

THE AWARD WINNING

Agatizer

South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 1606 Torrance, Ca. 90505



Affiliated with The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Silver Bola Tie
Valued \$200



BRAZILIAN AMETHYST GEODE

Our First Place Prize
Valued \$350

Top Three Drawing Items At The 2016 South Bay Show

- #1 Brazilian Amethyst Geode
- #2 Silver Coin Bola Tie
- #3 Fifty Dollars Cash

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. You can get your tickets by
contacting: Ken Pauley (Chair Person for the Raffle Tickets)

ke.pauley@cox.net 310 831-4020

DRAWING 3:30PM SUNDAY APRIL 3,...GOOD LUCK!



-- \$50 DOLLARS CASH --

OFFICERS FOR 2016

President	Nancy Pekarek	310 257-8152	pekareks@hotmail.com
Vice President	Mattia Corbo	310 328-2762	mattiacorbo@hotmail.com
Secretary	Jamie Erickson	310 956-7467	exceptionalgreen@rocketmail.com
Treasurer	Leslie Neff	310 318-2170	lesneff@aol.com
	& Lynette Vandever	310 379-5852	lyndyla@aol.com
Fed Director	Terry Vasseur	310 644-2029	wookman@dslextre.com

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRFOLKS

Displays & Donates	Mary Sharp & Kitty Lake	310 326-5939	slogo1@earthlink.net
Education Workshop	Leslie Neff	310 318-2170	lesneff@aol.com
Editor	Terry Vasseur	310 644-2029	wookman@dslextre.com
Wally Ford	Larry Hoskinson	310 318-2170	lesneff@aol.com
Scholarship Fund			
Field Trip	Craig Polliard	310-533-4931	craigpolliard@yahoo.com
Coordinators	Chris Curtin	310-480-4378	gundodude26@aol.com
Getting-to-know-you	Craig Polliard	310-533-4931	craigpolliard@yahoo.com
Historian	Gale Fussello	310 702-3633	fussello@yahoo.com
Hospitality	Jim Erickson	310 640-6199	bmcjim@att.net
Membership	Gale Fussello	310 702-3633	fussello@yahoo.com
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Publicity	Kathy Polliard	310 533-4931	kjpolliard@yahoo.com
Refreshment Director	Al Richards	310 675-6606	al4bty25@att.net
2016 Show Chairs	Leslie Neff & Larry Hoskinson	310 318-2170	lesneff@aol.com
Transportation Manager			

CLUB EXPERTS

Chris Curtin - Fossil Preparation
 Burt Dobratz - Fused Glass
 Larry Hoskinson - Opal Cutting
 Peggy Hill - Lapidary & Beads
 Ken Oullette - Cuttle Bone Casting & Silver Fabrication
 Chris LeMaster - Tumbling
 Ricky McArthur - Inlay (Intarsia)
 Ken Pauley - Zeolite Minerals
 Craig Polliard - Lost Wax Casting, Jade Cove Collector
 Toy Sato - Suiseki (Stone Appreciation)
 Terry Vasseur - Silver Fabrication

MISSION STATEMENT

This society was formed to collect and study minerals; to teach lapidary arts, to disseminate knowledge of mineralogy, lapidary work, and related activities; to exhibit specimens for public education; and to exchange information related to the earth sciences.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meetings are scheduled on the First Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., in the meeting room of the Torrance Public Library, 3301, Torrance Blvd.. Visitors and guests are always welcomed at all club events.

MEMBERSHIP

Annual dues for a single member is \$15 and \$20 for a family payable by the 1st of the year. An annual 12 month subscription to the Agatizer comes with membership. A subscription to the Agatizer alone is \$20.

WEBSITE - WEBMASTER: Jamie Erickson
 Southbaylapidaryandmineralsociety.com

AGATIZER CIRCULATION

June 2015, 99 - Dec 2015 97

SBL&MS TAX STATUS

The South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society is a nonprofit
 501 (c) 3 organization, Tax ID # 95-350730

Display & Donate and Refreshments

March

Display & Donate: N/A

Drinks: Al Richards

Munches: Ken Oullette, Teresita & Terry

April

Display & Donate:

Drinks: Mattia Corbo & Frank DeGrey

Munches: Mary Stuart Sharp, Lynette Vandever

LOVELY THINGS

BY Blanche Van Metre
 (From the March 1966 Agatizer)

If you lack for aught to do,
 Pause awhile, enjoy the view...
 There's distant hills you haven't seen,
 And lovely meadows, fresh and green.

There's music sweet you haven't heard,
 From singing winds and woodland birds...
 There's perfume on each passing breeze,
 From clover bloom and orchard trees.

There's miles to go and friends to make...
 New joy to bring to hearts that ache.
 All this and more you'll find is true,
 Life's full of lovely things to do.

Mar Anniversaries

Ed & Maureen Whitefire	Mar 14
Ricky & Frances McArthur	Mar 22
Roger & Eileen Hill	Mar 22

Mar Birthdays

Teresita Vasseur	Mar 4
Craig Polliard	Mar 5
Chris Curtin	Mar 7
Roger Hill	Mar 20
Danial Bonilla	Mar 31

FEDERATION DIRECTOR

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MOJAVE TRAILS NATIONAL MONUMENT

WHEREAS, section 320301 of title 54, United States Code (known as the "Antiquities Act"), authorizes the President, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Federal Government to be national monuments, and to reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected;

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to preserve the objects of scientific and historic interest on the Mojave Trails lands;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by section 320301 of title 54, United States Code, hereby proclaim the objects identified above that are situated upon lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the Federal Government to be the Mojave Trails National Monument (monument) and, for the purpose of protecting those objects, reserve as part thereof all lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the Federal Government within the boundaries described on the accompanying map, which is attached to and forms a part of this proclamation.

These reserved Federal lands and interests in lands encompass approximately 1.6 million acres. The boundaries described on the accompanying map are confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, or other disposition under the public land laws, from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing, other than by exchange that furthers the protective purposes of the monument or disposal for the limited purpose of providing materials for repairing or maintaining roads and bridges within the monument consistent with care and management of the objects identified above.

The establishment of the monument is subject to valid existing rights. If the Federal Government acquires any lands or interests in lands not owned or controlled by the Federal Government within the boundaries described on the accompanying map, such lands and interests in lands shall be reserved as a part of the monument, and objects identified above that are situated upon those lands and

– Continued on page 7



From The Editor's Desk

Terry Vasseur

Well, there it is folks. The Eastern Mojave Desert is now closed to rock hounding; 1.6 million acres are now a NATIONAL MONUMENT. All we know right now is that if we want to enjoy the Mojave Desert, we will have to see it from an automobile zooming

by at 70 miles an hour. You can thank it to Dianne Feinstein's *Fence-Out-Americans-from-the-Mojave-Desert* "Antiquities Act".

In The Good Ol' Days

In 1966 you could take a field trip to the Horse Canyon agate beds near Techachapi, California and camp for the weekend for five bucks. The caretakers would even bulldoze the overburden for you! (From the June 1966 Agatizer)

I'm looking for a few good demonstrator's for the South Bay Lapidary & Mineral show April 2 & 3. Regrettably, over time there is a slow but constant attrition in the ranks of our demonstrators. This year we have lost Richard Hofer, our gem faceter. His phone is disconnected and my letter was returned, "Undeliverable as Addressed".

TIRED OF HANGING AROUND, NOTHING TO DO DAY-IN AND DAY-OUT?



HOW ABOUT JOINING A ROCK CLUB AND BECOMING A... ROCKHOUNDER?



YEAH! ...NOW YOU'RE TALKING!



Secretary's Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes:
Feb 17, 2016

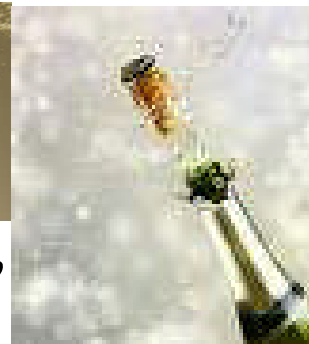
Attending: Nancy Pekerek, Leslie
Neff, Lynette Vandever, Mattia
Corbo, Jamie Erickson, and
Terry Vasseur

Jamie Erickson

1. Rock Show Business
 - a. Storage Unit Bill Was paid, and keys are being redistributed to the appropriate parties
 - i. Craig Polliard and Larry Hoskinson will be drawing a map of the storage unit to be used as reference for future packing and unpacking
 - b. Reworked not to demonstrators concerning show participation
 - c. Refurbishment of club cases complete- lighting has been upgraded; users will need to provide their own cloth for the bottom of the cases
2. New Pamphlet created to hand to new guests at meetings
3. Year-End-Audit will be completed by Chris Curtain and Lynette Vandever
4. Changes made to the timeline for collection of membership dues:
 - a. Dues will now be collected starting in the beginning of October, at the Silent Auction in November, and in December.
 - b. One reminder phone call and one email will be sent to remind those who have not paid that December is their last opportunity to do so
 - c. If dues are paid after December, a late fee of \$5 will be added to the cost
5. Membership Chair- Gail Fussello will be taking over the responsibility in full
6. Mail Box- adding an additional name in case of incidentals
7. Web Site and Facebook:
 - a. Both are now up and running, and will for now be moderated by Jamie Erickson
 - i. Web Site Address:
southbaylapidaryandmineralsociety.com
 - b. Pictures of club members on web site: any children under 18 years of age will have verbal consent from parents. Club member have the right to not appear in any photos
 - i. Potentially adding in a photo waiver opt out on new member forms



Corks Away!



We salute the new South Bay
Website, thanks to our new secretary & webmaster:

Jamie Erickson!



Simply type in the 37 characters below ...

Southbaylapidaryandmineralsociety.com

...and ***Voilà!***

You will enter a cathedral in the working.



WELCOME TO OUR CLUB!

ARTICLES
AGATIZER
ANNUAL ROCK SHOW
WALLY FORD SCHOLARSHIP
ABOUT THE SBLMS
CONTACT US
USEFUL LINKS
And much more



ON THE ROCKS WITH TV

Tips—Ideas—Questions & Answers, on Anything Relating to the Hobby (submissions welcomed)

Oh the Pain

February 11, 1933 President Herbert Hoover placed the Death Valley area under federal protection. Some years ago, a rockhounder went up to the Owlshead Mountains and dug out some very fine saginite quartz that I now have custody of some. I am blessed to have some of this unique material that is not known to be found anywhere else. Unfortunately, I may not be able to go there and collect my own.



Owlshead Mountains Sagenite Agate

Today, we know collecting rocks in National parks is prohibited. Just when the collecting of saginite in the Owlshead Mountains stopped; I don't know. My guess is in 1994, *just when I joined a rock club*.

In 1994 the monument was re-designated as Death Valley National Park. The park was also substantially expanded to include the Saline and Eureka Valleys on the North side.

The agate is found, a tiny mile or two North into the Southern boarder of The Death Valley National Park.

It's just so close and yet so far.

Winter Cabochons



Green dop wax and wood dowels are the classic means of securing cabochons during lapidary work. That is, until the temperature drops to (what)??? Surprisingly, I can't find the temperature green dop wax will releases a cabochon. I know it is somewhere below 60° F. Nevertheless, making cabochons in an environment cooler than you are comfortable without extra clothing, requires some other way to hold the stone.

Using Epoxy 330 on roofing nails and a pin vice to hold a cabochon, seems to work OK. Having to bond the glue over night and after finishing the cab finding a way to remove the nail, is a drawback. Acetone will remove epoxy but it usually takes too long. Using a torch to heat



The Bulletin Board

✓ NEXT MEETING: March 1, 6:30pm

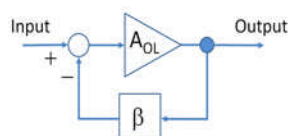
✓ BOARD MEETING:

✓ PROGRAM: **Show Business Meeting**

The March meeting is dedicated to our show and making sure we are ready. All department heads will be asked to update the club as to the status of their department. Gale will be there with the signup sheet so check that before the meeting to see if your area is staffed properly. If you are looking for donations or more volunteers, please mention that, if everything is under control then your talk can be brief. — Leslie Neff — Show Chair

✓ FIELD TRIPS: See page 9

✓ We have a new website that Jamie Erickson is running for us. There are no words better than THANK YOU for all Roger Mills has done for us, with our first web site and so much more. All those in a rock club know that when you take something on, you can only hope someone will eventually come along and take over. Roger, you can retire knowing the website is in capable hands. Thanks to Roger for many years of helping us and thanks to Jamie for taking over. —Leslie Neff



FEEDBACK

Letters to the Editor

Open loop, no feedback this month.



the nail to soften the glue will remove the nail but, you must beware of heating sensitive opals and crystals.

Green River Formation Part 2

The Virtual Museum of Geology

FOSSILS

A wide variety of flora and fauna are represented in the fossil record of the Green River Formation ranging from vertebrates to invertebrates to plant material.

Vertebrates:

Some 60 vertebrate taxa have been identified so far.

Fish tend to be the most well-known and representative of Green River fossils, for which roughly 19 genera have been identified including types of gars, perch, herring, suckers and large predators. Fairly commonly found species:

Knightia eoceana, *Knightia alta*, *Diplomystus sp.* and *Priscacara sp.*

Additional vertebrates found in the Green River Formation:

- Turtles, lizards and other reptiles
- Birds
- Bats - *Icaronycteris (oldest-known flying mammal)*
- Crocodiles
- Snakes
- Stingrays
- Mammals (including one of the first primates *Notharctus*, oldest *Pantolestid* - otter-like animal and a horse)
- Amphibians (frog and a primitive salamander)
- Apatemyid (arboreal insectivore)
- Miacid (primitive carnivore)

Invertebrates:

Invertebrates are abundant in the Green River Formation.

More than 22 orders of insects are represented.

Additional invertebrates found in the Green River Formation:

- Gastropods
- Fresh Water Shrimp
- Fresh Water Crayfish
- Ostracods

Plants:

Plant material found in the Green River Formation gives us a glimpse into the lush forests that inhabited the intermountain basins. Remnants of many types of trees are found including: oaks, maples, palms, sycamores, fir and spruce (the last two from the higher elevations). More than 325 types of leaves, seeds and flowers have been found so far.

Additional plants represented:

- Ferns
- Cat-tails
- Flowers
- Fruit

Unique information can sometimes be

inferred from fish fossils in the Green River Formation.

- Relative temperature: Cold weather generally causes dead fish to sink faster due to a less inflated swim bladder, and if



2016 Show Calendar

- ✓ **MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS**
March 5 - 6, ARCADIA, CA
Los Angeles Arboretum-Ayres Hall
301 Baldwin Avenue
Hours: 9:00 - 4:30 daily
Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey, (626) 358-1624,
Email: joannaritchey@gmail.com
Website: www.Moroks.com
- ✓ **VENTURA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**
March 5 - 6: VENTURA, CA
Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Blvd.
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Show Chair, (805) 312-8467
Email: info@VGMS.org
Website: www.vgms.org
- ✓ **PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY**
March 12 - 13: SAN MARINO, CA
San Marino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Drive
Hours: Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5
Contact: Marcia Goetz, (626) 260-7239
Email: joenmar1@verizon.net
Website: www.pasadenalapidarysociety.org
- ✓ **S. BAY LAPIDARY & MINERAL SOCIETY**
April 2 - 3: TORRANCE, CA
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

accompanied with rapid burial, can lead to relatively intact fossil specimens. Warmer temperatures cause a swim bladder to inflate, keeping the dead fish suspended for a longer period of time higher in the water column, inevitably leading to disarticulated skeletons and scattering of bones in the below sediment.

- Schooling: Sometimes mass mortality layers are found, where many specimens of the same fish species are preserved in a small area. It's generally implied that a rapid killing event (examples: many fish swam into an anoxic zone, volcanic eruption, fish trapped in a shallow pond which dries up, etc.) took place, and that the species schooled (stayed together for social reasons and swam in

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Continued from page 3 – Presidential Proclamation --

interests in lands shall be part of the monument, upon acquisition of ownership or control by the Federal Government.

The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) shall manage the monument through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as a unit of the National Landscape Conservation System, pursuant to applicable legal authorities, to protect the objects identified above.

For purposes of the care and management of the objects identified above, the Secretary, through the BLM, shall within 3 years of the date of this proclamation prepare and maintain a management plan for the monument and shall provide for maximum public involvement in the development of that plan including, but not limited to, consultation with tribal, State, and local governments.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be construed to preclude the renewal or assignment of, or interfere with the operation or maintenance of, or with the replacement, modification, or upgrade within or adjacent to an existing authorization boundary of, existing flood control, utility, pipeline, or telecommunications facilities that are located within the monument in a manner consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above. Existing flood control, utility, pipeline, or telecommunications facilities located within the monument may be expanded, and new facilities may be constructed within the monument, but only to the extent consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above.

The Secretary shall work with appropriate State officials to ensure the availability of water resources, including groundwater resources, needed for monument purposes.

Except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes, motorized vehicle use in the monument shall be permitted only on roads existing as of the date of this proclamation.

Non-motorized mechanized vehicle use shall be permitted only on roads and trails designated for their use consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above. The Secretary shall prepare a transportation plan that designates the roads and trails where motorized or non-motorized mechanized vehicle use will be permitted.

Laws, regulations, and policies followed by the BLM in issuing and administering grazing permits or leases on lands under its jurisdiction, including provisions specific to the California Desert Conservation Area, shall continue to apply with regard to the lands in the monument, consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the State of California,

including its jurisdiction and authority with respect to fish and wildlife management.

Nothing in this proclamation shall preclude low level overflights of military aircraft, the designation of new units of special use airspace, the use or establishment of military flight training routes over the lands reserved by this proclamation, or related military uses, consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above.

Nothing in this proclamation shall alter the Department of Defense's use of the Restricted Airspace established by the Federal Aviation Administration. Further, nothing in this proclamation shall preclude (i) air or ground access for existing or new electronic tracking and communications; (ii) landing and drop zones; and (iii) readiness and training by the U.S. Armed Services, Joint and Coalition forces, including training using motorized vehicles both on and off road, in accordance with applicable interagency agreements.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be construed to alter the authority or responsibility of any party with respect to emergency response activities within the monument, including wildland fire response.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the rights of any Indian tribe. The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent permitted by law and in consultation with Indian tribes, ensure the protection of Indian sacred sites and cultural sites in the monument and provide access to the sites by members of Indian tribes for traditional cultural and customary uses, consistent with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (42 U.S.C. 1996) and Executive Order 13007 of May 24, 1996 (Indian Sacred Sites).

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation, or appropriation; however, the monument shall be the dominant reservation.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of the monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fortieth.

BARACK OBAMA

Continued from page 6 – Green River...



Phareodus encaustus - courtesy of the National Park Service

the same general direction as a group in a coordinated manner).

- Aspirations: Occasionally a fossil fish is found with another fish seemingly caught in its mouth. These fossil examples are labeled "aspirations", and are believed to show the death and rapid burial of a fish which choked and died in the process of eating another fish. (...tried to bite off more than it could chew.) Mioplosus are most commonly found with other fish stuck in their mouths. Aspirations of Diplomystus are also found, indicating that fish was included in its diet.

SOME FOSSIL FISH OF THE GREEN RIVER FORMATION

Knightia sp. (*Knightia eocaena* & *Knightia alta*)

Small fish are related to herring and thought to eat plankton. Most common fish species found in Green River Formation deposits.

Knightia eocaena is most common in Fossil Lake, while *Knightia alta* is most common in Lake Gosiute.

INSECTS OF THE GREEN RIVER FORMATION



March Fly - *Plecia pealei*; Lincoln County, Wyoming

TIPS FROM A JEWELER'S BENCH

Brad Smith brad@greenheart.com
[BenchTips]

IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS



There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot to mark them and have a couple that you can't identify. The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the

unknowns with that of a known solder. What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.



INEXPENSIVE ELECTRIC WAX PEN

You can make your own wax pen from a small soldering iron plugged into a light dimmer switch for heat control. Both components are easily found at Radio Shack, a big hardware store or at Harbor Freight. As an example of the components, see www.harborfreight.com items #43060 and #47887

File the tip of the soldering iron into the shape you prefer or even better get a soldering iron with replaceable tips. Then you can make several tip shapes for different tasks. Set the dimmer control just hot enough to melt the wax without producing any smoke.

A tip design that I find ideal for some work is a length of small gauge wire that lets me reach in around the model to melt some wax. The wire is about 15mm long and 18 or 20 gauge. To conduct heat all the way to the tip, I use Sterling wire and silver solder it into a hole on the end of a copper or brass rod that will fit into the soldering iron.

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and
"Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry"
are available on Amazon



Upcoming Field Trips

From Field Trip Co-Chair: Chris Curtin

STODDARD WELLS TAILGATE VICTOR VALLEY ROCK & MINERAL CLUB MARCH 11, 12 & 13, 2016 9:00 to 5:00 Daily

There is no official field trip for March since many club members prefer to visit the Stoddard Wells Tailgate.

In March the Victor Valley Rock and Mineral Club will be hosting a tailgate rock and mineral swap meet. It is close enough for a day trip, but you can also camp out and spend the weekend.

DIRECTIONS: Take the I-15 north thru Victorville toward Barstow. Turn off to the right at Bell Mountain-Stoddard Wells Road offramp and go north on Stoddard Wells Rd. at the intersection. (NOTE: DO NOT TAKE STODDARD WELLS RD. EXIT BUT THE BELL MTN.-STODDARD WELLS RD. EXIT, WHICH IS AFTER THE STODDARD WELLS RD. EXIT.) Go 4 miles to next STOP at Dale Evans Pkwy. Continue 7 miles on Stoddard Wells Rd. to "Tailgate." Road becomes a graded dirt road about 4/10 of a mile from the Dale Evans Pkwy. intersection. Cars & RVs can make it with ease and care. "Tailgate" signs along route.

You can park at the swap meet and start browsing or if you are going to camp, drive on up past the sellers and camp at the top of the road, just next to the mountain, where the club members usually will be.

This a dry camp, so bring your own water. There are plenty of portable toilets provided by the host club. If you come up for the day, just pack a sandwich and drinks, and enjoy sampling the many home baked goods for sale by the Victor Valley Club.

**MAP AVAILABLE AT: vvgmc.org/tailgate
From Chris Curtin, Co-Chair, Fieldtrips**

MARCH FIELD TRIP JADE COVE, BIG SUR

Craig Polliard will be leading a field trip to Jade Cove, Big Sur, March 3, 4, & 5 to rockhound for Jade.

Camping will be at Plaskett Creek Campground. Craig & Kathy will be at site #23. Spots can be reserved at Reserve America, Plaskett Creek, they are \$25 a night. Anyone interested can contact me, Craig at

(310) 533-4931.

Plaskett Creek campground is right across the street from Jade Cove. All three days have favorable low tides in the afternoon when the sun is in the right place in the sky.

Reminder, this can be a very difficult climb down to the ocean, but doable. Of course all the necessary rockhounding supplies would apply, i.e. hiking shoes, water, gloves, sunscreen, etc.. My site has room for a couple of tents, per park rules. Again please feel free to call us anytime with question or concerns.....Craig & Kathy.

Agate Valley Field Trip

On Saturday Feb. 13, Andrew & Maria from the Delvers Club and Steve Karno and Chris Curtin from our Torrance Club met up at McDonalds in Acton and from there proceeded to Agate Valley in the Mountains south of Palmdale. Weather was perfect, upper 60's and sunny with a slight breeze.

Recent rains uncovered lots of botryoidal agate. Everyone found plenty, but the prize went to Steve who found a nice-sized yellow and orange chunk of bubbly agate which is so shiny it looks like it just came off the polishing wheel. After three forays into the hills, interspersed with bouts of enjoyable relaxation in our camp chairs, it was time to head back to civilization on the ever smooth flowing freeway system of Southern California.

40th annual Stoddard Wells Tailgate

March 11th, 12th and 13th; 9 — 5:00 p.m





What Ya Been
Up to Lately?



It's an annual tradition for our members to strut their stuff by placing something interesting in the Torrance Library entranceway, display case. Our purpose is to catch someone's eye passing by such that curiosity will lead them to us.

The current display will stay there for the month of February. In March, another group will put their precious collectibles and things they have made.



Kitty Lake's Septarian *Broken Bowling Ball*. It's an interesting collectable sphere. How did the artist do it?



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P.O. Box 1606
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