
SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 1, Issue 3

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

June 2008

PUFFS FROM THE CHIEF

A message from our President

Marshall Havner

June started off with a BBQ and potluck at Patrick Harrison's. Tony Hart prepared and cooked chicken which we all enjoyed. Thank you to all the members who brought great side dishes. Thanks to Patrick's hospitality we had a good time. The club workshop has classes available for wire wrapping, faceting, cab and jewelry making. We have added equipment which members requested. If you have not taken these classes now is a good time to do so as we have some talented members teaching. On May 22 through 26th Charles Reed lead a group to Tonopah. They brought back lots of rock to slab and for the silent auction. It rained on them and they still had a good time. On June 21st we'll be going to Green Mt for Rose Quartz. On June 28th a bus trip to the CFMS Show in Ventura has been planned by Judy Link.

Thanks to some hard working members we have some fun things to offer our members this month. Check your calendar and plan to joining a field trip or attending a shop class. Looking forward to a fun month. Join us!!

Another Great Trip with TGMS.....

Tonopah, Nevada

Had a great time, wish you were with us!!!!

Tonopah Springs, later the site of one of the richest booms in the West, was an Indian campground for many years, long before Jim Butler spent a chilly night here. A number of stories exist as to how Butler discovered the ore. The most popular version is that Butler's mule wandered away and when Butler found the ornery critter, he noticed an outcropping that appeared to be heavily laced with silver. Butler took a number of samples. The date was May 19, 1900. This quiet start belied the actual importance of the discovery. Butler firmly believed he had discovered an important silver deposit but he had trouble convincing the assayer he visited in nearby Klondike. The assayer told him the samples were worthless, consisting mainly of iron, and he threw them into the back of his tent. Butler was still convinced that his find was genuine. On his way back to his Monitor Valley ranch, he stopped at Tonopah Springs once more to gather samples. Back at his ranch, Butler put the samples

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TGMS needs your stories, pictures, and any other items. Send your submissions to : Retta Niday, 4155 W. Myrtle Ave. Visalia, Ca 93277, retta_niday@sequoiahistory.org



on his windowsill. Not too much time passed before Tasker Oddie, later to be governor of Nevada, stopped at the ranch and spied the ore samples. He offered to pay for another assay and Butler agreed to this. Butler, in turn, offered Oddie a quarter interest of the assay. Oddie heartily agreed. He took the ore samples to William Gayhart, an Austin assayer, and

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Tule Gem and Mineral Society Minutes
June 2, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Havner at 7:30. Margaret Buchman led the club in the flag salute. President Havner thanked Pat Harrison for hosting the meeting at his ranch in Elderwood, all of the food was delicious, especially the bar-b-que chicken that Pat and Tony cooked for all of us. A motion was made and seconded that the club welcome Catherine Mills as a new member, motion carried.

There was a brief report on the board meeting held on May 17, 2008 at the Havner home, Gemboree chairman Margaret Buchman announced that there will be a work day to make wheel of fortune prizes at her home on July 12, 2008. There will be a map for those who plan to attend in the Club news letter.

A motion was made and seconded that the club pay 2 bills submitted by Janice Robertson totaling \$642.65 for the CFMS dues and prizes she has purchased for the Gemboree show.

The field trip to Green Mountain to collect Rose Quartz has been set for Saturday, June 21, 2008, call Marshall or Debbie for more information. A trip to Shasta Lake to gather amethyst was discussed; there will be more information on this at a later date.

Don Vieira sat up a display of the different kinds of gem and minerals we collected on the Tonopah trip in May. A good time was had by all of us, in spite of the wind, rain and cold weather. The sighting of a band of big horn sheep was a special treat.

Don Vieira announced that the committee to go over the Club Constitution to make any updates or changes will be himself, Judy Link, Steve Hayward, Patrick Harrison and Charles Reed.

It was announced that Tony, Charles and Marshall will be making modifications on the new trailer to get it ready for hauling cases, etc. for the 2009 Gemboree show.

There are still 7 empty seats on the bus going to the CFMS show on June 28, 2008, at \$24.00 each. If any club member not signed up for the

trip wants to go, please contact Judy Link at 747-3288. The bus will be leaving from the Holiday Inn in Visalia at 6:30 A.M.

A motion was made and seconded that the "Indian Prayer" that was in the clubs Smoke Signals newspaper in the past be reinserted in future news letters. Motion carried

It was decided that any club member not wearing their name tag to future club meetings will be fined for failure to do so. Any fines gathered will be donated to our scholarship fund, so dig out the name tags and wear them, it would sure be nice to see club members in their vests also

A motion was made and seconded that the left over bar-b-que chicken be divided amongst club members present, motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted
Corene Keys
Secretary



BOARD MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT	MARSHALL HAVNER
1 ST VICE PRESIDENT	MARGARET BUCHMAN
2 ND VICE PRESIDENT	PEPPER OKADA
PAST PRESIDENT	STEVE HAYWARD

OTHER ELECTED OFFICERS

SECRETARY	CORRIENE KEYS
TREASURER	PATRICK HARRISON
CORR SECRETARY	SHERRY HONNOLD
AUDITOR	ROBERT GODDARD
HISTORIAN	JOE NAVARRO
PARLIAMENTARIAN	DON VIEIRA
CFMS-AFMS DIR	JANICE ROBERTSON
ALT CFMS-AFMS DIR	SHERRY HONNOLD
CLUB DIRECTOR	EDE ORDONEZ
CLUB DIRECTOR	JUDY LINK

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

BANQUET	ADRIENNE VIEIRA
COMMUNICATIONS	LAURA HEBERLING
CONSTITUTION	DON VIEIRA
CUSTODIAN OF PROP	DON VIEIRA
FIELD TRIP	MARSHALL HAVNER & ROB MILNER
HOSPITALITY	GARY ROBERTSON
PINS/PATCHES	GARY ROBERTSON
REFRESHMENTS	ALL MEMBERS
SCHOLARSHIP	JANICE ROBERTSON
SUNSHINE	DEBBIE HAVNER
WAYS & MEANS	ROBERT GODDARD
SHOW CHAIRMAN	MARGARET BUCHMAN
SHOW CO CHAIR	PEPPER OKADA
DEALER COMMITTEE	CHARLES REED & STEVE HAYWARD

offered Gayhart a quarter interest in his quarter. Gayhart found the assay ran as high as \$600 a ton. When Oddie was notified of the value of the samples, he immediately sent an Indian runner to Butler's ranch to alert him of the rich find. Butler did not react rapidly. He stayed at his ranch to complete the hay harvest and did not even bother to file claims on the lode site!

News of the discovery traveled to Klondike and soon, scores of eager prospectors were searching around Tonopah Springs, to no avail, for Butler's lode. Butler finally went to Belmont, and on August 27, 1900, he and his wife filed on eight claims near the springs. Six of these - Desert Queen, Burro, Valley View, Silver Top, Buckboard, and Mizpah - turned into some of the biggest producers the state has ever had.

Charles Reed led a group of intrepid TGMS members to Tonopah. Looks like a great time. Join us for a great trip on June 28th.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 7TH- 7:30 PM GENERAL
MEETING

JULY 12 – GEMOREE WORK DAY
CALL MARGARET
BUCHMAN@739-0401

JULY 28 – BOARD MEETING
CALL MARSHALL
HAVNER @562-4133

