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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Searchers... and Happy Thanksgiving! This month's general meeting is our elections and pie night! Make sure to come, and bring a pie! Our club has a couple important functions going on right now. The committee for our elections have been busy making phone calls and sending emails. If there is a Board position you'd like to run for be sure to touch base with either Beth Pelfrey, Adrian Callard, Scott Berry or Charlotte Spauding. They will let you know what's involved with each roll on the board and put your name on the voting ballot. Also our committee organized to review our By-Laws, Standing Rules and Job Duties is well under way. Emails and snail mails have been sent to all members in regards to this review. If you have any suggestions and/or ideas you'd like to have this committee visit, please reach out to either Herb Beckman, Jimmy Peterson, Harry Mari or John Klima. We also have a great field-trip coming up November 17-18 to Cady Mountains. This is an extra special trip for Searchers. We are partnering with the BLM (Barstow Office) to clean up our rocking area. We want the BLM folks to know we care about our public lands and want to keep them clean for future generations to enjoy. As many of you know much of our current collecting areas stand to be pulled from public use, meaning we would lose the ability to collect at many of our local favorite spots. We need to be visible to the folks at the BLM and this is one way we can make a difference. This trip we will obviously do some great collecting but we will also take time out to pick up trash and take it to the Barstow BLM Office. If you are able, please make this a trip you join your club on. We want to get a HUGE group together to represent Searchers! Make sure to wear your Searchers T-Shirt!! Look further in this newsletter for the location, meeting time & place as well as other details. Wishing all our members of Searchers a wonderful Thanksgiving spent with family and friends!

Tery-Lynn Wheeler

NOVEMBER BIRTHSTONES

Topaz and Citrine

Many modern English translations of the Bible, including the King James Version mention topaz in Exodus 28:17 in reference to a stone in the Hoshen: "And thou shalt set in it settings of stones, even four rows of stones: the first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle (garnet): this shall be the first row."

However, because these translations as topaz all derive from the Septuagint translation topazi[os], which as mentioned above referred to a yellow stone that was not topaz, but probably chrysolite (chrysoberyl or peridot), it should be borne in mind that topaz is likely not meant here. The masoretic text (the Hebrew on which most modern Protestant Bible translations of the Old Testament are based) has pithah as the gem the stone is made from; some scholars think it is related to an Assyrian word meaning "flashed". [citation needed] More likely, pithah is derived from Sanskrit words (पीत pit = yellow, दह dah = burn), meaning "yellow burn" or, metaphorically, "fiery".

Citrine is a yellow-to-golden member of the quartz mineral group. A deep golden variety from Madiera Spain can resemble the costly imperial topaz gem stone, which is one reason that citrine is a popular birthstone alternative to those born in November.

Citrine has been called the "stone of the mind". Ancient cultures believed that placing a citrine on the forehead of an elder would increase his psychic power.



GENERAL INFORMATION

General Meetings: 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
Board Meetings: 6PM, 1st Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
Workshop: Thursday, 6 - 10 PM, free wire-wrap class, Saturday, 3 - 7 PM
Free silver-smithing class 1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays (schedule varies)
Location: Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 250 East Center St, Anaheim, CA 92805
Mailing Address: Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc, P.O Box 3492, Anaheim, CA 92803
Membership Dues: Individual- \$25, Couples- \$35, Junior (17 & under)- \$10
Valid Jan.1-Dec.31, not prorated

Bulletin: Submissions due 3rd Friday of the month via e-mail to: editor@searchersrocks.org.
Bulletin distributed 1st week of each month. Mail exchange bulletins to the editor:
Yery Camacho, 13900 Studebaker Rd, #4, Norwalk, CA 90650
Charter Date: April 20, 1958
Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Sponsored by: Anaheim Arts Council
Web Site: www.searchersrocks.org

FIELD TRIPS

| FIELD TRIPS 2012 | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Date | Leader | Location & Material | Status |
| November 17-18 | Cady mountains | | scheduled |
| January 23-24 | Burro Creek | | scheduled |
| January 25-27 | Quartzsite Show | | scheduled |

For a more complete listing of shows go to website: www.cfmsinc.org

Also see www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html.

Other websites of interest:

www.firemountaingems.com

www.southsunproducts.com

www.pioneergem.com

www.route66goldminers.org

www.auctionmasters.com

CLUB MEETING ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2012

| Date | Presenter | Subject |
|-------------|--|--|
| November 13 | Cabinet member elections and pie party | Cabinet member elections and pie party |
| December 1 | Christmas/End of Year Banquet | Marie Calendars, 6pm |
| | | |

CADY MOUNTAIN FIELD TRIP NOVEMBER 17-18

Leader: Tracy Jackson

We will be camping at the Lavic Crossing site near Ludlow. Going East on Interstate 40 you will exit Hector Road. Go right on Hector approximately 50 yards and then turn left onto old route 66. You will take this until where it crosses the interstate 40. At that point turn right onto the dirt road. We generally go about 100 yards down the left fork and camp there atop the hill. Do not go over the interstate. We will be gathering at 8:00 at the camp site and leaving for the rock sites at 8:30. Give yourself at least 2 ½ hours from Anaheim area. Remember we will have a potluck on Saturday Night. Hope to see you all there.

Additional information for the Cady Mountain Trip November 18.

This trip will have a special element to it besides just rock collecting. We are partnering with the BLM (Barstow Office) on Sunday to do some clean up of our rocking area. This will be in conjunction with our collecting. In case some of you are not aware, we are in danger of losing many of our local collecting areas. We are using this opportunity to show the BLM that we don't just gather rocks and leave. We really do care about the land we visit and its availability for us and future generations to enjoy. This clean up will make our presence known a bit more and be an avenue to show the BLM we are here and want to help! All the cleanup bags will be provided.

PLEASE if you're even remotely thinking about coming to this local rocking trip – PLEASE DO!! We're hoping to get a huge group together so we can make a solid impact with the local BLM office. If you are able to come please remember to wear your Searchers T-Shirts!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Tracy Jackson
714-705-3445

UPCOMING 2012 CFMS GEM SHOWS

November 17 - 18: Livermore, CA

Livermore Valley Lithophiles
The BARN
3131 Pacific Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4
Contact: Lee Davisson, (925) 371-0699
Email: info@lithophiles.com
Website: www.lithophiles.org/lithorama.html

December 1 - 2: BARSTOW, CA

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society
Cora Harper Community Center
841 South Barstow Road (North of I-15)
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Gene Haines, (760) 256-0595
Email: email@mdgms.org
Website: www.mdgms.org

November 17 - 18: OXNARD, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
Oxnard Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way
Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Brett Johnson, (805) 822-3836
Email: show_info@oxnardgem.com
Website: www.oxnardgem.com

December 7 - 9: SAN BERNARDINO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Western Regional Little League Ball Park
6707 Little League Drive
Hours: 9 am to Dusk daily
Website: <http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

ECHO WASH FIELD TRIP PICTURES

by Jack





CURIOSITY ROVER PREPARES TO SHOOT MARS ROCK WITH LASER AND X-RAYS

from Wired Science, by Adam Mann, September 2012



The next scientific target for Curiosity. *Image: NASA/JPL-Caltech*

You're looking at the next rock that NASA's Curiosity rover will shoot with its powerful laser and X-ray spectrometer as part of its first close-up science investigation on Mars.

The rover has gone about 950 feet from its landing site, roughly halfway to its first target area, Glenelg. During its drive, Curiosity has been looking for a rock to use its ChemCam and APXS instruments on in tandem. ChemCam is the laser shooter on the top of the rover while the APXS is a spectrometer sitting at the end of Curiosity's arm that bombards a target with X-rays. Both instruments determine a material's composition but over different scales — ChemCam looks at a very small 0.04-inch area while APXS has a wider 0.6-inch range.

The instruments will be trained on the pyramid-shaped rock seen in the image above, which has been nicknamed Jake Matijevic after a recently deceased engineer who worked on every NASA rover. The rock appears to be basaltic and fairly uniform. In addition to learning about the lonely-looking rock, differences between the measurements from the two instruments will help calibrate them for future use, said Caltech geologist John Grotzinger, Curiosity project scientist, during a NASA press conference today.

"Not to mention it's just a cool-looking rock," he said.

Once at Glenelg, Curiosity will have its first truly interesting geology investigation because the area is full of a light-colored material that has a high thermal inertia, meaning it retains heat well. This is somewhat contradictory since bright materials tend to be porous and don't hold heat well while rocks that do hold heat are often darker lava flows. Satellites have noticed the rocks giving off heat at night but this will be the first time that scientists have an opportunity to explore the strange material from the ground.

MOON ROCK

from Wikipedia

Moon rock describes rock that formed on the Earth's moon. The term is also loosely applied to other lunar materials collected during the course of human exploration of the Moon.

Lunar Olivine Basalt 15555 from Apollo 15 in National
Museum of Natural History



Rocks collected from the Moon have been measured by radiometric dating techniques. They range in age from about 3.16 billion years old for the basaltic samples derived from the lunar maria, up to about 4.5 billion years old for rocks derived from the highlands. Based on the age dating technique of "crater counting," the youngest basaltic eruptions are believed to have occurred about 1.2 billion years ago, but scientists do not possess samples of these lavas. In contrast, the oldest ages of rocks from the Earth are between 3.8 and 4.28 billion years old.

There are currently three sources of Moon rocks on Earth: 1) those collected by US Apollo missions; 2) samples returned by the Soviet Union Luna missions; and 3) rocks that were ejected naturally from the lunar surface by cratering events and subsequently fell to Earth as lunar meteorites. During the six Apollo surface

excursions, 2,415 samples weighing 382 kg (842 lb) were collected, the majority by Apollo 15, 16, and 17. The three Luna spacecraft returned with an additional 0.32 kg (0.7 lb) of samples. Since 1980, over 120 lunar meteorites representing about 60 different meteorite fall events (none witnessed) have been collected on Earth, with a total mass of over 48 kg (105.8 lb). About one third of these were discovered by US and Japanese teams searching for Antarctic meteorites (e.g., ANSMET), with most of the remainder having been discovered by collectors in the desert regions of northern Africa and Oman.

Almost all lunar rocks are depleted in volatiles and are completely lacking in hydrated minerals common in Earth rocks. In some regards, lunar rocks are closely related to Earth's rocks in their isotopic composition of the element oxygen. The Apollo moon rocks were collected using a variety of tools, including hammers, rakes, scoops, tongs, and core tubes. Most were photographed prior to collection to record the condition in which they were found. They were placed inside sample bags and then a *Special Environmental Sample Container* for return to the Earth to protect them from contamination. In contrast to the Earth, large portions of the lunar crust appear to be composed of rocks with high concentrations of the mineral anorthite. The mare basalts have relatively high iron values. Furthermore, some of the mare basalts have very high levels of titanium (in the form of ilmenite).

BENCH TIPS

by Brad Smith

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or [facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips)

USING YOUR THUMB

When using multiple bits in your Foredom, we often have to deal with several different shaft sizes - the usual 3/32 inch burs, the larger 1/8 inch shaft sizes and of course the many different sizes of drills. For some reason I really dislike having to turn the key multiple times to open or close the jaws of the handpiece chuck.

So I have two ways to speed up that task. For opening up the jaws, I just remember "four", the number of turns I have to make to open the chuck just enough from the 3/32 bur shaft size to the larger 1/8 bur shaft size.

For closing the jaws around a smaller shaft, there's a neat trick. Hold the new bit in the center of the open jaws of the chuck, put your thumb lightly onto the outer toothed collar of the chuck, and gently start up the Foredom. As the chuck turns, it will naturally tighten the jaws around the bur shaft or the drill bit. Then all you have to do is a final tightening with the key.

IDENTIFYING UNMARKED SOLDERS

There are plenty of ways to mark your sheet or wire solders, but suppose you forgot and found a couple that you can't identify. The answer is to compare the melting temperature of the unknowns with that of a known solder.

What I do is take a thick scrap of copper or nickel and arrange several solders on it. Ideally, I would have a sample of easy, medium and hard known solders surrounding the unknown solder. Then I heat the plate from the bottom and watch the order in which the solders melt.

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714 693-GOLD (4653). Store hours: Tu - Sat 10am - 6pm

Desert Institute Presents Geology: Creation of the Joshua Tree Landscape

Twentynine Palms, CA – Investigate the natural architecture and origin of Joshua Tree National Park’s landscape with D. D. Trent, Ph.D. and co-author of *Joshua Tree National Park Geology* during this two-day field class.

- Date/Time:** Saturday, November 17, 8 am – 5 pm
Sunday, November 18, 9 am – 5 pm
- Meet at:** Oasis Visitor Center, 74485 National Park Drive
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
- Credit Fee:** \$160 (\$150 for JTNPA/PINE members)
- Non-credit Fee:** \$110 (\$100 for JTNPA/PINE members)
- Program Coordinator:** Kevin Wong, Desert Institute, (760) 367-5535, www.joshuatree.org