

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club Newsletter



JUNE 2017

Volume 58 Issue 6



A Native American Toolbox

Flint Knapping Demonstration

June's meeting was about the Native American Toolbox. We were given a great demonstration on all the aspects of Flint Knapping and what the native American would use flint for as part of their 'toolbox'. This was a wonderful presentation and everyone enjoyed James' presentation. If you would like more information on his work, please visit their website at

<http://www.past-2-present.com/>



Note from the PGMC President:



Once again due to the voluntary efforts of our membership we have had a very successful Gem & Mineral Show this year. Each show has been better than the previous show due to the fact that we critique each show as soon as we can. Communication with each other, the vendors and those attending the show are important to us. All feedback, positive and negative, is welcomed, considered, evaluated and encouraged. Continued involvement from our membership will secure growth and provide a service to those who share in the same interests as our membership.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to those members who give freely of their time, talent and expertise so the Palomar Gem and Mineral Club can continue to grow. This truly defines who we are. We are willing to provide education to those who are willing to learn. Once again a special thanks to all those who participated in making our 2017 Gem and Mineral Show such a great success.

Thank You

John Raabe

PGMC President

PGMC Membership 2017

Its never too late to join! We are still taking membership dues throughout the year. Your membership allows you to partake in the ever expanding lapidary workshop and all the wonderful classes that we provide monthly. New this year we began distributing Membership cards. This enabled our shop supervisors to know easily who is paid and has an updated liability form on file. If you have not received your membership card, please come to one of our meetings to pick yours up. We can not mail all of these out as it would be too cost prohibitive for our club. They will also be available to pick up at the picnic in August. Updated rosters will be distributed in September.

WORKSHOP NEWS!

Volunteers Needed for: Shop Clean-up Day

Saturday August 26th, 9AM to 4PM

We are going to be cleaning the east blinds and windows, reducing the 49 red rock crates down by hopefully 50%. We'll defrost the freezer, Pressure wash 3 or 4 pieces of equipment, clean the restroom, shampoo the carpet tiles and upholstery and dust all surfaces. If anyone has a carpet cleaner with the ability to also do upholstery, they could loan, we could sure use it.

Volunteers please let a supervisor know that you're going to come and help, or you can also call (not text, call) Alan (760) 419-5360

LOST AND FOUND

The Shop Lost and Found is getting pretty full. Please come and get your property. Items in Lost and Found over 30 days will be placed in the October Silent Auction.

July PROGRAM

Life's Rocky Start

This month we'll take a look at a new possible explanation as to how life got it's start on Earth. This is a video from Nova and features the geologist, Robert Hazen (one of my favorites!). Check out the description below:

Four and a half billion years ago, the young Earth was a hellish place—a seething chaos of meteorite impacts, volcanoes belching noxious gases, and lightning flashing through a thin, torrid atmosphere. Then, in a process that has puzzled scientists for decades, life emerged. But how? NOVA joins mineralogist Robert Hazen as he journeys around the globe. He advances a startling and counterintuitive idea—that the rocks beneath our feet were not only essential to jump-starting life, but that microbial life helped give birth to hundreds of minerals we know and depend on today. It's a theory of the co-evolution of Earth and life that is reshaping the grand-narrative of our planet's story.

JULY 19, 2017

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 for METAL SMITHING only, to those students who have had metal smithing instruction or experience and/or have instructor approval. Attendees should 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 the right for class information and fees.

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

Beginning Silversmithing



This is a ten 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 & Times: Sat. Oct 28 & Sun. Oct 29, 2017—10a-4p

Cost: \$60 for 10 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.****

LAPIDARY WORKSHOP IS LOCATED AT

2120 W. MISSION, SUITE 260

ESCONDIDO, CA 92029

SPECIALTY CLASSES

“In-Saign” Chasing & Repousse Workshop—2017



What: Chasing & Repoussé Workshop with visiting instructor Saign Charlestein

Where: Palomar Gem & Mineral Club Workshop, Escondido, Ca. Dates: Monday August 14, 2017 - Friday, August 18, 2017 ***with a possible 2nd Session Monday August 21, 2017 - Friday, August 25, 2017 Time: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (total hours: 35) with 1 hour for lunch each day.

Skill: None, Beginner to Advanced

Fee: \$1250.00 A \$350 non-refundable deposit is required to book your place. If you can not attend and we can fill your spot, your deposit will be returned. The balance (\$900) is due on or before June 1, 2017 to allow time for the waiting list to be contacted. NOTE: If you are NOT a member of the club you will be required to join (\$25) for insurance purposes.

Workshop Size: 6 people minimum with a maximum of 8. Class size is small to allow each student more attention. ***NOTE: After 8 students sign up, your name will be added to the wait list. If more than 12 students sign up we will try to host a second session the following week and contact you at that time. If you are on the wait list and you do not get a spot in the workshop, your deposit will be returned.

Description: In this 5 day hands on workshop, Saign will teach everything from different methods of transferring images, tool making, and pitch preparation, to proper ergonomics, chasing, repoussé, and creation of relief with only chasing from the front. You will not only go home with one or more completed projects, but also develop and hone the knowledge and skill to create beautiful pieces of art on your own.

The workshop will begin with a skill assessment exercise that everyone will complete. Once Saign can assess your skill level, then he will assign you a project that will focus on what he thinks you benefit from the most. He is also open to guiding you through a design of your choice, as long as it is fitting for the time period and proper advancement of your skills. If you would like to bring your own design, please keep in mind that we will be using 8" pitch bowls, and 4.5" copper blanks. So if the design is larger, please bring your own larger pitch container and material to work on.

Registration Information: (via the instructors website) Website URL: <http://www.metalsmithing-tools.com/product-page/3536470121> OR Send a \$350.00 non-refundable deposit made out to Saign Charlestein and send it to: Saign Charlestein 1912 N Monroe Street Tacoma, WA 98406 Email: Saign Charlestein at saignc@gmail.com Laurie Kern at the.silversmith@TheAdventurousSilversmith.com

MATERIAL LIST

- Notebook, Pen/Pencil, Camera
- Safety Glasses, Magnifies, Ear Protection
- Chasing tools and hammers (not required)
- 8" Pitch bowl with pitch and support ring. NOTE: there are 5 bowls with pitch available for rent if you do not have one, contact Laurie Kern (see below for email) if you will wish to rent one.
- Copper - 3-4 pieces of 18 gauge (0.040" thick). or 32 oz. (0.043" thick). There will be copper available for purchase in the workshop. NOTE: A small set of chasing tools (IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ANY TOOLS) and 3 hammers will be provided by the instructor for students to use and can be purchased (20% savings) after the workshop is over.

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. July 15 and July 16 2017 – 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**



Wire Wrap

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.



Instructors: Dawn Vaughn

Dates: Ju

Time: 10

Cost: \$30

Sign-up:

register c
dawnvau



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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: *Saturday, July 22, 2017*

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**

Precious Metal Clay Class—*New Class !!!*

Learn the basics of Precious Metal Clay - how to make a mold and using precious metal clay (PMC 3), make a three dimensional pure silver design from your mold; and to use a hand held torch to fire the clay. For this class you will need to bring an object no larger than a silver dollar that you want to make a mold of. I have used the head of a dragon figurine. I also have a few molds that I have made you are welcome to use.



Instructor: Annie Heffner

Location: Club Shop

Dates & Times: July 8 & 9, 2017—1—4pm

Cost: \$30 members, \$55 non-members (includes 1 single annual membership). Material costs approximately \$70 additional. **A non-refundable deposit of \$70 to Annie Heffner by July 5, 2017 will be required prior to class.**

****Contact Annie Heffner at (760) 855-5406 for more info.**

Textured Metal Class

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

Instructor: Diane Hall & Annie Heffner

Location: Club Shop

Dates & Times: November 19, 2017, 10a-4p

Cost: \$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 13th. Sign ups after that will need to provide their own material.

To sign up: Call Diane at 760-741-0433 to register or email at dianehall213@gmail.com (preferred). Class is limited to 6 so sign up early.



Calendar of Events

July 8-9	Precious Metal Clay Class
July 10	PGMC Board Meeting 6:00
July 15-16	Faceting Intro Class
July 19	PGMC July Meeting—7:00
July 22	Faceting Continuation Class
July 23	Wire Wrapping Class
Aug 14-18	C&R Workshop
Aug 20	PGMC Annual Picnic—Jesmond Dene Park
Sept. 11	PGMC Board Meeting 6:00



AN OLD GEOLOGIST'S TALES

As many of you know, Gene Ciancanelli is a long-standing member of the PGMG. Gene had a long career as an exploration geologist searching for energy and mineral resources throughout North America and Asia. These Old Geologist's Tales are excerpts from a book Gene wrote for the Huntington Library's archive of The History and Development of the Western United States. That book documents the life of a geologist and his wife working in the west during the latter half of the 20th Century. We hope to include many of these tales in this newsletter for your



ONE BRIGHT-EYED GEOLOGIST (Part 1)

In 1962, I secure geology employment with U. S. Steel and forgo my usual summer's work as a carpenter. This, my first job as a geologist, is to evaluate limestone flux and iron deposits in Alaska, Wow!!! I'm so excited that in my haste to accept, I don't inquire as to what the job pays. This proves to be the first of many career mistakes. Now this new budding geologist will earn less than half of what a union carpenter is paid. I must get to Seattle at my own expense where U.S. Steel will provide an airplane ticket to Ketchikan, Alaska. An airplane ticket from Tucson to Ketchikan would have an added cost to U. S. Steel of no more than the cost for a bus ticket to Seattle. It is amazing how cheap large corporations are when paying legitimate expenses.

ON THE ROAD NORTH TO ALASKA

In Tucson, I board a Greyhound bus to Seattle. The Gray Dog is divided into two levels. A tour group of elderly ladies occupies the forward lower level with the rear upper level occupied by derelicts, pick pockets, grifters, soldiers, Indians, cowboys, construction workers, and one bright-eyed college boy. Everyone is going to the Seattle World's Fair. Hour after hour the Gray Dog runs across the hot desert with the air conditioner blowing more hot air than a politician. At the first rest stop, the ladies station a woman at the bottom of the stairs and she informs the men that we can't exit the bus until the ladies have finished changing and are presentable. This takes 10-minutes from a 15-minute rest stop as we hear the ladies discussing the proper jewelry and color-coordinated attire for a bus station restroom. Meanwhile, the rapidly rising temperature adds to our bladder agony, but we are still gentlemen, having only been aboard the bus a few hours. At the next rest stop, the same blocking of the exit occurs, with groans and complaints from the gentlemen. In the morning there is another rest stop, but now the long bus ride has taken a toll upon civil behavior. A security lady is again stationed at the stairs, but this time a low-life shouts, **"TO HELL WITH THE OLD LADIES I'M OUT-A-HERE!"** The men surge forward; sweeping before them half a dozen half-dressed screaming old ladies, who are pushed out into the cool-fresh-morning air.

At mid-morning the bus pulls into Bakersfield, a crummy looking town in California's Central Valley. Staring out the window, I'm thinking, Boy! I would hate to live here. In six years, I'm destined to be working for Geothermal Resources International, headquartered in Bakersfield, but the Gods are kind and I only visit the home office and never live in Bakersfield. Every now and then everyone gets lucky.

In this pre-Interstate 5 era, the bus proceeds slowly northward through almost every small town in California's Central Valley with the scenic monotony broken by arguments and fights. 1960's era bus terminals and meal stops have a deserved reputation as being consistently horrible. The worst is a 10 PM dinner stop in Grants Pass, Oregon. The "restaurant" is an empty one-room plywood shack. A big surly woman sits behind a filthy card table, encrusted with the remnants of countless previous meals. Passengers shuffle past like exhausted inmates in a forced labor camp. She stuffs processed cheese-like sludge between two slices of bread, lying on the filthy table, and hands them out for \$4.00 with no drink or thank you for your patronage. To put this high-priced imitation cheese sandwich insult in perspective, in 1962 a fine steak dinner in an expensive restaurant is \$3.00 and a fast-food hamburger with fries costs 25 cents. If a passenger complains, she answers by swearing and suggesting they go someplace else. Then she laughs because this is the middle of nowhere and we are her prisoners. In later years, I get a warm feeling as each bus company goes bankrupt. Today, the airlines are replicating the ambiance and passenger treatment pioneered by the bus companies. Somewhere the granddaughter of the cheese-sludge-sandwich lady is abusing passengers as an airline stewardess (*cabin steward for you PC folks*).

Indulge me while I digress here: In 1974, Frank and I are working in eastern Oregon, when our truck breaks down. It will take a week to order the parts and repair the truck. We decide to go home to our wives, but the only public transportation to Portland is the Gray Dog. The bus is not on a schedule; it just arrives in Burns, Oregon some random time each day. Passengers must wait in the "bus terminal", which is an unpainted 10 x 10 foot plywood shack with wooden benches around the four walls. Sitting in the middle of this shack is a life-size cardboard effigy of the actor Fred McMurray, who was the bus company's spokesman. Their slogan

Continued on the next page . . . >>>

Continued from previous page . . . >>> was ***"Go Greyhound and leave the driving to us...and the suffering to our passengers"***. Waiting passengers have written comments on the effigy about Fred and the bus company consisting mainly of four letter words. For five hours Frank and I sat alone in that shack amusing ourselves by trying to think up something derogatory but also unique. We couldn't think up a single thing that had not already been written, often cruder but apropos. Since then this has been my last bus trip. My freshman college year was at a Catholic college in New York City. I seem to recall one of the priest's reminding us sinners that you travel to Hell by bus.

Now back to 1962. Continuing on to Alaska, the trip across Oregon and Washington is uneventful as fatigue and cooler temperatures settle in upon passenger's tortured bodies. The cool green Willamette Valley's scenery is beautiful. In three years I will spend a year in graduate school in the Willamette Valley. The ladies no longer try to control the upper level's mob, because they are now preoccupied fighting and bitching among themselves.

The Seattle World's Fair is in progress as the toxic-waste-hauler Greyhound bus rolls into the overcrowded terminal. This first post-war World's Fair is highly successful with tourists crowding the city. Bus companies never plan anything and Seattle's filthy old worn-out bus terminal is chaos, because the facilities weren't upgraded to handle the greatly increased traffic load. Passengers learn through the grapevine that all baggage is unloaded and thrown into a vacant dirt lot behind the terminal. My gear is in a duffel bag. The vacant lot contains hundreds of suitcases and a pile of duffel bags 100 feet across and 10 feet high, which is Greyhound's monument to the thousands of service men flocking to the fair. Dozens of soldiers, sailors, marines, and me climb over this mountain to search through hundreds of duffel bags. Greyhound's gang of bully-boy baggage handlers are there to curse at passengers, but not to provide any service, other than to extend a hand for a tip, which almost every angry passenger ignores. It takes an hour of moving aside heavy duffel bags to find mine. A brief visit to the fair is my next objective, because the Alaska flight doesn't leave until the next day. My only World's Fair memory is carrying a heavy duffel bag and eating the first real food in two days. That night I slept in an airport terminal chair, which was a luxury resort compared to the bus station.

KETCHIKAN

Flying into Ketchikan, Alaska, I meet Bob, the senior geological engineer, and two new college graduates, Pat, a mining engineer, and Jim, a geologic engineer. Pat and Jim quickly fill me in that Bob is on an expense account, but we three are not and Ketchikan is very expensive. Furthermore, we are paid \$1.60/hour, which would be relatively low pay in the lower 48 states and it is slavery by Alaska standards. We soon learn that although we are paid for an 8-hour day, in reality Bob, a U.S. Steel company man, works us 16-hours a day and thus we earn 80-cents an hour. When we were offered the job, U. S. Steel said a camp and food would be provided. Bob tells us not to be concerned. In a few days we will be working from a bush camp with free food and lodging. We still had to survive those first few expensive days, which eventually became two weeks. In Ketchikan, Bob lets us sneak into his room to sleep on the floor, but food costs more than we make each day. The three of us skip lunch, but we still have to buy special clothing and gear, because U. S. Steel provides nothing. Our formal geologic careers begin with a trip to the outfitter store to buy a complete suit of rain-gear clothing, a survival necessity in summertime southeast Alaska. I wrote about this experience in the Tin Pants story in PGM's December 2016 Bulletin. "Generously", U. S. Steel buys three new axes, machetes, a six-pack of bug repellent, and a chain saw. Now the new "professionals" (*that is a highly over stated word*) are semi-prepared to face the rain, bugs, and bears. The next day we will fly to Craig, Alaska. (*to be continued*)

Boarding the Goose to fly from Ketchikan to Craig, Alaska (1962)





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:



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