

Palomar gem & mineral club

VOLUME 60 - ISSUE #8
SEPTEMBER 2019

BOARD OFFICERS ELECTED

President	Jef Wright
Vice President	Justin Engelmeyer
Secretary	Fred Floyd
Treasurer	Toni Floyd

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (APPOINTED)

CFMS Chairperson:	Toni Floyd
Field Trips:	Melissa Takagi
Parliamentarian:	Chris Toft
Shop Coordinator:	Alan Mazzola
Program Chair	Karen Wagner
Show Chair	Michele Shepard
Newsletter Editor	Carol Hiestand
Website:	Ian Burney
Membership Chair	Lori Goodman

STANDING COMMITTEES (APPOINTED)

Facebook Page	Jeff Fox
Ways & Means	Dawn Wright
Historian	Barbara Bury
Hospitality & Good Cheer	Judy Jessup
Meeting Displays	Barbara Bury
Picnic Coordinator	Moni Waiblinger
Refreshments	Dawn Wright
Redwood Rep	Barbara Bury
Librarian	Chris Toft
Calendar	Justin Engelmeyer

NEXT MEETING:

WEDS SEPT 18, 7 PM

**DITTUS HALL, REDWOOD
TERRACE**

710 W. 13TH AVE. ESCONDIDO

**PROGRAM ABOUT
TURQUOISE!!!!**

BRING A FRIEND!!!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO AUGUST & SEPT.
BIRTHDAY
MEMBERS!!**

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BIG THANKS TO:

**MONI WAIBLINGER, PICNIC
COORDINATOR, MICHELE,
TONI, BARBARA, AND EVERY-
ONE ELSE WHO
CONTRIBUTED TO THE
AUGUST PICNIC!!!**



Grand Prizes, PGMG Gem Mineral & Jewelry show June 29-30

Turns out, club members won both of these, way to go!!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPT PROGRAM: TURQUOISE,

By Eric Brooking. A fascinating look at one of our favorite stones!

FIELD TRIPS: Melissa is trying to put something together soon. I will send out an email blast if I get the info too late for this newsletter!

HEADS-UP:

Regular meetings resume in Sept. with "PIE MONTH"!

This is one of the funnest (and high caloric) meetings of the year!

Bring your favorite pie, or cobbler, we're not picky. My suggestion: have dinner before the meeting, that helps! Enjoy the delicious choices then relax and enjoy the program!

****UPCOMING CLASSES****

Lapidary & Silversmith Workshop

2120 W. Mission, Suite S., Escondido

Cabochon/Lapidary Class & Open Workshops

Tuesday 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Wednesday 11:00 am – 2:00 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.

Thursday 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm **METAL SMITHING only - open for to those students who have had metal smithing instruction or experience and/or have instructor approval.** Those students who have attended an introductory class may continue to work on improving their skills in this weekly workshop. An experienced metalsmith will be available for consultation.

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



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.

Instructor: Bob Johnson

Location: Club Shop

Dates & times: Saturday, September 14, and Sunday September 15, 2019 – 9am -5pm

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

Contact Bob Johnson for more info or to register - 760-809-0152 or email Bob at N78532@yahoo.com

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, (which is always on the third Wed.)

Instructor: Bob Johnson

Location: Club Shop

Cost: \$35.

September workshop – September 21, 2019, 9-5

Contact Bob Johnson for approval and to reserve a spot - 760-809-0152 or email Bob N78532@yahoo.com

Saturday 7, 1:00-? pm Burnout

Introduction to Silversmithing Class



Ring by Mike Mettelka

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.

Instructors: Diane Hall & Annie Heffner

Dates & times: September 28 & 29, 2019, 10-4

Cost: \$60 (club membership required - \$25 fee for single membership)

Materials additional – (Approx. \$30) and 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.**

Lost Wax Casting

This is a 3-day class to introduce the student to Lost Wax Casting.

Instructor: John Raabe

Dates & times: Wednesday, September 4, 6-9 Introduction to Lost Wax Casting Procedure

Friday, September 6, 6-9pm –Investment

Cost: \$100. Must be a club member. Returning students \$75

Materials: All required materials will be provided including one ounce of silver

Requirements: Class is limited to 4 members

****Please RSVP by September 3rd, to John Raabe @ 760-749-2749**

Silversmithing – Byzantine Chain & Queen's link



This is one day basic chain class. The students will learn to weave jump rings to create these ancient designs. You will have the opportunity to make either chain or both No soldering is required.

Instructor: Annie Heffner

Dates: Sunday – October 6, 2019

Time: 10:00am – 4:00 pm

Cost: \$35 (club membership required - \$25 fee for single membership)

Materials additional.

****Call Annie Heffner at (760) 855-5406 and leave a message or email annieheffner@hotmail.com for more info or to register.****

Forged Bracelet Class



In this class, we will shape a couple of simple sterling silver bangle bracelets with a soldered clasp. These bracelets make fast and easy gifts.

Instructors: Diane Hall and Annie Heffner

Date and time: October 26, 2019, 10am – 4pm

Location: Club shop

Cost: \$35, plus materials fee

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

Textured Metal Class



Come and join in the fun, exploring how 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: Saturday, November 9, 2019

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 everyone who is signed up by November 1st. Sign ups after that will need to provide their own material.

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

Lucara Recovers Second Largest Diamond in History: 1,758 Carats, Near-Gem Quality



Mining and Exploration

25/04/2019 22:06

Lucara Diamond Corp. has recovered an astonishingly large diamond - 1,758 carats - from its Karowe Diamond Mine in Botswana. One of the largest diamonds in recorded history and the largest diamond ever recovered in Botswana, it may not be an immensely valuable clear white Type IIa beauty the miner is famous for - such as the 1,109-carat Lesedi La Rona or the 813-carat Constellation that fetched a record \$63 million for a rough diamond - but it indicates the potential Lucara's state of the art XRT recovery circuit to detect and recover huge gems without breaking them. The diamond has been characterized as "near-gem of variable quality, including domains of

high-quality white gem." The miner notes that further detailed analysis is ongoing.

Since commissioning of the XRT circuit in 2015, a total of 12 diamonds in excess of 300 carats have been recovered at Karowe, including 2 greater than 1,000 carats, from a total production of approximately 1.4 million carats. Of the 12 +300 carat diamonds recovered, 50% were categorized as gem quality with 11 sold to date generating revenue in excess of US\$158 million.

"Karowe has now produced two diamonds greater than 1,000 carats in just four years," said Lucara CEO Eira Thomas, "affirming the coarse nature of the resource and the likelihood of recovering additional, large, high quality diamonds in the future, particularly as we mine deeper in the orebody and gain access to the geologically favorable EM/PK(S) unit, the source of both of our record-breaking, +1,000 carat diamonds."

The biggest diamond ever discovered is the 3,106-carat Cullinan, found near Pretoria in South Africa in 1905. It was cut into several polished gems, the two largest of which - the Great Star of Africa and the Lesser Star of Africa - are set in the Crown Jewels of Britain.

THE BEEFALO BOYS

By Gene Ciancanelli

The mining and oil businesses attract the usual assortment of conmen, crooks, promoters, and dreamy-eyed get rich quick regular folks. Like all geologists, I crossed paths with many of these colorful characters. Two, of the promoters I encountered, were Moe Mozingo and, Moe's crooked sleazy smarmy friend and partner, Royal Nixon. Over several decades, these "business geniuses" went broke in a wide variety of businesses including several oil and mining ventures, housing developments, cell phone franchises, an orange orchard, mining ventures, geothermal ventures, pizza franchises, a car rental company, etc. Of the two, I liked Moe the best. I think he was basically an honest dreamer with a good heart and little business sense. He at least tried to succeed for his investors. I met Moe when I briefly worked for a small Canadian oil company. Royal on the other hand was once described to me as a man, who would steal your watch and then help you look for it. When the watch could not be found, Royal would send you a bill for his time spent trying to find your watch, which was in his pocket. Although he was not a Catholic, Royal once spent investor money to buy a private audience with the Pope. When I heard about this, I wondered

if Royal was trying to entice the Pope to invest in one of his schemes.

In the mid-1970s, the boys hear about a man, whom they call "Beefalo Bill", who claims he successfully crossed beef cattle with American bison to create a fertile offspring called a beefalo. Beefalo Bill is selling beefalo sperm to ranchers, who use the sperm to impregnate their cattle to produce hybrid beefalo/cattle offspring. Beefalo is marketed as leaner and healthier meat from a hardier and environmentally desirable animal, which is less destructive to the range and cheaper to raise to market. As usual in all their get-rich-quick ventures, Moe and Royal know nothing about the cattle business, but this never stops them. What they think they know is beefalo cattle are supposed to be a hardy breed resistant to the cold and therefore beefalo should thrive in Canada. Like all their previous and future failures, this is a sure thing golden opportunity. In my experience, virtually all wildcat oil wells and mining prospects are touted as a sure thing guaranteeing the investor fabulous riches. In these opportunities investors usually lose money. In Moe and Royal's ventures the investors always lost, because if any money was made, Royal always pocketed the cash.

Moe, Royal, and Beefalo Bill enter into protracted negotiations. Moe charts a large passenger jet to fly potential Canadian investors to Beefalo Bill's California ranching operation. The boys succeed in assembling a Canadian investor group to provide financing. Moe, Royal, and the investors purchase from Beefalo Bill the exclusive right to sell beefalo sperm in Canada. They lease a ranch in Alberta and Beefalo Bill sells them Joe's Pride, a purebred beefalo bull, to start the first Canadian beefalo herd. They paid \$2,500,000 just for one beefalo bull, which is still the highest price ever paid for a bull of any breed or for that matter the highest price ever paid for any domestic farm animal. Adjusted for inflation, \$2,500,000 would have a present value of \$11,700,000. As I said, *"Moe and Royal know nothing about the cattle business."* Moe and Royal are contemplating a profitable venture selling beefalo sperm, because Beefalo Bill has "fixed" the beefalo sperm price at \$100 per dose. Trendy beefalo meat is selling at a premium price to regular beef and there is not enough beefalo meat available to satisfy demand. At that time, the press and national television stations are touting beefalo as the new healthier alternative to beef. With the Canadian market firmly in their grasp, Moe and Royal now begin a costly Canadian marketing campaign building up considerable interest in beefalo among Canadian ranchers and consumers.



A beefalo bull

Meanwhile, they are having trouble at the ranch keeping their beefalo herd corralled. The beefalo are strong ornery animals that keep knocking down corrals. No surprise since beefalo are supposed to be hybrid bison. The boys build new corrals using railroad ties and steel beams. The costs continue to mount until the boys have invested several million dollars of OPM (other people's money) in the Canadian beefalo business. In high spirits, Moe and Royal are convinced riches are already in their grasp and they have put one over on Beefalo Bill by cornering the Canadian market. Although they have yet to make a penny, Moe and Royal are now living off the investors' money like multi-millionaires. Neither of these geniuses has bothered to

figure out they have to sell 25,000 doses of sperm for the investors to just break even on the bull, let alone recoup their entire multimillion-dollar investment in the ranch, marketing campaign, and overhead. In blissful ignorance, they drive new Cadillac cars; take expensive vacations, and Moe buys a mansion with a very large indoor pool and other status symbols. It is standard practice in the promoting business to put up a big front to convince potential investors that you're a successful businessman. This is the only aspect of the business that Moe and Royal have a talent for. Promoters usually have a Cadillac, diamond pinky ring, flashy wardrobe, and a heavily mortgaged big house.

Thanks to their costly advertising campaign, the boys have built up considerable interest, among Canadian ranchers, in purchasing beefalo sperm. Suddenly, Beefalo Bill drops the price for beefalo sperm from \$100 to \$10 per dosage. A Canadian rancher can fly to California and fill a brief case with beefalo sperm ampules, while at the same time enjoying a business expensed California vacation for him and the wife. The cost per dosage is less than the beefalo sperm purchased from Moe and Royal's group. At \$10 a dosage, the Canadian beefalo venture is bankrupt because now they need to sell 250,000 doses of sperm just to pay

for the bull. Joe's Pride would have to be a Super Bull to produce 250,000 doses. The leased ranch is abandoned and the Canadian beefalo "herd" is sold at a bankruptcy auction. It is a total loss for the Canadian investors, some of whom have invested their life savings in this get rich quick scheme. Beefalo Bill, who the boys thought they put one over on, now has a heavily advertised ready-made million-dollar Canadian market before selling a single wiggling sperm.

Moe and Royal are once again flat broke, which is a recurring cycle in their lives. From rags to riches to rags is a hallmark of the promoter lifestyle. A cheap apartment has replaced the mansion. The shiny Cadillac's are gone, Moe's wife has left him, and they drive \$300 wrecks. Down but not out, the duo eventually line up new Investors (suckers) and they embark on new get rich quick schemes, which also fail. Today, Moe has disappeared into the sunset. The last I heard he was president of a Canadian penny stock oil company. In the end, cheated by his last partner, Royal died in poverty leaving behind scores of angry fleeced investors, who were overjoyed to learn that he died a long painful death of cancer.

The History and Meaning Behind September's Birthstone: Sapphire

9/12/2018 / In Jewelry

When rulers in ancient Persia looked to the blue heavens, they were convinced the color was a reflection of sapphire stones painting the sky. Since 800 B.C., sapphires have been a prized gem. Kings would wear them to protect themselves from harm. People of the middle-ages believed that sapphires suppressed negative thoughts, while other cultures would grind them up to be used in medicine.

Photo credit: gia.edu

September's birthstone is the most precious and valuable blue gemstone. Sapphires come from a mineral classification called "corundum." Sapphire, a word that is derived from the Latin "saphirus" and the Greek word "sapherios," is most known for its dramatic blue color. But sapphires can be found in a range of colors including violet, green, orange, grey, and black. When you hear about "fancy" sapphires, it is referring to ones that are violet, green, yellow, orange, pink and purple. When they are red, we call them "rubies." When gem and jewelry professionals use the word "sapphire" alone, they are referring to the blue sapphire.





Photo credit: brides.com

The sapphire engagement ring worn by Princess Diana, and eventually given to Kate Middleton, was a departure for many who are used to seeing diamonds in engagement rings. But the mysterious blue sapphire has a history of being used as the center stone. Sapphires have long been associated with both royalty and romance. It's the choice of gem for the 5th and 45th anniversary, and fancy sapphires are perfect for people who like the romance associated with them and like something out of the ordinary.



Current trends in sapphire include a blue sapphire ring in the oval cut. It's one of the most highly demanded ring types in engagement jewelry. From oval rings made in gold to silver and even platinum, the options are many and so are the different designs.

THE PALMDALE GEM & MINERAL CLUB

PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE 2019 ROCK 'N GEM ROUNDUP

OCTOBER 19TH &
20TH

SATURDAY 10AM-5PM

SUNDAY 10AM-4PM

AT THE

AV FAIRGROUNDS VAN
DAM PAVILION

2551 W AVENUE H

LANCASTER, CA

93536

FREE ADMISSION & PARKING

• DISPLAYS • DOOR PRIZES •
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

• SILENT AUCTION •
PRESENTATIONS •
DEMONSTRATORS

SNACK BAR PROVIDED BY
FRIENDS OF THE FAIR

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

JENNIFER MARTIN AT
PGMC@PALMDALEGEMANDMINE
RAL.ORG

OR

ALLISON MCCLUNG (661)839-
7403



Meteor shower,
Joshua Tree CA

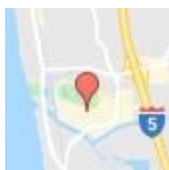
18

OCT

Gem Faire

Fri, Oct 18 – Sun, Oct 20

Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd
Del Mar, CA



Del Mar Racing, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd
Del Mar, CA



• 4

OCT

VGMS Fall Gem and Mineral Show

Fri, 10 AM – 4 PM

Vista Gem and Mineral Society, 2040 N Santa Fe Ave
Vista, CA

• 4

OCT

Vista Gem & Mineral Spring Show

Friday

Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N Santa Fe Ave
Vista, CA



• 5

OCT

Fiber Arts, Gem, Mineral and Clock Show

Sat, Oct 5 – Sun, Oct 6

Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N Santa Fe Ave
Vista, CA



• 20

OCT

Gem Faire in Del Mar

Sun, 12 PM

