA SMITH AND LORIE
CUNNINGHAM, FOR TAKING
ON FULLY KEYED
INSTRUCTOR'S DUTIES**

APRIL 14TH, 2024'S FIELD TRIP, By Scott Gray, Wagonmaster

The VVGM field trip for April will be to the North Edwards area for travertine onyx at the Sierra Pelona Travertine Claim and for jasper, jasp-agate, and with luck some petrified palm root and petrified reeds at Castle Butte.

High clearance vehicles required for both locations. Digging will be required at the travertine location to acquire large chunks so be sure to bring a shovel and a spray bottle to clean your pieces you dig up; the digging is fairly easy.



Jasper Nodules



Jasp-Agate sample



Travertine Sample

At Castle Butte, material is found in float so bring all your regular collecting equipment: rock hammer, bag or bucket, and again a spray bottle. Castle Butte has tons of average material but there is a variety of different material found there and nice pieces can be found if the effort is put in and with some luck too!

The Meet-up spot will be April 14, 2024 at 9:00am. Get an early start. It will be at the following location. Sunshine Market parking lot. It is a little market on the left at 13015 Claymine Road, immediately north of highway 58.

Last photo on the immediate left is petrified palm root, reeds sample found on the pre-site inspection at Castle Butte, Sasha, Scott's wife and wire wrap specialist found it!

Hoping you all can make it. Members, guests and all others are welcome to come along. Please sign in for insurance purposes and for complying with non-profit regulations.

Scott Gray, Wagonmaster



Workshop Training at the VVGMC club house April 13, 2024, by Corey Beck

I will give a 30-60 minute talk, or longer as needed. I will demonstrate the skill but will not be working one-on-one with individuals. However, I will work one-on-one after the Workshop or any other day I am in the shop. The Saturday talk will be on how to stabilize your stones before cabbing. For example some stones are quite porous like turquoise, other stones may have pits or scratches. This class will show how to fix that so the stabilizing reduces flaws from showing. Starting time is 1:00pm. Please be on time. Workshops are for member only. Shop fees will apply, afterwards, you may work in the shop for the same \$7.00 fee, each.

Workshop Training at the VVGMC club house April 27, 2024, by Corey Beck,

I will give a 30-60 minute talk or longer as needed, for learning how to use the Jeweler's Saw. I realize that the Jeweler's Saw workshop works better if the students participate. So I am asking attendees to bring their saw frame, blades, and Bench Pin. If they don't have one the club has a few set-ups. Start time is 1:00pm, please be on time. This workshop is for members only. Shop fees will apply. afterwards, you may work in the shop for the same \$7.00 fee, each.

This Morning your editor of The Bulletin awoke to find the Presidents Message which included a Happy Easter Greeting. Whaaaaat? Says I. I checked and sure enough, March 30, 2024. How can that be I wondered. Are our leaders in Washington changing another holiday? Nope turns out In previous years, the celebration of Easter has fallen in the month of April which is what I expected, however, for 2024, Easter Sunday was brought forward to March. Easter is a movable feast, that is, its date varies year by year, according to mathematical calculations based on the lunar and solar cycle.

Now, short of Easter Eggs for the hunt, I'll be running out to get a few dozen real eggs to color, and two dozen plastic eggs to fill with treats, coins and including tumbled rocks.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday on Sunday! *Jake Brouwer Editor*



Victor Valley Gem & Mineral Club was founded in 1947, as a 501/C4 non profit education club. Visitors are always welcome.

Our objective and purpose is to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy & earth sciences. To encourage study in those subjects through various programs. To arrange field trips for exploration, study, and collection of specimens. The preparations, publication, and distribution of articles pertaining to these fields. The encouragement of interest of young people and fostering of classes in mineralogy and Lapidary Arts.

SHOP DAY:TUES APRIL 9, 16, 23, 30

2024 12:00pm - 5:00 pm

SHOP DAY: THURSDAYS - 2:00pm- 8:00

SHOP DAY: SATURDAYS—12:00pm-5 pm

SHOP DAY: SUNDAYS - 12:00pm - 5 pm

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS AS FOLLOWS

CLUB CLEAN UP DAY: TO BE ANNOUNCED

INSTRUCTORS MEETING: TUES, APRIL 2, 2024, 3pm

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: TUES APRIL 2, 2024
4:30pm TIL FINISHED**

EDUCATION NIGHT: TO BE ANNOUNCED

**GENERAL MEETING: - APRIL 20, 2024. 12:00 - 2:00 pm,
followed by our tradition door prizes, and more. Shop
work resumes APPROXIMATLY 2:00 -5:00 pm.**

JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS: APRIL 13, APRIL 27, 2024

THE BULLETIN IS THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER...

Published by the Victor Valley Gem & Mineral club and is distributed free of charge electronically to the members by email. Views expressed by authors in the articles appearing in THE BULLETIN do not necessarily reflect those of the VICTOR VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB. The editor publishes content as presented with minor changes for continuity.

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