
SMOKE SIGNALS

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

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March 2009

PUFFS FROM THE CHIEF.....

To begin the year, please sign up for one or more of the volunteer opportunities available with TGMS. For instance, Leila Parkinson is our new librarian and could really use some help. I am looking forward to a fun and prosperous year with all the Tule Club members. As always, constructive suggestions are invited to add to the success of our club. You can send your emails to me with your suggestions, comments and volunteer inquiries at advieira@sbcglobal.net

Don Vieira, President



April Meeting.....

Don't miss the Diamond Pacific Day at Tony Harts

Here is your chance to see and try out all kinds of lapidary equipment.....



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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- 2 Winter destinations – Kaweah Oaks Preserve
- 3 Death Valley Facts

Get your stories and information to the Newsletter Editor

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

President Don Vieira announced that the next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2009, and the home of Tony and Kathy Hart. It will be a Bar-B-Que/Potluck from 9 AM to 4 P.M. Bring a snack for lunch, the dinner/meeting will be held at 4 P.M. A Representative from Diamond Co will be there to demonstrate machinery he has for sale.

Tule Gem and Mineral Society
Monthly Meeting
March 2, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Havner, followed by the flag salute led by Margaret Buchmann. President Havner welcomed all the members and guests to our annual March banquet. The invocation was given by President Havner followed by a delicious meal prepared and served by Caterers Larry & Grace De Hoog.

It was announced that the Camp Paradise Scholarship was won by Mike Rossel, with Sherry Honnold and Pepper Okada being named as alternates.

The door prizes were donated by Laura Heberling, Marie & Steve Hayward, Joe Navarro, Charles Reed, Janice & Gary Robertson, Virginia Sheldrick and Don and Adrienne Vieira.

A big thank you to Adrienne Vieira for all the work she did on planning the Banquet.

Adrienne introduced Janice Robertson who installed the 2009-2010 Club Officers, Marshall Havner presented the Pins and Bars to last years Officers.

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There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

*Respectively submitted by
Corene Keys
Secretary*

Why it's unique: This 324-acre preserve protects one of the last remaining valley oak riparian forests in the San Joaquin Valley. When visiting Kaweah Oaks, we can imagine how this area looked before it was settled over 150 years ago. More than 300 plant and animal species live, feed or reproduce at the preserve, including gray fox, great horned owl, Nuttall's woodpecker and majestic valley oaks.

In 1983, concerned local citizens who realized the biological value of this enchanting land convinced The Nature Conservancy to help purchase it for protection. Ten years later, The Conservancy transferred the preserve title to a local conservation organization, the Four Creeks Land Trust, now a chapter of SRT. SRT manages Kaweah Oaks Preserve for research, livestock grazing, youth education and public enjoyment.

What to do: Open to the public year round, from sunrise to sunset. Amenities include parking, picnic tables, trail guides and restrooms. There are four maintained trails, each less than one mile in length. Check the web [calendar](#) for public programs. Educators can contact SRT for docent-led school [tours](#). No dogs please.

How to get there: Located east of Visalia. Travel seven miles east of downtown Visalia via Highway 198. Drive north on Road 182 one-half mile. The parking lot is on the west side of the road. Walk past the gate to enter.

Get Involved: Your memberships, donations and volunteer efforts help Sequoia Riverlands Trust steward special places like Kaweah Oaks Preserve.

For information www.sequoiariverlands.org



**REMEMBER.....
WHEN ROCKHOOUNDING 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.**

TGMS Classifieds:

Items run for one newsletter only, editor is not responsible for items advertised. Advertiser **MUST** be a TGMS member in good standing.

FOR SALE: 18" Highland Park Saw with nearly New 16" Blade, 24" Frantom with nearly new 24" blade and extra blade. Both saws are in Top condition. Cleaned & Painted, nothing to Fix or clean. Call Gary Robertson 734-1925



DEATH VALLEY FACTS AND PHOTOS

Did You Know?

In 1917, Death Valley recorded 52 days with temperatures over 120 degrees and 43 consecutive days over 120 degrees Fahrenheit. The original long hot summer.



Did You Know?

Badwater Basin, in Death Valley National Park, is the lowest place in North America and one of the lowest places in the world at 282 feet below sea level. The Dead Sea, between Israel and Jordan, is the lowest at 1371 feet below sea level



Did You Know?

In 1929, no rain was recorded in Death Valley, California. From 1931 through 1934, a 40 month period, only 0.64 inches of rain fell.

2009 Meeting Schedule

January 5, 2009

February 2, 2009

March 2, 2009, Installation Dinner

April 4, 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!!

