

# Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

Editors: Leslie Walker, La Vella Tomlinson, Wayne Mallon

July 2017

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## MDGMS Officers 2017

President: **Danny Watts**  
Vice-President: **Scott Stevenson**  
Treasurer: **Judy Livingston**  
Secretary: **La Vella Tomlinson**

## Board of Directors

**Bill Johnson**  
**Janna Johnson**  
**Joe Summers**  
**Tony Pizzo**  
**John Printz**  
Past Pres. **Vivian Watts**

## Annual Membership Dues

Adults: \$ 20.00  
Juniors: \$ 10.00 (10-18 yr)

## Meetings / Workshops

Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 7:00 PM  
Workshop: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday 6:30 PM  
Location: 25647 W. Main St  
Barstow, Ca 92311

## Club Objectives

- To collect and study minerals and rocks.
- To disseminate a general knowledge of the science of mineralogy and allied subjects.
- To provide opportunity for the exhibition and exchange of specimens.

facebook —

[www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety](http://www.facebook.com/mojavedesertgemandmineralsociety)

web site — [www.mdgms.net](http://www.mdgms.net)

email — [mdgms.contact@gmail.com](mailto:mdgms.contact@gmail.com)

## SHOW DATES

**July 8 - 9: CULVER CITY, CA**  
**Culver City Rock & Mineral Club**  
**Veterans Memorial Auditorium**  
**4117 Overland Blvd**  
**Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5**  
**Contact: Janice Metz, (310) 850-4398**  
**Email: [janicemtz@yahoo.com](mailto:janicemtz@yahoo.com)**  
**Website: [www.culvercityrocks.org](http://www.culvercityrocks.org)**

**August 4 - 6: NIPOMO, CA**  
**Orcutt Mineral Society**  
**Nipomo High School**  
**525 Thompson Avenue**  
**Hours: Fri-Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4**  
**Contact: Wayne Mills, (805) 481-3495**  
**Email: [wwmills50@hotmail.com](mailto:wwmills50@hotmail.com)**  
**Website: [www.omsinc.org](http://www.omsinc.org)**

**August 19 - 20: SAN FRANCISCO, CA**  
**San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society**  
**San Francisco County Fair Building**  
**9th Avenue & Lincoln Way**  
**Hours: Sat. 10 - 6; Sun. 10 - 5**  
**Contact: Ellen Nott**  
**Email: [ellen\\_nott@yahoo.com](mailto:ellen_nott@yahoo.com)**  
**Website: [www.sfgemshow.org](http://www.sfgemshow.org)**



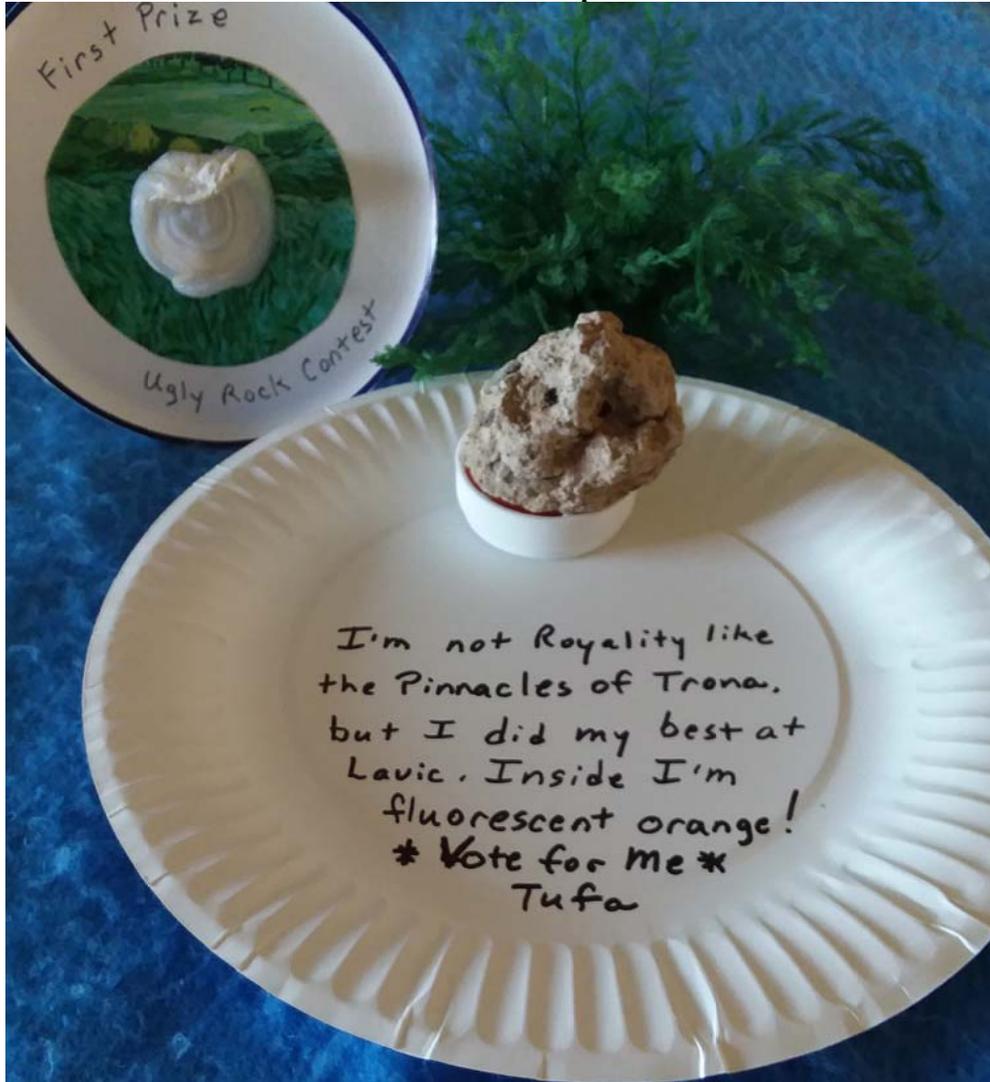
## Happy Birthday

**July 1<sup>st</sup> Blaine Witte**  
**July 2<sup>nd</sup> Bill Tomlinson**

July 10<sup>th</sup> Yvette Hensley

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Last week's Ugly Rock of the Month contest was fun with some real doozies! First place winner was **La Vella Tomlinson** and her special specimen of "Tufa". Three other rocks tied for second place.



**Rock of the Month ? Tufa** From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
Not to be confused with [tuff](#), a porous volcanic rock also called 'tufa'..



Tufa columns at [Mono Lake](#), [California](#), western USA

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Rock of the Month continued... **Tufa** is a variety of [limestone](#) formed when [carbonate minerals precipitate](#) out of [ambient temperature](#) water. [Geothermally heated hot springs](#) sometimes produce similar (but less porous) carbonate deposits known as [travertine](#). Tufa is sometimes referred to as (meteo gene) travertine (Allen Pentecost[1]). It should not be confused with hot spring (thermo gene) travertine. However, [Mono Lake](#)'s tufa is thermo gene, according to Pentecost.[1] Tufa, which is [calcareous](#), should not be confused with [tuff](#), a porous [volcanic rock](#) with a similar [etymology](#) that is sometimes also called "tufa".

...Tufa columns

Tufa columns are an unusual form of tufa typically associated with [saline lakes](#). They are distinct from most tufa deposits in that they lack any significant [macrophyte](#) component; this is due to the salinity excluding [mesophilic organisms](#). Some tufa columns may actually form from hot-springs and therefore actually be a form of [travertine](#). It is generally thought that such features form from  $\text{CaCO}_3$  precipitated when carbonate rich source waters emerge into alkaline soda lakes. They have also been found in marine settings.**Error!**

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Tufa at [Trona Pinnacles](#), California, USA

Thank you for the participation in the BBQ Potluck last week, and the donations to the rock auction. We have great cooks in our Club. The cake deserts, with pineapple or cherries were so good. Thanks to **Danny & Vivian Watts**, for setting up and organizing the auction. **Rob Stapp** cooked some mouth watering tri-tips and delicious chicken for us. Thanks again **Rob**.

Donna Patterson is recovering from a fall on her steps, after the last club meeting. She was in the hospital for a few days and is recovering at home in Yermo. Donna was our club Secretary in 2004. Donna has moved away from the Mojave Desert a couple of times but calls this area her home. Hope to see her back with us soon.



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Our best wishes for a speedy recovery for **Ceci Kawasaki**, who has been struggling with illness for a few months. We hope the flowers make both ladies feel better.

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Looking back at an old newsletter, from September 2004, **Trisha Sheppard** was the Editor of Desert Diggins. Looks like they had fun at the workshops with 28 people attending. **Rob Stapp** wrote an article of a field trip to the turquoise mines in Tonopah, Nevada. 32 people made it to the Royal Blue Mine, including Victorville club members. Dian Hare and I were fairly new members and attended several trips to Tonopah, since then.

Our club had workshops on **intarsia**, (inlay) of stones in small jewelry. Taught by **Bob Menelly** and **Art Riggle**. (Trish's father). I'll make some copies of the instructions if any one would like them. Another meeting and workshop, **Johnny Rout**, showed us how to make our own knife handles! Get a couple of "old timer" knives from a pawn shop and add your special touch.



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Gem & Mineral Society  
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Stamp

First Class Mail



Newsletter



# *Desert Diggings*

