



# The Rock Slab News

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society,

VOLUME 51, ISSUE 6 JUNE 2014

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## The President's Message

Hello Searchers,

With luck, many of you will be going on our long range summer trip to the Davis Creek and McDermitt collecting sites. I certainly wish I were joining you. It is definitely looking to be a great rockhounding adventure.

I would like to thank everyone who helped out at the Searchers table during the CFMS Show in May and I would also like to send a huge THANK YOU to Margaret Hogarth who volunteered to be our Show Chair for next year. I'm certain that Margaret will make an excellent Show Chair and that we will have yet another outstanding show in 2015.

Last month, the 1<sup>st</sup> full weekend in June, the First Lady and I worked as vendors at the North Orange County Show. It was a marvelous show with lots of vendors and some great presentations. Possibly the most interesting people that we met there were from the Geology Club of Cal. State Fullerton. I spoke with several of their members, including their President. The initial result of these conversations was that Anthony, their Vice President, gave us a short introductory presentation concerning their club at our last Searchers meeting. I believe that it's in our mutual best interests that these two organizations develop closer ties. For our benefit, they will bring youth and an understanding of the geology and minerals that are present in the areas where we hold our field trips. For their benefit, they will see what we, the hobbyists, find fascinating about our local gems and minerals, where we find them and what we do with them.

It's never too early to start thinking about running for an office or taking a position within the Searchers. Getting involved brings a sense of accomplishment to your life and adds to your enjoyment of our hobby.

Also,

Become a Rockhound Activist. We're not asking you to rock the world, just protect what you love.

Jay Erb

The summer is upon us already and it will soon be feasting time.

**Searcher's Annual Picnic/ Potluck August 9 2014**

Date and Time: Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 3pm

Location: Yorba Regional Park in Anaheim Hills; Site #6; Parking in Lot #2. Sign up sheet will arrive in the near future to start signing up people to bring all of the food and supplies for the event.



Searchers

P.O. Box 3492

Anaheim, Ca. 92803

# The Rock Slab News

VOLUME 51 ISSUE 7

July 2014



Address Correction Requested

# Field Trips

DATE	LEADER	LOCATION	STATUS
7-3 to 9	Steve Duncan	Obsidian at Davis Creek and petrified wood, Gary green, agate etc at McDermitt	Planned
9-2014	Robert Burson	North Cadys or Chuckwall Mts	tentative
10-2014	Herb Beckman	Clear Creek - Jade in streams, plasma agate at the Aurora mine	tentative

## Long Range Field Trip

**JULY 3–9 2014**

The Searchers will have a long range trip in early July to Davis Creek (best obsidian site in CA), and McDermitt Nev (for green petrified wood among other things).

At Davis creek the collecting will be July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be staying at the Lassen Creek campground, a basic campground but very pretty and it does have a chemical toilet. Someone should be at the campsite on the afternoon of the 2nd, and there should be signs to guide you to the camp. You can get into this camp with an RV.

### Directions to Lassen Creek camp:

Take your favorite route to Alturas (in the far north east corner of California). From Alturas, go north on US 395. Approximately 22 miles from Alturas is the small town of Davis Creek. At the Davis Creek mercantile (530 233 3758) you can procure your free collecting permit, this is required. This will also be your last stop for Ice, cold drinks, ICE CREAM, etc. Continue another 11 miles to FS Access Rd 30. Turn right onto 30, and follow the signs. At about 5.5 miles you will take a right fork, cross a small bridge and the campground will be on your left.

The campground is a large meadow with some large pines and 2 streams running through camp. It is a dry camp, but there is a nice chemical toilet. RVs can access the camp, and it is comfortable for tents. Gas limited supplies and ICE CREAM at Davis Creek Mercantile. Motels, gas, food, and medical facilities at (Alturas `22 miles south) or Lakeview (`22 miles north)

All collecting trips will leave camp at 0830. You will need a high clearance vehicle to access the sites, but 4x4 should not be necessary. The sites are not very far from camp.

Thursday July 3<sup>rd</sup> we will have a potluck to celebrate our first day of collecting. Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> people who wish can go to Davis Creek Mercantile and enjoy a BBQ dinner, the cost for this year's dinners has-n't been defined yet, but last year for 3 meats (which would feed 2 normal people) it was \$28. Sat the 5<sup>th</sup> there will be no potluck, you are on your own for food.

Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> will be a travel day from Davis Creek to McDermitt, roughly 4.5 hrs. The short route is 395 North, 140 East, and 95 North. There is a pretty cool rock shop on 395 in the little town at the state line, if it is still open.

The camp at McDermitt is at the Mitchell RV Park in town with hot showers and restrooms. The rates are \$20/night for an RV site with hookups, Tent sites are \$15 Gas and some groceries and a couple of small restaurants are available in McDermitt.

The McDermitt collecting will leave from camp at 08:30 (California time) on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>. As far as collecting locations, we have made arrangements with a local guide which should help us get to the right stuff. 4 wheel drive may be necessary for some of these trips, if so we will car pool as usual.



For field trip information contact: Steve Duncan V.P. Field Trips, Searchers Gem and Mineral Society, (714) 7247102 (cell) or [wsd@iteris.com](mailto:wsd@iteris.com)



We will have a potluck on the 7<sup>th</sup> to celebrate our first day of collecting at McDermitt, and on the 9<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the end of the collecting trip. You are on your own for dinner on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

We will have a campfire every night we can, please bring some firewood, or pick up some on your way.

You will need to be responsible for yourselves on most of the distance traveling. Be prepared for hot days and cold nights. Bring lots of water, sunscreen, hats etc. The collecting is mostly digging, so digging tools (shovel, pick, etc) are necessary in addition to your standard rock pick and water bottle. Obsidian is volcanic glass and is very sharp. Eye protection and gloves are highly recommended. One thing that a "pro" showed me the last time was the value of a bucket of water and a cheap hand brush. This made cleaning a piece of obsidian to properly judge its character ( to keep or to leaverite) a snap.

Digging is best done by small cooperatives; we will all end up better off by working in small groups. Also it is much better to knock down overburden than to work under it. Working under overburden is dangerous.

Both of these sites are justifiably famous, Davis Creek for rainbow, electric blue, green, and pink obsidian, and McDermitt for petrified wood, larsonite (petrified bog jasper) and agates. I believe we should be a productive trip for nice materials. And you know that anytime the Searchers get together in the outdoors it is a good time.

If someone knows a great collecting location on the way back to So Cal from McDermitt (that won't be terrifyingly hot) we can consider breaking up the return trip for a day of collecting somewhere. Let me know.

After McDermitt some folks will probably continue north to do some more rockhounding. If you asked nicely I am sure you could buddy along with them for a while if you haven't had your fill of collecting by then.

It is standard for not everyone to do every portion of the trip, feel free to join us when you can and leave when you have to.

If you are interested in any or all of this trip please contact me at [wsd@iteris.com](mailto:wsd@iteris.com), or 714 724 7102 (my cell). I have had some initial feedback from folks who plan to go, I would appreciate it if everyone planning to go would confirm, so even if you have previously contacted me please reconfirm.

One note on collecting at Davis Creek. You do need a permit. The permit is free. Normally these can be procured at Davis Creek Mercantile (530) 233 3758 in Davis Creek. This is the most convenient place to pick up the permit, and I recommend you get yours there.

Other choices are:

Modoc National Forest Supervisor's Office - 800 West 12 th Street Alturas, CA 96101

- Warner Mountain Ranger District Office - 385 Wallace St. Cedarville, CA 96104

Please feel free to contact me with any questions [wsd@iteris.com](mailto:wsd@iteris.com), or 714 724 7102 (my cell).



## July Speaker Topic - Agates

Popular, repeat speaker, Justin Zzyzx, is going to give us a lecture on various local agates; with plenty of insight on where to find them locally.

### Club Meeting Activity

DATE	PRESENTER	SUBJECT
7-2014	Justin Zzyzx	Agates
8-2014	Searcher's Picnic/ Potluck Yorba Regional Park	FUN
9-2014	Lothar Vallot	TBD

# Upcoming 2014 CFMS Gem Shows

For a more complete listing of shows go to website: [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)

## JUNE 2014

**June 27 - 29:** RIALTO, CA Orange Belt Gem & Mineral Society "Tailgate" across street from Rialto City Hall 105 S. Palm Ave. (corner 1st & Palm Ave.) Hours: Fri & Sat 9 - 6; Sun. 9 - 3  
Contacts: Ken or Jessica Gard, (909) 624-1782, (909) 887-5507  
kengard@roadrunner.com Website: obmsrocks.yolasite.com

**June 28 - 29:** CULVER CITY, CA Culver City Rock & Mineral Club Veterans Memorial Auditorium 4117 Overland Ave Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Contact: Janice Metz Email: janicemtz@yahoo.com Website: www.culvercityrocks.org/fiesta.htm

## AUGUST 2014

**August 1 - 3:** NIPOMO, CA Orcutt Mineral Society, Santa Maria Nipomo High School 525 North Thompson Avenue Hours: Fri/Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Contact: Wes Lingerfelt, (805) 929-3788, Cell (805) 710-1983  
Email: info@omsinc.org Website: www.omsinc.org

**August 23 - 24:** SAN FRANCISCO, CA San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society S. F. County Fair Building, Golden Gate Park 9th Avenue & Lincoln Way Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Contact: Ellen Nott Email: ellen\_nott@yahoo.com Website: www.sfgemshow.org

## SEPTEMBER 2014

**September 20 - 21:** CHICO, CA Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society, Oroville Silver Dollar Fairgrounds 2357 Fair Street Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 9 - 4  
John Scott, (530) 343-3491  
Email: jweazel@sbcglobal.net Website: www.featherriverrocks.org

**September 27 - 28:** MONTEREY, CA Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society Monterey Fairgrounds 2004 Fairgrounds Road Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Contact: Janis Rovetti, (831) 372-1311  
Email: janis12@sbcglobal.net Website: www.cvgms.org

**September 27 - 28:** SANTA ROSA, CA Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society Wells Fargo Center for the Arts 50 Mark West Springs Road Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5  
Jolene, (707) 528-7615  
Email: Jolene@srmgs.org Website: www.srmgs.org

**September 27 - 28:** LODI, CA Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club Lodi Grape Festival Grounds 413 East Lockford Street Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Jerold Kyle, (209) 368-9411  
Email: jeroldkyle@yahoo.com Website: www.stocktonlapidary.com

## OCTOBER 2014

**October 1 - 5:** JOSHUA TREE, CA Hi-Desert Rockhounds of Morongo Valley Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree 6225 Sunburst Street Hours: 9 - 6 daily  
Contact: Judy & Roger Thompson, (760) 902-5340  
Email: HiDesertRockhounds@gmail.com Website: www.jtsportsmansclub.com/gemshow.htm

**October 10 - 12:** RENO, NV Reno Gem & Mineral Society Craft Show Reno Town Hall Corner of Peckham & So. Virginia Street Hours: Fri 10 - 6; Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 3  
Contact: Theresa Langhans, (775) 475-0842  
Email: theresalanghans@yahoo.com Website: www.renorockhounds.com

**October 11 - 12:** ANDERSON, CA Shasta Gem & Mineral Society Shasta County Fairgrounds Briggs Street Hours: Sat 9 - 5; Sun 10 - 4  
Steve Puderbaugh, (530) 604-2951  
Email: steve@appliance.com Website: www.shastagemandmineral.com

**October 11 - 12:** GRASS VALLEY, CA Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society Nevada County Fairgrounds 11228 McCourtney Road Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Todd Lawson  
Email: ncgms@hotmail.com Website: www.ncgms.org

**October 11 - 12:** TRONA, CA Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society Gem & Mineral Building 13337 Main Street Hours: Sat 7:30 - 5; Sun 7:30 - 4  
Jim & Bonnie Fairchild, (760) 372-5356  
Email: slgms@iwvisp.com Website: www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub

**October 18 - 19:** PLACERVILLE, CA El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society El Dorado County Fairgrounds 100 Placerville Drive Hours: 10 - 5 daily  
Contact: Bob Graton, (530) 676-2472  
Email: info@rockandgemshow.org Show Website: www.rockandgemshow.org Club Website: www.eldoradorocks.org

**October 25 - 26:** CAYUCOS, CA San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club Cayucos Vets Hall 10 Cayucos Drive Hours: 9 - 5 daily  
Contact: Kim Patrick Noyes, (805) 610-0603  
Email: kimnoyes@gmail.com Website: www.slogem.org

## July Birthstone - Ruby

July Birthstone poem - the Ruby  
"The gleaming Ruby should adorn,  
All those who in July are born,  
For thus they'll be exempt and free,  
From lover's doubts and anxiety."

July Birthstone - Properties of the Ruby

For those who were born in the month of July the Ruby is the traditional birthstone.



The July birthstone poem reflects some of the properties with which the Ruby is associated - devotion, integrity, courage and happiness. The Traditional Metaphysical Properties for the July Birthstone Ruby are vitality, confidence and strength. The healing properties of the July birthstone are reputed to be effective for health problems relating to the blood and infection and increasing positive thought patterns. The Ruby is also used to enhance energy, generosity and to bring prosperity and success.

# Other Field Trips

One of our sister clubs (the Whittier Gem and Mineral Society) has just listed an impressive field trip schedule for 2014. Members of their club often join us on our trips, and we are welcome to join them on their. You can never get too much rockhounding right? Anyhow, their schedule is below, if you plan to join them please do get in touch with Joe Goetz (their field trip leader) at (626) 622-9420. This way they will know you are planning on attending, and be able to update you if there are any changes to the plan.

### 2014 Field Trip Schedule

July 12 Palos Verdes: Glaucofane, barite and agate minerals.

Aug 2 Nipomo Show/Los Olivos: to collect Serpentine, the California State Rock. Possibly collecting Cinnabar and a stop at Ta-jiguas Creek for fossilized whale bone.

For up-to-date information on these field trips call Joe Goetz at (626)- 622-9420 Sept 20-21

Jalama Beach: Agate, jasper, petrified whale bone, travertine onyx, Marcasite and fossils.

Oct 11-12 Searles Lake Club Show & field trips: Pink halite crystals & borax minerals.

Nov 1-2 Whittier Claim Area: honey onyx, agate, jasper, palm root, etc.

Nov 28-30 Wiley's Well Area: Annual CFMS field trip for geodes, agates and other good stuff.

Dec 6 Himalaya Mine Tourmalines: Dig your own pink and green California tourmalines near beautiful Lake Henshaw in San Diego County, 20 miles east of Pala. This is a fee collecting site.

For up-to-date information on these field trips call Joe Goetz at (626)- 622-9420.



## Trip Report Ludlow area - part 2

May 17-18 Jim Peterson

This trip was reported on in last month's Slab but pictures were not available. Here are a few pictures of our dedicated rockhounds in the 106 degree heat. .



## In the Field

The AFMS has a great code of ethics written up on its website. I thought it would be a good reminder for us rockhounds as we pursue our hobby.

### "Code of Ethics"

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
  - I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
  - I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
  - I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
  - I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
  - I will leave all gates as found.
  - I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
  - I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
  - I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
  - I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
  - I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
  - I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
  - I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
  - I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
  - I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
  - I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

Revised July 7, 1999 at the AFMS Annual Meeting



# Kid's Corner

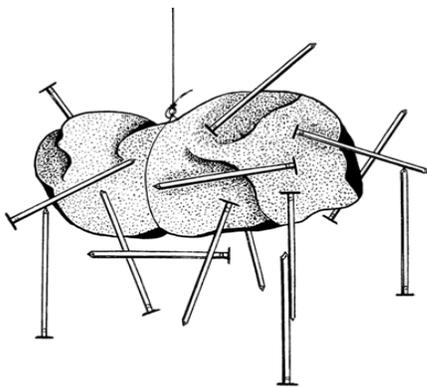
We will be starting a section for kids. The information will be coming from a newsletter for kids called *Mini Miners Monthly* by Diamond Dan Publications . He is kind enough to allow us to use parts of his newsletter. This is from Vol. 8 No. 6.

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

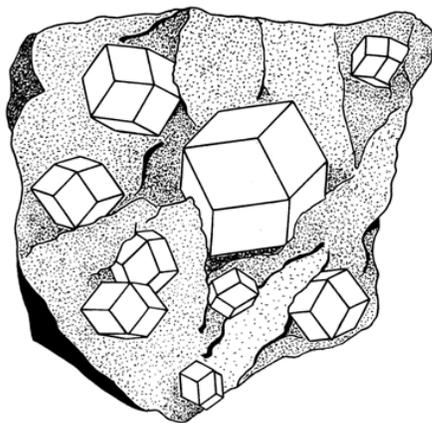
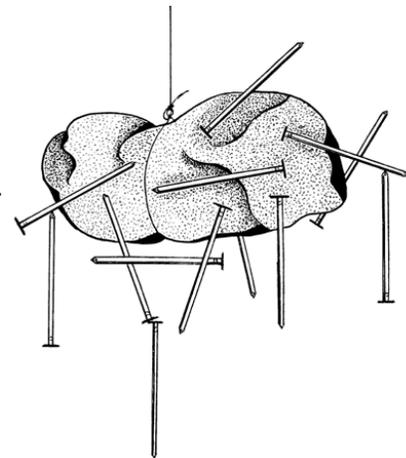
Below are pairs of mineral drawings. They are exactly the same ... except for one difference. Can you find the difference between the pairs of pictures?



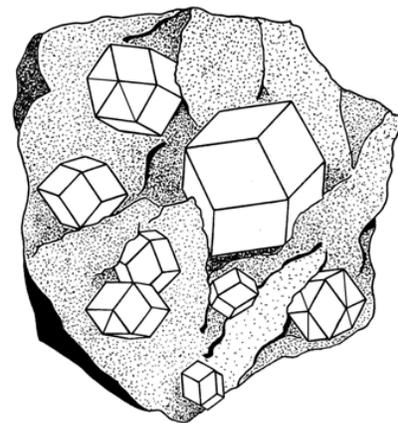
Apple Green Smithsonite



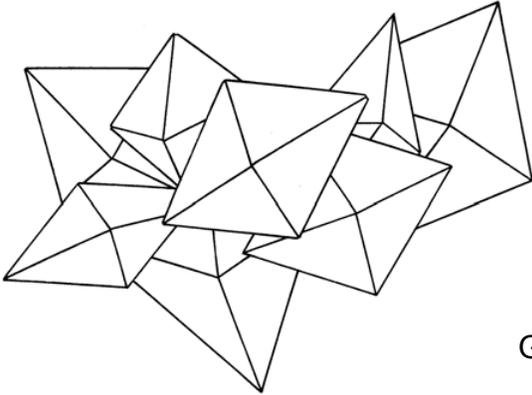
Dark Gray Lodestone



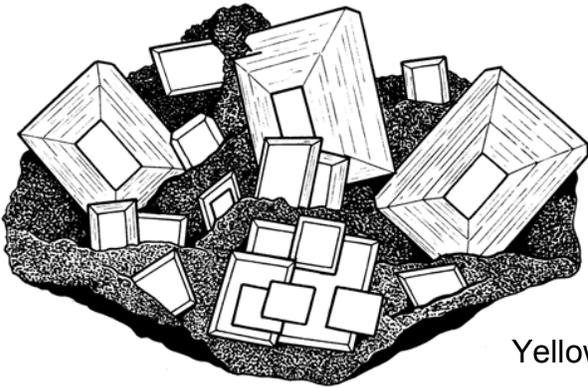
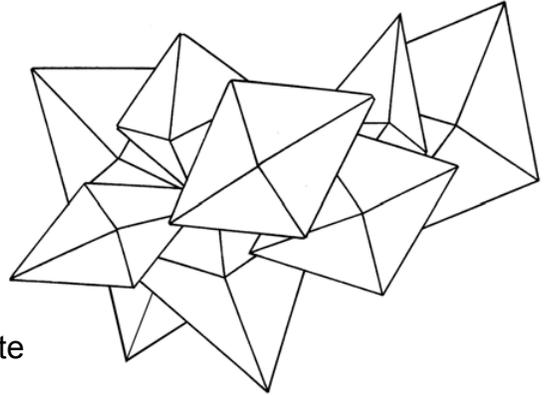
Dark Red Garnet



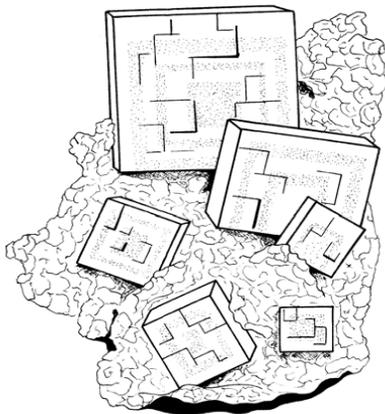
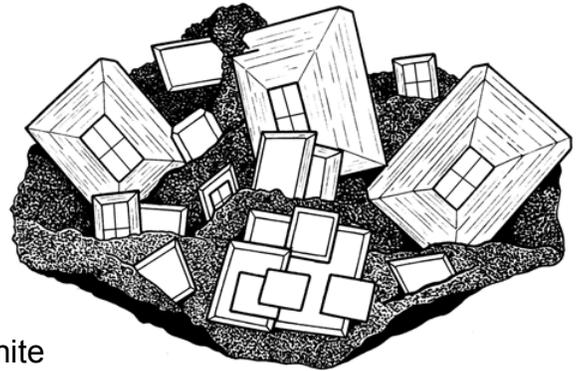
## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? Page 2



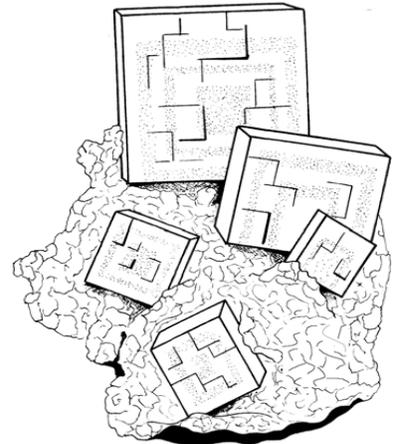
Gray Thenardite



Yellow Wulfenite



Brown Fluorite



*Mini Miners Monthly* is produced by Diamond Dan Publications, Rochester, New York.  
Darryl Powell, editor Emma Fajcz, contributing editor

# Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

## General Information



Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule!

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

**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

**Website:** [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

<b>Membership Dues:</b>	<b>Individual</b>	<b>\$25</b>
	<b>Couple</b>	<b>\$35</b>
	<b>Junior (17 &amp; under)</b>	<b>\$10</b>

Valid Jan.1-Dec.31,not prorated

**Bulletin:** Submissions due 3rd Friday of the month via e-mail to: [editor@searchersrocks.org](mailto:editor@searchersrocks.org).

Bulletin distributed 1st week of each month. Mail exchange bulletins to the editor:

Searchers —Linda Horn Editor

P.O. Pox 3492

Anaheim, Ca. 92803

**Charter Date:** April 20, 1958

**Affiliations:** California Federation of Mineralogical Societies



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