

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club Newsletter



September 2016

Volume 57 Issue 08

September Meeting



In September we had Lisbet Thoresen come talk to our club regarding land use of some areas of BLM property. There is an on-going process to develop the uses for public lands. Part of this is due to the Obama administration's mandate to increase renewable energy and the utilities companies jumping in to control their interests. It seems we are getting a good review in these meetings- our concerns and recommendations are being heard and have resulted in favorable outcomes in those areas that have been finished. So the request from Lisbet is to continue to document our needs and desires and to work together to get our message across. We have included a copy of her pamphlet with this newsletter.

It was also our annual Pie Night. We had lots of pie available for everyone. There was much left over.



Palomar Gem and Mineral Club 2017 Gem & Mineral Show

The 2017 **Gem, Mineral and Jewelry show** will be held **June 3 and 4** at the Escondido Center for the Arts. That sounds like a long ways away, but the planning is starting now. There are a lot of details that have to be addressed in order to have a successful show. One nice thing about the PGMC is that members step-up and volunteer to help on the show. This year the committee meetings will be held immediately after the monthly board meeting. Check your bulletins for the date, all meetings are held at the shop. All members are invited to both the board meeting and the show committee meetings. This is an excellent way to get involved in the club, meet members, share your interest in gems, minerals and jewelry, and get the most out of your membership. We need your help, and welcome your suggestions and new ideas. Please join us at a committee meeting and be a part of the BEST gem and mineral show in San Diego!

October PROGRAM

Palomar Club Silent Auction

This is your chance to find a treasure for your favorite rock hound for Christmas! Or perhaps a "To Me, From Me"? Tell all your friends! Everyone is welcome! Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted!

Come support your club by donating items for the auction. Or you can sell your items and give the club 10% of your take. We ran out of table space last time, so each **member will be limited to 15 items maximum**. *Items not sold at the close of the table will need to be removed quickly so that tables can be cleared. Please do not put unsold items on another table to resell- this caused some problems last time.*

Members please bring a finger food for our shoppers to enjoy.

OCTOBER 19, 2016

7:00 PM

DITTUS HALL, REDWOOD TERRACE
710 WEST 13TH AVE.,
ESCONDIDO



Weekly Workshops



THESE WORKSHOPS MEET EVERY WEEK

Cabochon/Lapidary & Open Workshops

Wednesday 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Tuesday 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Thursday 2:00-5:00pm

Learn to cut and polish a rock into a beautiful stone suitable for wire wrapping or fabricating in metal. A fantastic assortment of material is available for purchase on site.

The workshop is also open for general use. No prior registration needed.

Metalsmithing Open Workshop

Thursday 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Open only, to those students who have had metal smithing instruction or experience and/or have instructor approval. Attendees must be able to work independently as this is not a class. An experienced metalsmith will be available for consultation. **NEW** – Exception for students who have made arrangements with instructor for Beginning Silversmith lessons. See below for class information.

Cost: A \$7 shop fee will be collected. Club membership required.

LAPIDARY WORKSHOP IS LOCATED AT

2120 W. MISSION, SUITE 260

ESCONDIDO, CA 92029

Wire Wrap Class

Wire wrapping for making jewelry dates back thousands of years and can be seen in museum collections from the ancient Sumerians and Romans. Learn how to make a lovely piece of jewelry with Dawn Vaughn, by using wire to wrap to your stone.

Instructor: Dawn Vaughn

Location: Club Shop

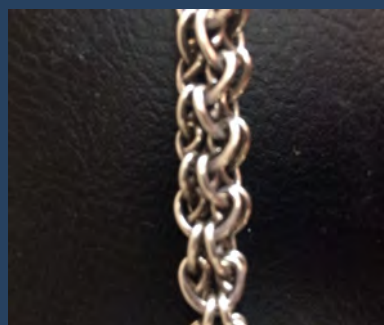
Dates & times: November 5, 2016, 10-4

Cost: \$30 plus materials

Call or email Dawn for more information and to register. (951) 265-8745 or dawnvaughn@hotmail.com



SPECIALTY CLASSES



Heart Chains

Just in time for the sweethearts on your list for Valentines Day. Come and join us to make heart chain bracelets. We will have a couple of different heart patterns available to be made out of silver.

Instructors: Annie Heffner & Diane Hall

Dates: January 7 & 8, 2017

Time: 10-4

Cost: \$60

Sign-up: Call Diane at 760-741-0433 to register (leave message for call back) or email me at dianehall213@gmail.com (preferred). Class is limited to 6 so sign up early.

Textured Metal Class

Come and join in the fun, learning to texture metal and make one-of-kind earrings (3 to 4 pairs) or a bracelet). They are great gifts. You may also learn how to make your own ear wires.

Instructors: Diane Hall & Annie Heffner

Location: Club Shop

Dates: November 20, 2016

Time: 10am-4pm

Fee: \$35 plus supply cost (club membership required - \$25 fee for single membership). You will

need about 1 ounce of silver or copper sheet, which we will purchase for every one who is signed up by November 11th. Sign ups after that will need to provide their own material.



Carved Bangles

You will be learning how to carve Sterling Silver and create some tile format on a bracelet bangle. We will be practicing on Copper.

You will learn to create interesting patterns across the bracelet and also learn how to do matting/texturing to make interesting surface contrast. You will learn to prep and polish during the various make steps and you will learn to assemble your bangle.

I will share some techniques by description and show samples of what interesting items can be used. If you don't have a hall mark stamp, let me know and I can provide letter stamps to use in place of the hall mark stamp. I have a sterling stamp I will bring to share.

Also, I will have 6 sets of the unique matting tools available if anyone is interested in purchase during or after class. We will use these in class

Instructor: Laurie Union

Dates: October 23, 2016 **Time:** 10am-5 pm

Cost: \$100 (club membership required - \$25 fee for single membership)

Materials additional - **Call Laurie Union at (858) 774-6303 or email laurie52@gmail.com for more info or to register.** Registration deadline October 1. Laurie will provide you a list of tools and materials needed.



Faceting Classes

An informative introduction and hands-on experience in the world of gem cutting. Learn how to create a gem out of a piece of rough, during a weekend class. No machine required. Return students welcome with or without their own machine. Each class can accommodate 3 new students without machines and 3 returning students with their own machines.

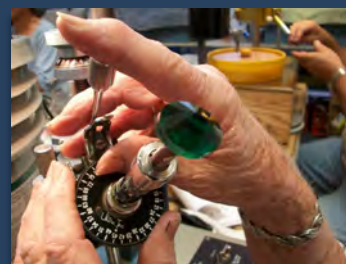
Instructor: Bob Johnson **Location:** Club Shop

Dates & times: Sat. Oct. 15 and Sun. Oct. 16, 2016 – 9am -5pm

Cost: \$80 New. Club membership required. \$70 return

Contact Bob Johnson for more information or to register -

tel: 760-809-0152 or email Bob at N78532@yahoo.com



Beginning Silversmithing

This is a twelve hour introductory silversmith class. The students will learn to develop their designs, use a jeweler's saw to cut out a pattern, solder a bezel to a backing and add a bale, creating a wearable piece of jewelry. Intermediate students can work on a project of their choosing with instructor approval.

Instructors: Diane Hall & Annie Heffner

Dates: October 29—October 30

Time: 10—4

Cost: \$60 for 12 hours of instruction. (club membership required - \$25 fee for single membership)

Materials additional - please bring a cabochon to set in silver or let us know if you need one.

****Call Diane Hall at (760) 741-0433 (leave message for call back) or email dianehall213@gmail.com for more info or to register.****

Faceting—Continuation Class

This is a class for continuing students who have completed the Introductory Class and is held once per month, from 9a to 5p on the Saturday following the general meeting, (which is always on the third Wed.)

Date: October 22, 2016

Time: 9:00am—5:00 pm

Cost: \$35

Contact Bob Johnson for more information or to register— tel: 760-809-0152 or email Bob at N78532@yahoo.com

**ALL OF THESE CLASSES ARE HELD AT THE
LAPIDARY WORKSHOP LOCATED AT
2120 W. MISSION, SUITE 260
ESCONDIDO, CA 92029**

2017 Slate of Officers

Per our By-Laws, the PGMCMust present to the membership the nominating committee's slate of officers proposed for 2017.

These officers will be elected at the November meeting.

The slate is as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| PRESIDENT - | <i>John Raabe</i> |
| VICE-PRESIDENT - | <i>Christiane Toft</i> |
| TREASURER - | <i>Toni Floyd</i> |
| SECRETARY - | <i>Fred Floyd</i> |
| PARLIAMENTARIAN - | <i>Christiane Toft</i> |
| BULLETIN EDITOR - | <i>Dawn Vickers</i> |

If anyone else would like to be considered for these positions or for any position on the Palomar Gem and Mineral Club Board, please feel free to contact Bob Johnson, head of the nominating committee at n78532@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Oct. 10 | PGMC Board Meeting 6:30 |
| Oct. 10 | Gem Show Committee Mtg 7:30 |
| Oct 15-16 | Into to Faceting Class |
| Oct. 19 | October Meeting |
| Oct. 22 | Continuing Faceting Class |
| Oct. 23 | Carved Bangle Class |
| Oct 29-30 | Beginning Silversmith Class |
| Nov. 5 | Wire Wrap Class |
| Nov. 14 | PGMC Board Meeting 6:30 |
| Nov. 14 | Gem Show Committee Mtg 7:30 |
| Nov. 16 | November Meeting |
| Nov. 20 | Textured Metal Class |

UPCOMING FIELDTRIPS

At this time there aren't any field trips schedule. We are in need of a field trip coordinator. But in the meantime if you come up with a fieldtrip that you would like to take and want some local rock hounds to accompany you, please feel free to let us know and we will make sure to publicize it right away.

Our PGMCM website is up and running. You can find all of what is happening as well as resources at your fingertips. Check us out at:

www.palomargem.org

We want to hear from you!

THE PGMCM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET EVERY MONTH ON THE SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6:30PM AT THE LAPIDARY WORKSHOP ON MISSION. THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO ALL OF OUR CLUB MEMBERS AND WE ENCOURAGE ANYONE WITH THOUGHTS OR IDEAS, TO PLEASE COME TO THIS MEETING AND LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD.



PALOMAR GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

The Palomar Gem and Mineral Club, a non-profit corporation open to all adults and young people, was organized to promote the study of rocks, minerals, gems, fossils and related subjects, such purpose to be developed through regular meetings with educational programs, field trips for the collection of geological specimens, and classes for teaching lapidary arts. The Palomar Gem and Mineral Club shares its knowledge of the earth sciences by sponsoring Gem and Mineral shows featuring exhibits, displays and demonstrations. The Club was founded March 20, 1954.

THE PALOMAR GEM AND MINERAL CLUB IS AFFILIATED WITH:



PALOMAR GEM AND MINERAL CLUB | P.O. BOX 1583 | ESCONDIDO, CA 92033-1583

760-743-0809 | WWW.PALOMARGEM.ORG

The DRECP needs revision. That will only happen with your input. Here are some useful resources and things you can do ...

Comment directly www.drecp.org
thru 2/23/2015 Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan

Sign letters & petitions www.basinandrangewatch.org
Support Basin and Range Watch's proposed inclusion of an alternative distributed energy plan in the DRECP

www.a4dp.org
Support Alliance for Desert Preservation's request to restart and extend the comment period
www.tubbccanyondesertconservancy.org
Support Tubb Canyon Desert Conservancy's Petition: We don't have to sacrifice California's deserts for renewable energy!

Take the Survey <http://blm.sdmg.org>
thru 2/15/2015 San Diego Mineral & Gem Society - rockhound/
recreational user online survey

You can do any or all of these actions, doing one does not preclude doing another.

More resources ...

(DRECP background, renewable energy alternatives, vulnerable collecting areas, and tips on writing an effective comment letter)

Desert Protective Council. dpcinc.org

Mojave Communities Conservation Collaborative. www.mojavec3.org

Mojave Desert Blog. www.mojavedesertblog.com

Sustainable Learning Center. www.sustainablelearningcenter.com

Twitter and Facebook

#drecp
#ghostsoftthedesert
@SaveTheDesert
@Desertpreserve #a4dp
@noonwindmills #noonwindmills
#solar #GoSolar #SupportSolar
#windfarms

Supporters

San Diego Mineral & Gem Society
Tubb Canyon Desert Conservancy
Basin and Range Watch
Desert Protective Council
Alliance for Desert Preservation

Cover. (Composite photo) Father and child at Lavic Siding rock collecting area, Mojave Desert, by Kris Rowe; wind turbines by Wiki user Z22.

Coming Soon... to your public lands *unless you speak up*

Your input is needed now on the DRECP
(Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan)

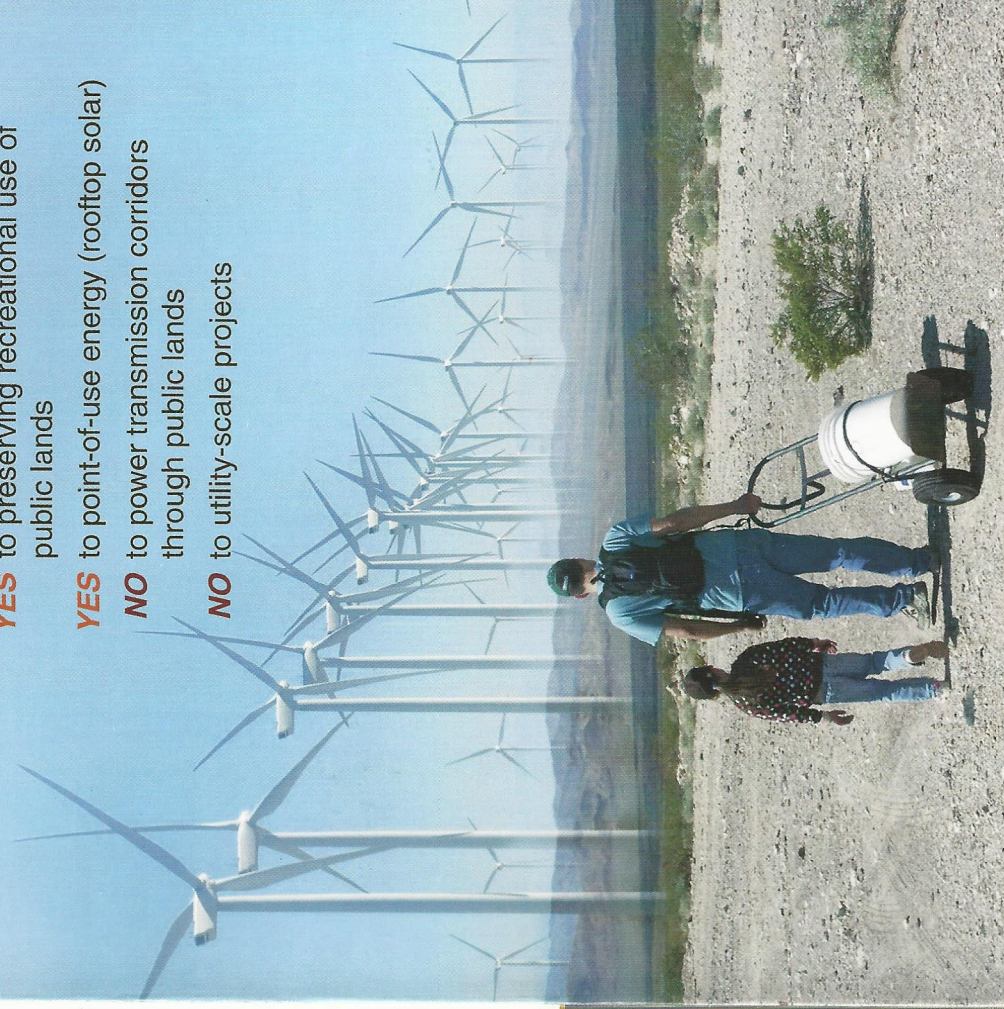
Tell the DRECP -

YES to preserving recreational use of public lands

YES to point-of-use energy (rooftop solar)

NO to power transmission corridors through public lands

NO to utility-scale projects



Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP)

Land use encompassing 22.5 million acres of California's deserts will be administered according to DRECP guidelines for the next 25 years. The plan makes a mosaic of the desert, with Development Focus Areas designated for private industry to build utility-scale energy projects adjacent to public lands. The DRECP's implementation will pave the way for large industrial developments to be connected to the power grid via power transmission corridors running through wild, previously untouched areas on public lands (Figure 1).

A jointly administered project of the BLM, California Energy Commission, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the goals of the DRECP are driven by the legal requirement that "renewables" (solar, wind, geothermal) shall account for 33% of California's energy sources by 2020. This goal has been met already – six years ahead of schedule. Governor Brown now wants to increase the target to 50%.

Certainly, renewable energy sources are a desirable alternative to fossil fuels and "dirty" energy sources, but a positive cost-benefit depends on project scale and site selection. Wind farms have issues with output and service life. Unpredictable weather and hot, dusty environments contribute to sub-optimal performance and longevity of solar arrays. Both are disastrous for the desert's fragile ecosystem and wildlife. There are better alternatives to sacrificing California's desert in order to achieve goals that are both economically and environmentally sustainable.

BLM needs to know your concerns about preserving the desert environment. BLM needs to know about the specific areas for which recreational uses or conservation concerns are important to you.

The comment period on the DRECP has been extended now through February 23, 2015. Your input is needed now.

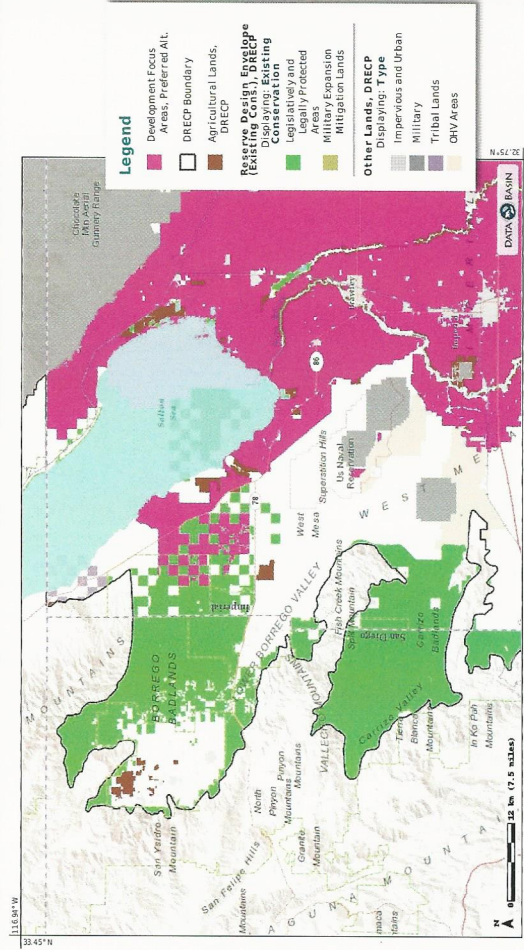


Figure 1. DRECP DFAs and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Map: J. David Garmon.

Why does the DRECP need more scrutiny and revision?

- ❗ DRECP is top-down centralized planning run amok. The public comment period of only 135 days for an 8,000 page document does not allow for cogent input. The comment period should be extended.
- ❗ DRECP's Development Focus Areas (DFAs) create a checkerboard of conservation-sensitive areas adjacent to private lands open for development. The negative effects of large-scale industrial activities spills across the porous boundaries separating them and impacts the whole desert ecosystem.
- ❗ DRECP closes thousands of acres of public lands to recreational use.
- ❗ DRECP industrializes California's fragile desert ecosystem and its last wilderness areas. Transmission lines have to be built on public lands to connect utility-scale projects to the power grid.
- ❗ DRECP permits the "taking" (literally, license to kill) endangered species for 30 years.
- ❗ DRECP affords only administrative protection of public lands, providing a blank check to private industry to develop projects adjacent to or on public lands in the future.
- ❗ DRECP raises significant fairness issues by pushing adverse environmental impact onto low income communities to benefit urban areas.
- ❗ DRECP considers only utility-scale development, ignoring other more cost-effective alternatives such as distributed energy generation, also called point-of-use (e.g., rooftop solar).
- ❗ DRECP does not provide funding or designate institutional support for the "adaptive management" touted in the plan.

❗ DRECP does not provide for any bonding mechanism to pay the costs of decommissioning utility-scale generating facilities after they have reached the end of their operating lives.

What is California's experience with utility-scale "green" energy projects to date?

- ❗ They haven't been very green. They've created "Dust Bowl" effects, including wind storms, soil erosion, and air pollution.
- ❗ They have been energy hogs, requiring high fossil fuel and water consumption to operate in our drought-starved state.
- ❗ They have over-promised and under-delivered on energy output, mitigating a cost-benefit that deserves closer scrutiny.
- ❗ Their impact on wildlife, natural habitat, and fragile ecosystems has been disastrous. At the Ivanpah project in the Mojave Desert, tortoises have lost habitat and birds incinerated by the solar panels fall to the ground, often still alive, blinded and horribly injured.