

JULY ROCK PARTY

By Sharon Marburger (photos by Donitte Stiles, John Moss, & S. Marburger)

The excessive heat advisory of July 26 found a large number of members and family flocking to the cool of Hidden Gems for the July Rock Party. I tried to count how many people attended but the group was very fluid; walking from room to room, some leaving, some arriving late. There were at least 25 people, but I think that is a conservative count.

As always, tons of a wide variety of food was brought in. It was all very yummy. The standout dish for me (and several others) was the key lime cake with tiramisu filling/icing. It was fabulous!

I ground on a couple of freeform preforms, using one of the poly arbors. Patrick O'Brien worked on some garnets while his daughters Chloe and Gracie took turns watching.



The group of hungry people filling their plates. This was only a portion of those attending.



Josh Brown Kramer watched Alex face polish a specimen. New members Brett Walker and kids Canyon and Turquoise also worked at a poly arbor.



Phil Geib tried his hand at cutting a slab on the slab saw. The machine did not sound like it was cutting correctly, so it had to be checked multiple times. Jayne came in and added some oil to the saw, causing it to sound better while cutting.



Mike Stiles cut a small petrified wood log, about 4 inches in diameter. It was a beautiful piece of wood.



Sheryl Olsen & Ed Ridge



President Brett Jurgens arrived late and discussed his potluck offerings with Donitte (out of frame).



Judith Bay admires some of Ja-zeal's treasures