

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

March 2012 - Volume 48 Issue 3

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Rock's Kids:  
Terri Benedict

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have so much going on in the club right now with all the Big Show preparation. If you haven't yet signed up to help, please think about where you can help and if you don't know what the needs are, talk to Norbert or Steve, our Co-Chairmen for the show. I know they can use help in all sorts of areas including pre-show preparations, behind the scenes help, as well as during the weekend of the show. Many areas only require a 2 hour commitment, so that still gives you plenty of time to meander the show after or before you volunteer your time. Remember, this is a club function, our biggest club function of the year, and it's our members that make our club strong and fun! Just think how awesome this years show would be if ALL our members volunteered for just 2 hours!!

Thanks, *Tery-Lynn*

### MARCH BIRTHSTONES Aquamarine and Bloodstone

The name aquamarine is derived from the Latin word aqua, meaning water, and marina, meaning the sea. This gemstone was believed to protect sailors, as well as to guarantee a safe voyage. The serene color of aquamarine is said to cool the temper, allowing the wearer to remain calm and levelheaded. Its pale, cool color beautifully complements spring and summer wardrobes. Aquamarine is most often light in tone and ranges from greenish blue to blue-green; the color usually is more intense in larger stones. This gemstone is mined mainly in Brazil, but also is found in Nigeria, Madagascar, Zambia, Pakistan, and Mozambique.

The second birthstone for March is bloodstone, a dark-green jasper flecked with vivid red spots of iron oxide. This ancient stone was used by the Babylonians to make seals and amulets and was believed to have healing powers — especially for blood disorders. It is sometimes called the martyr's stone as legend tells that it was created when drops of Christ's blood stained some jasper at the foot of the cross. Generally found embedded in rocks or in riverbeds as pebbles, primary sources for this stone are India, Brazil, and Australia.



keep on trucking!



## GENERAL INFORMATION

General Meetings: 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov  
Board Meetings: 7PM, 3rd 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
March 24,25	Tracy Jackson and Ira Wheeler	Cady Mountains	Scheduled

For a more complete listing of shows go to website: [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)  
Also see [www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html](http://www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html).

**Other websites of interest:**

[www.firemountaingems.com](http://www.firemountaingems.com)

[www.southsunproducts.com](http://www.southsunproducts.com)

[www.pioneergem.com](http://www.pioneergem.com)

[www.route66goldminers.org](http://www.route66goldminers.org)

[www.auctionmasters.com](http://www.auctionmasters.com)

## CLUB MEETING ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2012

Date	Presenter	Subject
March 13	Justin Zzyxz	Rock Hounding in Southern California
April 10	Lothar Vallot	"Everything SiO <sub>2</sub> " (Quartz)
May 5, 6	ALL	Searcher's 53rd Annual Show
May 8	Walt Lombardo	Corundum
June 12	Fred and Charlotte Ward	Opals

## Field Trip Report Kramer Corner and Castle Butte

The trip was a great success. We found vast amounts of Jaspers and Jaspagates as well as some blood stone and petrified wood and palm. The weather was very windy and pretty cold at night but much warmer throughout the day. We were next to some members from the Sierra Paloma club who were working a vein of petrified palm. We worked that vein Sunday. Thanks to all who came and made the trip so enjoyable.

I am still looking for some members to help fill the calendar and lead a trip.

Tracy Jackson  
Vice President of Field Trips  
714-705-3445  
oaamimi@aol.com



## Cady Mountains Trip March 24-25, 2012

**Leaders: Tracy Jackson/Ira Wheeler**

The Searchers will be having a field trip to The Cady Mountains. We will be collecting jasper and jasp-agate. We will be camping at the Lavic Crossing area. 4X4 should not be needed but high clearance is preferred.

Directions: Take the 40 fwy east from Barstow and exit at Hector Road. Make a right then a left onto old route 66. Follow 66 until it turns and crosses the 40. Just before the turn take a right onto the dirt road to the camping area.

Most of the rock will be surface collecting but you might want to bring some digging tools in the event we go to sandy wash. There is an overabundance of materials and locations in this area.

We will be having our pot luck on Saturday night. There is lodging available in Barstow if needed.

*Tracy Jackson*

[oaamimi@aol.com](mailto:oaamimi@aol.com)

714-705-3445

## UPCOMING 2012 CFMS GEM SHOWS

**March 24 - 25: ANGELS CAMP, CA**

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society

Calaveras Co. Fairgrounds (Frog Town USA)

**March 16 - 18: SAN BERNADINO, CA**

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society  
Western Regional Little League Ball  
Park

6707 Little League Drive

9am to Dusk daily

Contact: Steve Williams, (909) 389-8680; (909) 381- 0089 cell

Email: [ironelk@ymail.com](mailto:ironelk@ymail.com)

Website: [www.obmsrocks.yolasite.com](http://www.obmsrocks.yolasite.com)

101 Frogtown Road

Hours: Sat 10 – 5; Sun 10 – 4

Contact: Tak Iwata, (209) 928-5579

Email: [Tak2me@msn.com](mailto:Tak2me@msn.com)

Website:

[www.calaverasgemandmineral.org](http://www.calaverasgemandmineral.org)

**March 17 - 18: VALLEJO, CA**

Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society

Solano County Fairgrounds

McCormack Hall

Hours: 10 - 5 daily

Contact: Dan Wolke, (707) 644-9764

Email: [VGMS01@yahoo.com](mailto:VGMS01@yahoo.com)

Website:

[www.vallejogemandmineral.com](http://www.vallejogemandmineral.com)

**March 24 - 25: ROSEVILLE, CA**

Roseville Rock Rollers

Roseville-Placer County Fairgrounds

800 All American City Blvd. (off Washington)

Hours: Sat. 10 - 5; Sun. 10 - 4

Contact: Gloria Marie, (916) 216-1114

Email:

[gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com](mailto:gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com)

Website: [www.rockrollers.com](http://www.rockrollers.com)

**March 31 - April 1: LEMOORE, CA**  
Lemoore Gem & Mineral Society  
Trinity Hall  
470 Champion Street

Hours: 10 - 6 daily  
Contact: Judy & John Pereira, (559)  
924-4052

## **MAIL**

**From:** Mary Askov <m.askov@yahoo.com>  
**To:** [president@searchersrocks.org](mailto:president@searchersrocks.org)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 2:51 PM  
**Subject:** Amethyst Geode and Quartz Rocks

Hello, I got your information from the proprietor at the Geode Shop at Knotts Berry Farm.

Many years ago my husband and I purchased a 31 pound Amethyst Geode which we have loved...now however, we are moving to Wisconsin and we do not wish to take it with us.

In addition, we have 3 quartz rocks that weigh, 10 lbs, 2lbs & 1 lbs....is there any chance that you or a member of your club would like to see and purchase them? We live in Buena Park...however we have a Wisconsin cell phone number which is 715-781-4270 or of course you can contact me by e-mail. Can you please advise if you or one of your members might be interested?

Thank you,

Cliff & Mary Askov

## **ALL ABOUT THE SHOW!**

### **The Searchers needs your help**

The show is approaching and we need some help from you. We have a reputation for having a great silent auction, and plan to continue that this year. So we need some material to be donated. We are happy to have rough, slabs, fossils or mineral specimens. We do want **QUALITY** material please, don't clean out your rock pile of the material that you know you will never work because it is not nice enough. Instead please part with a few pieces of the sweet stuff. I assume that like me you will find as time goes on that you have lots (and lots) of material, so sparing a little for a good cause (the club) shouldn't be too painful. You can bring donations to the general meetings (which is good so we can see what we have) even to the show itself.

And a call out to all you Searchers that create jewelry. We need door prize prizes and special grab bag prizes. We will probably need a total of almost 50 pieces, so if you could spare a piece (or three) it would benefit the club. We do hit up the dealers for some prizes so that will help.

Also we will be needing baked goods for the kitchen during the show. Ideally these will be homemade, so start thinking about what you could make that would be good. Pies, cakes, cookies, brownies, tarts, you name it, we need it. Also in a pinch store bought items will do.

Lastly we will be needing help during the show, from Friday setup to Sunday teardown. If you haven't already signed up for a shift (or two) please contact Steve Duncan (wsd@iteris.com) or Norbert Bernhardt (nbern@cox.net) by email, or talk to us at the general meetings.

These are all opportunities for you to give something back to the club. The reason the club is so vibrant and alive is because of the great people in it. Hopefully you are already getting a lot out of the club, you will probably find that getting involved in the show is actually just another way to enjoy the club experience with the other members.

## Show Grab Bags

We need donations for the prize tickets that go into the grab bags. Minerals, crystals, geodes, jewelry, etc. Preferably not rocks or slabs unless polished because the winners may not be into lapidary. Bring them to the stuffing, lapidary shop, or contact Lydia (714) 453-8984 to arrange pick-up.

Grab Bag stuffing will be at 9:30 AM on March 24th at Norbert Bernhardt's (714) 904-2181. Please bring polished and clean rough and slabs so we can stuff all the bags needed for the show. Cynthia (cdarts1@att.net) continues to oversee the polishing portion of this project.

## Show Cases

Charlotte Spaulding is in charge of cases this year. If you plan to enter a case (and we hope you do) please contact her. You can call her (714-531-4058), e-mail her miz\_storm@sbcglobal.net or sign up at the general meeting. There is only room for a finite number of cases, so contact her as soon as possible to ensure you get your case in.

## SLABS FOR VETS



The Searchers Gem and Mineral Society supports the VA lapidary shop at the VA in Long Beach. The shop is part of the veteran rehabilitation program run by the VA. Our own Larry Ritchie has been active for years there, basically running it. Several other Searchers members are also active there, and we have had some folks from their shop come and join the Searchers. We support the shop by donating slabs. If you have a few ( or a lot of) extra slabs please bring them to the monthly meeting, we will collect them and get them to the vets. The Searchers are proud to support these men and women who played an active role in supporting our country.

## BENCH TIPS

by Brad Smith

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

### PROBLEMS WITH SMALL DRILLS

When drilling small holes, you sometimes encounter new problems. We're talking about drills that are less than 1 mm (which is 18 gauge or .040 inches). Often the chuck will not tighten down far enough to grip a small twist drill. You can solve this two ways

- with a chuck adapter or by buying your small drills with a 3/32 inch shank size. Either way you have a 3/32 shank to go into the chuck of your drill press, Foredom or Dremel, so changing bits is fast and easy.

Remember that small drills are much more prone to breaking because of too much pressure or if you tilt the drill or the workpiece when the drill is in the hole. And drilling always goes easier with a little wax or oil on the tip. Almost anything will work - Three and One, injection wax, mineral oil, Burr Life, car oil, olive oil, etc.

Note: A small pic is attached to use with this Tip

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### USING PRE-MADE BEZEL CUPS

As a general rule of thumb I assume it's going to take me 15 - 20 minutes to make a bezel for an ordinary cabochon, so for some projects buying pre-made cups can save a lot of time. But if you go this route, keep in mind three things. First, try to get cups made from fine silver, not sterling. Remember that fine silver is softer and burnishes over the stone more easily.

Second, you may have trouble matching the shape and size of the stone with the shape and size of the bezel cup. Purchased cups can only be found in a limited number of standard sizes. You may have to adjust your choice of gemstone to match the cup. The other consideration is that pre-made cups often have fairly low side walls. While these are fine for low-dome stones, they will not adequately secure stones with steep side walls.

Lastly before setting, check the fit of your gemstone in the cup, particularly around the bottom. The bottom corners of a stamped cup are much more rounded than a bezel you would fabricate yourself. This causes a problem with some stones. If your stone has a sharp edge around the bottom, burnishing over the bezel will place a lot of stress on the stone and may cause it to crack. To avoid this, I round off the bottom edge of the stone with a diamond file (or use sandpaper on soft stones).

## SUNSTONE THEFT

Tucson police investigate major theft from gem show vendor.  
Thieves stole thousands of sunstones worth about \$900,000 dollars.

<http://www.kgun9.com/news/local/138859364.html>

## **\$400 MILLION EMERALD**

For a glimpse into the emerald gem trade, from South American mines to storefront dealers, the National Geographic Channel is airing a program called "The 400 Million Dollar Emerald". Subject is called the Bahia emerald.

Some say it's the largest ever found, weighing in at 840 pounds and containing roughly 180,000 carats. Unearthed in Brazil in 2001, the Bahia emerald has an incredible history that fits its massive size. It spent months in a submerged bank vault in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and was even posted on eBay with a buy it now price of \$75 million. Others point out that the real stone is presently in lock-up pending litigation, and the piece shown in the NatGeo story is just a mock-up that is far more spectacular than the real stone. Regardless of what Bahia really looks like, the video gives an interesting view of how emeralds are found cut and traded.

<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/channel/explorer/400-million-dollar-emerald-pictures/>



**53RD. ANNUAL  
JEWELRY GEM MINERAL  
SHOW**

**Brookhurst Community  
Center**  
2271 W. Crescent Avenue  
Anaheim, CA

**Saturday, May 5 Hours 10AM - 5PM**  
**Sunday, May 6 Hours 10AM - 4:30PM**

*free admission*

**GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**  
**SEARCHERS**  
Anaheim California  
**CFMS**

www.searchersrocks.org

## PtCreations

2812-B Walnut Ave.  
Tustin, Ca 92780 714-904-2181

Classes, jewelry, faceted stones, rocks, slabs and minerals.  
Now open Wednesdays 11am-4pm and during classes and events.  
Check the "Calendar" on our web-site for schedule.  
[www.ptcreations.net](http://www.ptcreations.net)

## THE NEVADA MINERAL & BOOK COMPANY

<http://minbooks.net/>  
342 S. Tustin Street • Orange, CA 92866  
Ph. 714-633-1549

## *Rusty's Gold & Treasure Hunting Supply*

Club members show your ID card and receive a 10% off purchases over \$100  
Authorized dealer for Garrett, Fisher, and Tesoro metal detectors  
5642 E. La Palma Ave., #208, Anaheim, CA 92807 (corner of La Palma and Imperial Hwy.)  
714 693-GOLD (4653). Store hours: Tu - Sat 10am - 6pm