

Palomar Gem and Mineral Club Newsletter

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Letter from the President

One of my goals for 2018, is to make sure we are giving the members everything that they want from their membership.

One of the aspects of our club that is lacking is our lack of field trips. We at this time do not have someone dedicated as "Field Trip Coordinator". With that said, that doesn't mean we can't do field trips.

If you have an idea for a field trip, or are planning and outing, let us know! Not only will we help you promote the trip so that there is a group, but we can also help defray the cost of transportation for the coordinator!

Contact me or one of the Board Members for more information.

If you have an idea for a trip, please feel free to contact me. My email is President@palomargem.org.

Jef Wright – President 2018

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February's Program

Escondido

February 21, 2018 | 7:00 pm

Dittus Hall | Redwood Terrace | 710 West 13th Ave,

So What's Cool from Quartzite and Tucson?

The reports are starting to come in! Great finds and great deals in Quartzite and, this year, even good weather! Trucks are loaded and anticipation is high as folks start out for Tucson.

Share your experiences and show off your acquisitions. Make those of us who didn't go promise ourselves that we'll go next year!

Send me your pics if you'd like them shown on the projector (either as part of a slide show or for you to talk about: programs@palomargem.org) and be sure to bring lots of examples of what you got in Quartzite or Tucson to show off! If you've managed to work with some of the material you brought back, bring your creations (last year's masterpieces will be exciting too!)

Have an idea for a program you'd like to see? Email Michele at programs@palomargem.org





Workshops

The Lapidary and Silversmith Workshops are held weekly. There is a shop fee of \$7 per person to attend these workshops.

Cabochon and Lapidary Class & Open Workshop

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.

Tuesday: 6:30pm – 9:30pm

Wednesday: 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Thursday: 2:00pm – 5:00 pm

Silversmith Workshop

This workshop is open to all students who have had metal smithing instruction or experience and/or have instructor approval. If you have attended an introductory class, you can continue to improve your skills at this weekly workshop.

Thursday: 6:00pm – 9:00pm

You must be a member of the PGMC in order to partake in any of the workshops or classes provided by Palomar Gem and Mineral Club.

Lapidary Workshop
2120 W. Mission
Suite S
Escondido, CA

Faceting Workshops

Contact Bob Johnson for registration
 email: n78532@yahoo.com
 phone: 760-809-0152

Introduction to Faceting –

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.

Sat., Feb. 17 & Sun., Feb. 18– 9:00am – 5:00pm

\$80 for new students \$70 for returning students

Faceting Continuation Class

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

January Workshop: Sat., Feb. 24 9:00am – 5:00pm

\$35 for all students



Special Classes

Fused Metal Class

Sandy Heath will teach us to create fused sterling silver textured sheets - by fusing various bits and wire onto the sterling base sheet. Texture is developed by fusing then rolling out the sheets. Each person should be able to create two sheets each (2" x 3"). Bring your scraps if you have some. We will purchase supplies for everyone is who enrolled by February 18th. Anyone who enrolls after that date will have to provide their own material.

Class is limited to 6 so sign up early!!

Fabrication using the sheets will be discussed, and demonstrated if time allows.

Sunday, February 25, 2018 in the workshop.

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Cost is \$35 plus materials cost.

Register by contacting Diane Hall
phone: 760-741-0433 and leave a message
email: dianehall213@gmail.com (preferred method)



Introduction to Silversmithing

This is a 10-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 or a ring shank, creating a wearable piece of jewelry. Intermediate students can work on a project of their choosing with instructor approval. At the completion of this introduction the student can continue learning in the Thursday night workshop.

Please bring a cabochon to set in silver or let us know if you need one ahead of time!

Saturday March 10 and Sunday March 11, 2018

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Cost is \$60 plus materials.

Register by contacting Diane Hall
phone: 760-741-0433 and leave a message
email: dianehall213@gmail.com (preferred method)



Old Geologists Tale

BY GENE CIANCANELLI

In the late 1960's, I'm a geologist for a small California energy company exploring for geothermal resources and petroleum. One day a company landman asks me to accompany him to a meeting with the owner of a large ranch on which the company is trying to obtain an oil and gas lease. He says a stubborn old Italian man named Carmine owns the ranch. The landman thinks that as the company's token Italian, I might be an asset to help him break the ice and get Carmine to sign the lease agreement.

The next day we are driving up the Central Valley in the landman's big white Cadillac. Big flashy Cadillac cars are one of the hallmarks of a landman's persona. As we drive along, he is telling the story of Carmine's life. Carmine was born in Italy and married Angelina at the end of World War I. The newlyweds emigrated to America with few possessions and a strong work ethic to succeed. The couple lived frugally and worked hard. Soon they owned a small piece of land and added more land as the years passed. Gradually, the income, from their small farming and later ranching operation, increased as all the money they earned was used to acquire more land and cattle. They prospered through the boom times of the 1920's and when the Great Depression came they were not impacted, because they had always lived in poverty. World War II caused a great demand for meat and agricultural produce and the financial good times continued through the 1950's and 1960's. The couple never had children and through frugality and savvy business decisions Carmine and Angelina eventually owned one of the largest ranches in California.

The Cadillac turned off the paved county road onto a dirt road and the landman said we had just entered the ranch. This was the time when Bonanza and The Great Valley were two popular television shows featuring California cattle ranching families; thus I have a preconceived idea about what to expect. Driving along past herds of cattle, I'm expecting to arrive at a big ranch house. The Cadillac stops in front of a weathered flat roofed wooden shack with an old hard-run pickup truck parked in front. The decades old shack's weathered wood never saw a coat of paint. The landman says, "We're here!" A voice holler's for us to come inside where there are two rooms. A small bedroom with an iron framed bed and a dresser topped with a statue of St. Joseph, a familiar Catholic icon in most Italian homes of that era. The larger room is a combination kitchen-dining indoor toilets, sinks with running water, air conditioning and heating do not exist. There are no curtains on the windows, nor paint or artwork on the walls, just bare wood. Apparently, even paint is a luxury they had chosen to forego.

Carmine invites us to sit down and shouts for Angelina to bring wine. Drinking cheap dollar-a-gallon jug wine, we men converse and eventually get down to business. The landman explains the company is proposing to pay an annual lease rent of one dollar an acre. If we strike oil then Carmine will receive 16 2/3 percent of the value of all oil and gas produced free of expenses. As an incentive, to entice Carmine to sign today, the company is offering a \$10,000 signing bonus. At that time \$10,000 is approximately what upper middle class families earned annually. The negotiation dance proceeds along until eventually, thanks to the wine, the allure of the \$10,000 bonus check is too much for Carmine to resist and he agrees to lease the ranch.

The landman takes the lease agreement from his briefcase and Carmine signs. The landman then says, "Angelina has to sign on this line." (Carmine) "She no have'a to sign, I'm own'a da



As many of you know, Gene Ciancanelli is a long-standing member of the PGMC. 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 entertainment and perhaps another perspective of how our hobby can become a lifetime career.



In Memory

Carroll 'Gene' Baker passed away on January 3, 2018

Gene was a long time member of the PGMC. Beloved husband, father, grandpa of 5 and "papa" to 8 great-grandkids. He and his wife Eloise used to take care of refreshments and the silent auction at the meetings. He will be missed.

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Gem Show Report

The Palomar Gem and Mineral Club's 2018 Gem, Mineral and Jewelry show is June 9 and 10, 2018 at the California Center for Arts Escondido. Our show is one of the best club shows in southern California. The quality of the vendors, the enthusiastic club volunteers, the lovely venue and the many attendees all combine to make it a high energy fun event. With your help we will make the 2018 Show the best yet.

Michele is busy again this year with our vendors. If you have a vendor in mind, let her know so we can get them a contract. Dawn is in charge of the advertising campaign again this year. She would love to find someone interested in helping her and take this over next year. Charles is working on a stone and Chris is securing an amethyst tower for the grand prize. Toni is keeping the books and records straight. Barbara, Alan and Bob are also doing their part to make the show a success.

I invite you to be a part of the 2018 Show. As we get closer to the show there are many details that we need help on. If you are interested, let me or any of the above members know.

At the next general meeting I will have flyers available for you to hand out to friends, family, fellow gem and mineral enthusiasts, and potential vendors. Please take some and put them to use.

Archie J. Kuehn

2018 Show Chairman

PGMCshow@palomargem.org

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ranch." The landman then explains that California is a community property state and both husband and wife have to sign for the lease to be a legal document. (Carmine) "She no have'a to sign this all my ranch. Angelina is here for the cooking and cleaning. The landman explains that without Angelina's signature there is no deal and no \$10,000 bonus check. That registers in Carmine's brain and he shouts, "Angelina come over here and sign'a da paper". Angelina comes over to the table and says, "Why do I have to sign'a da paper". "You sign'a da paper because I'm'a telling you to sign." In a firm voice she says "NO!" The landman then explains to Angelina that California is a community property state and the law says the married couple each owns half of everything. He asks Angelina how long they have been married and she answers 49 years. He explains that over those 49 years they have worked together to earn and acquire this large ranch and everything else. The state understands this and considers it fair that she should own half of the ranch, half of the house, half of the cattle, and half of the pickup truck. Since she is half owner, she also has to sign the lease and then he will give Carmine the \$10,000 bonus check. (Angelina) "I'm'a gon'a sign but you gon'a write two checks. One \$5,000 check for Carmine and one \$5,000 check for me." She signs the lease agreement and the landman hands each of them a \$5,000 check. (Carmine) "Angelina give'a me da check!" "No its'a my check" "Why you need'a \$5,000, I'm'a give'a you everything you need." Angelina folds her check in half and stuffs it down the front of her dress. (Carmine) "What you gon'a do with \$5,000?" Angelina smiles and says, "It's'a for my lawyer". Now World War III breaks out with shouting and swearing back and forth in Italian with the appropriate Italian hand gestures added. We have what we came for and quietly exit the ranch house.

As we drove away, the landman prophetically said, "I don't think there is going to be a golden wedding anniversary". A year later Carmine owns half as much land and cattle and is still living in the ranch house shack with nobody to cook and clean. Angelina is a wealthy woman in her late 60's living very comfortably in the city with someone else doing the cooking and cleaning. As for the oil well, it was never drilled.

Finito

Board of Directors - 2018

Ever had an idea for the club and wanted to get it to the right people? Here is your opportunity. Here is our Board of Directors. We have given each of them their own palomargem.org email. Feel free to use it and send them your ideas!

PRESIDENT – Jef Wright – president@palomargem.org

VICE-PRESIDENT – Chris Toft – vp@palomargem.org

SECRETARY – Fred Floyd – secretary@palomargem.org

TREASURER – Toni Floyd – treasurer@palomargem.org

DIR. OF COMMUNICATIONS – Dawn Vickers – publicity@palomargem.org

SHOW CHAIRS – Archie Kuehn & Michele Shepard –
PGMCshow@palomargem.org

PROGRAMS – Michele Shepard – programs@palomargem.org

MEMBERSHIP – John Raabe – membership@palomargem.org

Website

We would like to take a moment and thank Joe Vaughn for helping us over the last 2 years getting our website back up and running.

We are currently revamping the website and hoping to make it even more useful to our members. If there is something you would like to see, please email us at

webmaster@palomargem.org!

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.

PGMC IS AFFILIATED WITH



SCAM ALERT!

There is a SCAM targeting rockhounds out there! It's an e-mail with Subject:

"2018 Gem and Mineral Show Volunteer Sign Up Invite",
From:"Nancy Howerter"info@signupgenius.com
<mailto:info@signupgenius.com>

It is a SCAM and we need to let all the clubs know so they can avoid responding to it.

They absolutely should NOT respond!

It is coming from some outfit in Charlotte, North Carolina!

Received from LA-Rocks newsgroup.