
SMOKE SIGNALS

“Great Spirit, grant that I may not criticize my neighbor until I have walked a mile in his moccasins.”

Volume 1, Issue 15 Tule Gem and Mineral Society Newsletter...www.tulegem.org

July 2009

Puffs from the Chief....

I continue to be amazed with our great Tule Club! And I have a story to tell: During the middle of June, Mary Jane Loya from the Kings County Fair called to ask if I would enter my Showcases in the Fair. I traveled to Hanford Fairgrounds to gather the information needed and asked Mary Jane how many cases she would like to be displayed. Her reply: Many! So I called several members to ask if they would display their cases and the enthusiastic response and co-operation from Charles Reed, Marshal Havner, Chuck Eastman, Sherry Honold, Joe Navarro and Tony Hart was greatly appreciated. We entered nine Showcases from our Tule Club and the Lemoore Gem Club also entered six cases. Needless to say, Mary Jane and the people from the Kings County Fair were very happy. A big thank you to these members for giving me such great support!

Thanks to Mike and Margaret Obert for displaying and giving a report about their recent trip to the CFMS Camp Paradise. Hopefully, we can sponsor another member for next year's Camp Paradise.

Thank you, Hiley Wallis for your report and explanation about the Tule member google group to exchange the news and picture information concerning our Club. Members with access to the internet will enjoy this type of communication.

Don Vieira, President

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Get your stories and information to the Newsletter Editor

Call 735-9984, email: rlnpirate@att.net

Due entirely to editor error, there was no May Newsletter.

Member Travels.....

Traveling With Lucky Lucy

We recently purchased a RV and Debbie immediately named her Lucky Lucy. We had just watched a DVD of a 1950's movie "The Long Long Trailer" with Lucille Ball and Desi Arnez. We laughed and were entertained with all their adventures. Lucky Lucy is a 1993 Toyota PU with a Winniebaggo body on a 1 ton axle. We had struck a bargain with Lucky Lucy's care and maintenance, each agreeing to areas of Lucky Lucy we are responsible for. I got the auto part of Lucy which includes everything under the hood, all of Lucy's appliances, holding tanks, electrical, hoses, etc. Debbie got the home part which includes everything from the driver's compartment back.



Debbie's first project was to fill every available space inside Lucky Lucy with cataloged and necessary travel items. My first project was to make sure the tires didn't burst from overload. We were ready.

Our first trip was to the Mojave Desert by way of Highway 58 East to 14 North, with a stop to see our friends at the Bureau of Land management (BLM) / Forest Ranger Station at Jaw Bone Canyon. This is an easy on and off stop with pit toilets. The staff inside the station are helpful and friendly. They offer a variety of books, maps and have a "museum" with local rocks and history. We headed North on 14 with Debbie taking a turn driving Lucky Lucy. I had driven on 58 as the road grade was steep and I wasn't sure how Lucky Lucy would pull up that grade to Techachapi. She did great. Debbie was having a good time, Marshall and Molly (our

Tule Gem and Mineral Society
Monthly Meeting
July 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Vieira, followed by the flag salute led by Neal Wallis. There were 37 members and 2 guests present.

There were no minutes to review for the June 1 potluck dinner meeting. In the absence of President Vieira, 2nd Vice President, Betty Hayward, called all present to dinner and conversation for the evening.

The Treasurer's report was given by Pat Harrison. A motion was made and carried to accept the report as read.

Sherry Honnold reported that the San Francisco show will be held Aug. 1 & 2, 2009. She also reported that the CFMS Camp RV Parking area is available for those wishing to attend the jewelry classes being held in that area November 15 to 22, 2009. Contact Sherry to sign up as soon as possible for reservations, and information on where the Camp and classes are.

Historian, Don Sheldrick is putting together a year book for the TGMS club at this time; he needs articles and pictures to go in it.

The TGMS news Editor, Retta Niday, needs pictures and articles for the monthly bulletin, if anyone has any articles on different rocks, jewelry making, etc., please e-mail them to her to include in the publication.

Website Editor, Hiley Wallis explained how to use the website, including how to use the "Members Only" site. She also printed off an instruction booklet for Steve Hayward so he could utilize the site.

Mike Obert brought in pictures and articles that he and his wife, Margaret, made when they attended the Camp Paradise event in May 2009. Beautiful work Mike and Margaret. He also reported that he is looking into purchasing a projector for the Club members to use for presentations.

Pat Harrison asked the members present to stand and sing God Bless America with him thanks Pat it felt good to stand and stretch our legs.

President Vieira presented rock slabs to new club members, Anthony Lane and Heidi Vervooit. Welcome to the club Anthony and Heidi.

Dilah Cha, a guest for the evening drew the number for the monthly door prize which was won by one of our new members, Heidi Vervooit.

In the absence of Sunshine Girl, Debbie Havner, Marshall Havner reported that a card was sent to Neal Wallis. He also reported that there will be no further School presentations until September.

Membership Chairman, Laura Riggs, announced that Janet Loyd had submitted an application for membership in the Club. A motion was made and seconded that the Club accept Janet as a new member. Motion carried.

Corene Keys announced that the next Camp Zap held at John Zapalac's ranch will be July 25 and 26, 2009. If any Club member is interested in attending to see what the Camp is all about contact Corene at 592-3943 for directions.

Show Chairman, Pepper Okada, reported that the plans for the 2010 show are taking shape, there will be information on future plans for Wheel of Fortune prize making, rock slab cutting, stuffing grab bags and filling cabochons with polished stones for the half hour drawings.

Don Vieira announced that anyone interested in putting a case at the Kings County Fair meet at Dons home to go as a group to set up on July 8, 2009. The fair runs from July 9 to 12. If any member is interested in learning wire wrapping from Sherry Honnold call her at 741-0741 to set up an appointment at the Club shop.

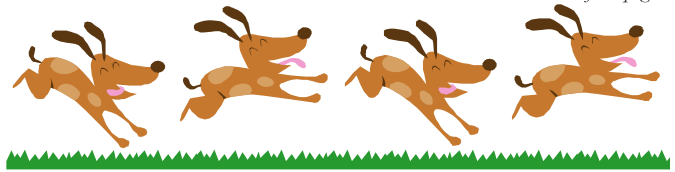
The next meeting will be held on August 3, 2009 at the Senior Citizen Center in Farmersville.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted
Corene Keys
Secretary



The family of Don & Adrienne Vieira all gathered for the 4th of July weekend at our son and daughter-in-law's home. We had Fifth Wheel trailers, tents and guests bedrooms for everyone for the whole weekend. Everyone had fun in the pool and enjoyed all of the food that Scott had prepared. And of course, the Fireworks! It was a wonderful time with 26 family members.



**REMEMBER.....
WHEN ROCKHOUDING DON'T
FORGET TO COLLECT SMALLER
SAMPLES TO BE INCLUDED IN 2010
GEMBOREE GRAB BAGS.
And turn in any leftover show cards.
TGMS recycles these as labels for
2010 grab bags.**



Please, Please, Please

I need your stories, pictures or ideas for the newsletter.
Email me: rlnpirate@att.net or retta_niday@sequoiahistory.org
Address: 4155 W Myrtle Ave
Visalia, Ca 93277

Queensland Heeler) were happy. We were ready.

We missed our first turn and promptly engaged in a round of "Who's On Third". The expletives began flying and Molly dove under the table as tempers flared. It was soon decided through the use of logic that it was logical that I was wrong, based on the argument she could not be wrong. (I just love logic; it makes the most difficult situations easy.) After making the proper turn we were on our way and were headed towards Highway 395. Debbie, Marshall and Molly were happy rolling down the RV Trail. We were ready.

Our dry campsite included a beautiful view of the surrounding valley and mountains near the Trona Pinnacles, and Debbie wanted to park Lucky Lucy. After missing the spot on the right side, then on the left side, tempers flared and expletives began flying. Thank goodness for logic; it was soon agreed upon that it was logical that I was wrong because I was not driving. Debbie was happy and Marshall was happy and Molly happily crawled out from under the table. We were ready.

A weekend of fun soon followed which required the dumping of holding tanks and refilling of water tanks. We traveled to our nearest dump area with the assistance of our RV Dumping Atlas. I soon realized why I had been assigned to this dangerous task. Did you know that "poopy" can travel at very high velocities through RV dump hoses when a little gravitational assistance is applied. Be sure to secure the ends of the hose before turning "poopy" loose. With all areas properly hosed and serviced we were back on the road again. It was Marshall's turn to drive. Debbie was happy, Marshall was happy and Molly was happy. I missed my first turn and we promptly engaged in a round of "Who's at fault". Using deductive reasoning we concluded it was my fault because I could not have possibly seen the turn on the map, because it was folded up, and drive at the same time. Aw, that logic sure will help a feller out when properly applied!

After making the appropriate turn on Highway 58 heading home, Debbie took over driving on the ride back and Lucky Lucy handled the Techachapi grade without difficulties. Debbie was happy, Marshall was happy, and Molly was fast asleep. WE WERE READY..to be home again!

2009 Meeting Schedule

January 5, 2009

February 2, 2009

March 2, 2009, Installation Dinner

April 6, 2009

May 4, 2009

June 1, 2009 Annual Picnic

July 6, 2009

August 3, 2009

September 14, 2009

(one week later due to Labor Day Holiday)

October 5, 2009

November 2, 2009

December 7, 2009 Christmas Party

Every Meeting and Every Member is important....Hope we see you soon!!

