
THE ROCK TUMBLER

Volume 1, Issue 1

Tule Gem and Mineral Society Newsletter...www.tulegem.org

April 2008

Puffs from the Chief

A message to all of our Members

Marshall Havner

With the beginning of nice weather, we see a drop off of attendance to our monthly meetings. I find this trend troublesome. Lots of club business is discussed and voted on at our meetings. Fewer people at meetings means that fewer people are making decisions that affect the entire membership. It would be great to see more of our members make it out to the monthly meetings. We plan and discuss upcoming field trips, review past trips, share rock finds, learn from presentations by fellow members and find out about upcoming events sponsored by other clubs in our area. Mark your calendar on the first Monday of every month and come out to the next meeting. We meet at the Farmersville Senior Center located at 444 N Gene Avenue and started about 7:30 pm. Hope to see you there. Members interested in learning the art of Lapidary may sign up at our May meeting. We are trying to establish a class schedule at the workshop.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Minutes from April Meeting
- 2 Master Craftsmen of TGMS
- 3 Meet Ms. Sunshine
- 4 Upcoming events
- 4 Add your news to the newsletter

WWW.TULEGEM.ORG

Road Trip!!!!!!

Travel back thru Time

Inscription Canyon

If you missed this month's field trip, you missed a great time. Several members met in Barstow to make the trek out into the Mojave Desert...way out...to see the beautiful pictographs at Inscription Canyon. This marvelous little canyon is located in an area called the Black Mountain Rock Art District. Located between Superior and Water Valleys, northwest of Barstow, it is just one of many Native American sites protected by the Bureau of Land Management. This rock art falls into two categories, Pictographs and Petro glyphs.



Heading into the Canyon

Petro glyphs are made using stone tools. Pictographs are made by applying mineral substances to the rock surface and are much more rare. Inscription Canyon has the highest concentration of petro glyphs in the Black Mountain Rock Art District. There are more than 1,000 drawings and carvings, many more than 12,000 years old.

continued on page 3

Minutes from April Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Marshall Havner at 7:30, followed by the flag salute led by Steve Hayward. There were 37 members present & 1 guest.

The treasurer's report was given by Pat Harrison, club treasurer. A motion was made and seconded that the treasures report be accepted as read, motion carried.

Corresponding Secretary, Sharry Honold gave a report on the other CFMS clubs activities that are being held in the valley so that any member of the Tule Gem Club could attend them if desired.

President Havner commented on the letter he sent to the CFMS fed. Monthly letter to announce the life membership we honored Don Viera with for all of his hard work for the club over the past 40+ years. You deserve it Don, thank you.

Retta Niday and Hiley Wallis have volunteered to take over the monthly club news paper and help Dan Smith with the Tule Gem Web site if needed.

Historian Jo Navarro needs pictures and articles from the club members for a year book to send to the CFMS Federation. Please have all material to him by October 8, 2008. Adrian Viera volunteered to help him get it all together, sorted and in the year book.

The following are trips and activities planned for the club members: **April 12, 10:00 am** at Tony and Kathy Harts place in Lindsay to meet Don Depue of Diamond Pacific who will be giving demonstrations on the different machines they have for cutting, grinding, etc. that he will have for sale. A BBQ potluck will follow at 5:30, all are welcome, please bring a side dish and dessert, also, bring a sack lunch if desired. **May 23rd -26** to Tonopah. **June 14** to New Idria, **June 21-23** to Sierra Gordes (info to follow later). **July** to Green Mountain for Rose Quartz, August open, September open

President Havner asked Raul Gonzales and Harold Schmidt to take care of any repairs needed on the Club work shop machinery and keeping small supplies on hand for cleaning etc. A motion was made and seconded that we allow them \$100.00 for incidentals as needed.

President Havner reported that he purchased a trailer that would make a nice second Club trailer to haul cases, etc to

the Clubs annual Gem and Mineral show. A motion was made and seconded that the club purchase the trailer from him for \$967.00 Motion carried.

Judy Link gave a very interesting slide show and talk on the different kinds of agate that is available for making jewelry etc.

A lengthy discussion was held on what the fee should be for members using the machinery at the Club workshop. A motion was made and seconded that we reconsider the fee at the May monthly meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded that the club pays for the use of the Farmersville Senior Center for the monthly meetings to be increased from \$30 to \$50. Motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned, followed by treats supplied by Joan Livesay and Corene Keys.

Respectively submitted by

Corene Keys, Secretary



Master Craftsmen – Charles Reed

Submitted by Debbie Havner

I am a fairly new member of TGMS, having only been in the club about a year and a half. So it was a very pleasant surprise to me to find out that there are a number of “master craftsmen” in our club who enjoy giving lessons on various techniques for working with rocks, making jewelry, etc.

One of these master craftsmen is Charles Reed. He is an expert on silver smithing, and enjoys teaching his craft to others. He has been making silver jewelry for over 17 years, and has created some impressive, beautiful pieces.

Charles began by taking lessons at Porterville College about 20 years ago, from Al Kinder who had a silver shop in his home. He is a patient instructor and enjoys sharing his craft with others. His wife, Mary, enjoys most of the fruits of his smithing; ask her to show you some of her beautiful jewelry.

MEET THE MEMBER:

If you think of sunshine, you may think of **Debbie Havner**. Debbie serves as the TGMS “Sunshine” committee. If you are sick or know someone in the club who is, let Debbie know and she will get a card out to them. There is nothing like a greeting card to put a smile on your face. So you know Debbie is in charge of lifting member spirits, here are some other things to know about Debby:

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A CLUB MEMBER?

2 Years

WHAT MADE YOU JOIN TCMS?

First of all because Marshall was a member; secondly because of the new friends I was making on the field trips; thirdly because I wanted to learn to make things/jewelry out of the rocks we were collecting.

THE ONE THING YOU ALWAYS TAKE WITH YOU ON OUR FIELD TRIPS?

My walking stick ***

BEST ROCK FIND SO FAR?

Plasma agate with druzy from New Idria

WHAT ARE YOU HOPING TO FIND?

Rock that I can slab and make beautiful crosses and cabs out of.

***ASK DEBBIE ABOUT BUYING ONE OF HER CUSTOM WALKING STICKS. THEY ARE STURDY, JUST THE RIGHT HEIGHT AND WIDTH AND BEST OF ALL.....CHEAP.

Some of these images are simple, wavy lines, circles and rays. One of the more common is a circle with a line drawn through it from top to bottom. Some petro glyphs are more complex, containing images of bighorn sheep, deer, reptiles, birds, insects, plants and trees. Others represent stick and solid body images of human like figures along with various baskets and masks.



Petro glyphs are found here due to the presence of lava rock and minerals suitable for “rock-art” activities. Deposits of quartz and other very hard minerals made this a popular area for making stone tools and engraving instruments.

There was a great Saturday night potluck featuring Debbie Havner’s world famous Craisin Salad. Give it a try:

Craisin Salad

- 1 large head romaine lettuce
- 1 Cup Swiss Cheese, grated
- 1 Cup Salted Cashews
- 1 Cup Craisins
- 1 pear, diced fine
- 1 apple, diced fine

DRESSING: (better if made the night before)

- ½ C sugar
- 1/3 C lemon juice
- 2 tsp green onion, chopped
- 2/3 c oil
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 tbsp poppy seeds

Toss all ingredients together right before serving with dressing.



Learn about TGMS by learning about our members...

Email me your answers to the questions above and maybe you will see your profile in the next newsletter!!

Retta_niday@sequoiahistory.org

UPCOMING TGMS TRIPS

MAY 23-26 TONOPAH, NEVADA

June 14 New Idria

June 21,22 Sierra Gordo Ghost Town w/Bishop club

June 28 Golden Bear Gem & Mineral Show, Ventura****

July 12 Green Mountain for Rose Quartz

Oct 11,12 Panamint Valley

***If you have wanted to see this show, but dreaded the thought of driving, your worries could be over. TCMS is exploring the idea of a bus trip. On Saturday June 28th, a charter bus would drive a group of dedicated rock hounds down to Ventura for a great day of fun and sun and rocks. Details are still being worked out, but the cost is estimated to be somewhere around \$25. If you are interested in joining us for a great time, contact Judy Link at 747-3288.

Let Me KNOW.....

Is there something you would like to see in the newslettermaybe you have a story or picture you would like to share.....want to get the newsletter sent to your e-mail address.....LET ME KNOW!!!

Fill out the form below and bring it to the next meeting or e-mail it me. You can even send it regular "snail" mail to the return address below.

Name: _____

e-mail: _____

I want to see: _____

I have something to share: _____

Retta Niday Home 748-4047,

e-mail: retta_niday@sequoiahistory.org

