

The Rock Slab News

MARCH 2006 VOLUME 41 ISSUE 3

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The Purpose of the Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

By-Laws, Article 1, Sec. 2

This society was formed for the purpose of banding together a group of congenial persons for the purpose of studying mineralogy and the earth sciences by means of association with other mineralogical societies and with their members; presentation of public exhibitions, lectures, and similar programs; field trips for exploration, study and collecting of specimens; the encouragement of interest among young people and the fostering of interest in mineralogy and the lapidary arts; the procurement and maintenance of collections of minerals, mineral products and related pictures, writings and other information thereof; and all other means which are appropriate to the accomplishment of the primary objectives above set forth.

This organization is not formed for profit and none of its assets shall be used for the pecuniary gain or profit of any individual who is or may become a member thereof.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Clarke Benich

Hello again fellow Searchers!

Wow, it seems as if I just turned in a message to you all, and here I am writing another. Time flies when you're having fun, I guess.

Speaking of time flying, here we are only weeks away from show time once again, and there's lots of work to be done. I'm sure Beth still has plenty of volunteer positions left to be filled, so if you have not yet committed, there's no time like the present.

With the exception of a few new members, I believe most of us are well aware of the extensive work and planning that comes into play putting on a show each year, as well as how quickly it is over once it begins, just in time to begin planning for the next year's show. It goes without saying that these shows are our club's best source of publicity; therefore, should we not strive to make each one an event we can be proud to host for our community? This takes teamwork, my friends, as well as commitment, so please volunteer your services in any way you can. Remember, this is your show, and its success lies on the shoulders of every member of our club, not just the show committee members.

We are still in need of a dedicated individual to take over as Workshop Coordinator. Herb has been filling this duty for the past 9 years and is ready for a much deserved and long overdue break, so please let us know if you are interested in taking on this position or know of someone else who may be.

Well, I hope to see all of you some time soon, whether at our meetings, workshop, the show, field trips or other events, until then, take care and keep in touch.

Sincerely,
Clarke

GENERAL INFORMATION

Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule! www.searchersrocks.org

- General Meetings:** 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
- Board Meetings:** 7 PM, 3rd Wednesday 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).
- No workshops:** Nov 23 & 25.
- 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
- Membership Dues:** Individual \$20
Couple \$25
Junior (17 & under) \$2
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 editors:
Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark
18661 Silver Maple Way
N. Tustin, CA 92705-2144
- Charter Date:** June 20, 1958
- Affiliations:**
- California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SEARCHERS BOARD

Officers

President	Clarke Benich	714/552-7336
1 st V.P. (Programs)	Virgil Talbott	714/490-0416
2 nd V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Director	Karen Fox	714/832-3580
Secretary	Lorri Renck	714/826-2844
Treasurer	Patricia Underwood	562/864-4195
Federation Delegate	Patrick Freeman	714/758-9273

Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	714/535-2030
Editor	Jenny Stavreva Kathy Clark	714/736-4345 714/639-9927
Historian	Beth Pelfrey	714/774-2754
Hospitality		
Library	Maggie Vigil	714/288-2072
Membership	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Monthly Drawing	Anastacio O'Campo	714/490-0416
Phone Tree	Audrey Nichols	714/827-8345
Phone Tree Asst. 1	Sharon & Bob Burson	562/860-5938
Phone Tree Asst. 2		
2005 Show	Beth Pelfrey	714/774-2754
Show Co-Chair	Anastacio O'Campo	714/490-0416
Sunshine	Carlene Blake	714/549-0099
Veteran's Coordinator	Larry Richey	714/846-3573
Website	Karen Fox	714/832-3580
Workshop	Herb Beckman +?	714/778-1496
Rock 'n' Kids	OPEN	

MARCH EVENTS

- 10,11, & 12 Tailgate Party outside Victorville
- 14 General Meeting, 7-9 PM
Sapphires of Montana, Dick Flaharty
- 15 Board Meeting, 7PM
- 17 Rock Slab News Bulletin deadline
- 22 Show Meeting, 7PM
- 18,19 Field Trip, Lavic Siding and Green Ash Trees with Steve Duncan

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Date	Location	Leader	Details	Status
March , 18,19	Lavic Siding and Green Ash Hills	Steve Duncan	Different material	Planned
April 22	Holbrook Petrified Wood			

By Steve Duncan

Holbrook Petrified Wood

Initial information indicates that this trip will be April 22, 2006. Stay tuned for more info.

Extended Field Trip

We are beginning discussions on the extended field trip which is normally held in late May. We have thought about a trip to Utah or Idaho. We need your input. Are you interested in going on an extended trip in May? Where would you like to go? What would you like to collect? Call me, Steve Duncan (714-724-7102) with your thoughts.

MARCH PROGRAM

By Virgil Talbott

Our March speaker, Dick Flaharty, comes to us with such accolades as maintaining current membership with the Del-Air Rockhounds and having served as their president in 1991 and 1992; winning “Craftsman of the Month” award in the June, 1996, issue of Rock & Gem; spending 12 summers from 1986 to 1997 teaching lapidary to boys and girls at Teton Valley Ranch Camp in Jackson Hole, Wyoming; receiving a scholarship award from CFMS in 2004 for his work at the Teton Valley Ranch Camp which was awarded in his name to a graduating student of California State University-Northridge; and having taught lapidary in 2003 and 2004 at the CFMS Workshops at ZZYZX.

Dick Flaharty will be presenting to us a program about the sapphires of Montana. His presentation covers a span of about 30 years with visits to five different Montana sapphire mines. The last visit being in the summer of 2004 included Chassez, Castles, Lovestone, Eldorado Bar, and Spokane Bar. Basic information will be given on the mining process. The presentation will also include some of the scenic stops in Idaho to consider for rockhounding and fishing on your way up to Montana.

MARCH FIELD TRIP

March 18 & 19, 2006

By Steve Duncan

The March Field Trip will be to Lavic Siding and the Green Ash Hills area near the Early Man Site east of Barstow. We will be camping on Lavic Siding Road just off of National Trails Hwy. (old Route 66). This is between the Hector exit and the Ludlow exit off of I-40. Many of you are familiar with this campsite; it is easily accessible by RVs. There are no hookups or facilities.

We will be collecting at Lavic Siding all day Saturday. An exploratory trip my wife and I took there in December yielded a lot of beautiful material, and as usual the pickin's were better the farther we walked from the road. A lot of walking will improve your collecting, but it is easy walking without many hills. Most of the material is found in float.

Sunday we will collect near the Early Man Site off of I-15 at Minneola Rd. One difference for this trip is that we will leave at 0900 on Saturday as usual, but will leave at 0800 on Sunday to allow for a fair amount of collecting time and still beat the traffic back to Orange County. People that have trouble meeting the 0800 departure can always meet us near the Early Man Site around 0900.

We will have our usual potluck dinner and fire on Saturday evening.

Directions to the campsite from Orange County:

Take I-15 to Barstow, then I-40 towards Needles. Exit at the Hector exit, turn right at the end of the exit, and then left (east) on National Trails Hwy. National Trails Hwy. Parallels the freeway for a while and then makes a sharp left and crosses the freeway. Just at that left turn where National Trails Hwy. crosses the freeway (~10 miles?) Lavic Siding dirt road goes off the right (south). We will be camped just inside Lavic Siding dirt road.

Motels are available in Barstow as well as one rustic motel in Ludlow (~5 miles east of the campsite). Last time I checked you needed to check into this motel with the people running the gas station across the street.

Missing Field Trip Equipment

I have lost track of some of the Searcher signs as well as the field trip first aid kit. If you know of their whereabouts please call me, Steve Duncan (714-724-7102).

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP REPORT

By Kathy Clark

The last weekend in February we all met at 9:00 AM at the designated campsite and dig area near Aerial Acres. We worked as a group for hours down in a hole using the slammers and then shoveling out the debris. At the end of the day, tired and dirty and hungry, we had some nice pieces of travertine to share amongst us. That night we shared a great potluck, campfire, and lots of laughter.

On Sunday we drove to another location that Robert Burson found and to Castle Butte. This was an easy day, because everything was float material such as jasper, agate and petrified palm wood. We also saw some wildlife: a coyote, a roadrunner, lots of big jackrabbits, Chukar, a horned toad lizard, and Curt Clark got a photo of a desert tortoise.



SALES SALES SALES

EXTRA DISCOUNT FOR SEARCHERS
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John & Susana Wease
e-mail: jsgems@dslextrreme.com

Newberry Springs, CA
(760) 257-3843
Cell (909) 519-1545

**Saturday, March 18, 8:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at
13371 Lee Drive, Westminster, CA 92683.**

Mexican agate (Coyamito, Laguna, Moctezuma, Aztec Lace, Agua Nueva), Texas agate (Woodward Ranch, Marfa), Dinosaur Bone, geodes, slabs, Imperial Jasper, and more . Call Sue Gallagher at 714-379-4686 if you need to arrange to come over at another time.

THE PERFECT ROCK

By Clare Gagnon

Clare Gagnon, who has been a member of Searchers for many years, is an accomplished lapidarian, silversmith, and scrimshaw artist. He teaches silversmithing at the shop, and he has demonstrated faceting at our shows for years. These are just a few of his attributes that we are very well aware of, but did you know that he is also a poet?

He roamed the open desert
In search of Nature's gift.
His keen eyes always on alert
Scanning every crack and rift.
For to fill his day with pleasure
He must find a perfect treasure.

Then he climbed the hillside slope
To keep the quest alive
With mind full of desire and hope
For forever he will strive.
As he becomes a legend to the clan
In his search for this specimen.

He's looked through every booth
At each gem and mineral fair.
But to tell the honest truth
He hasn't found it there.
You can bet all your worth
He will continue with the search.

We know he will never find
The perfect rock that he seeks.
For it exists only in his mind
Of our hero for these weeks.
Not on desert, hill or in fair.
Let's honor him to show that we care.

So we can respect his desire
And name that perfect rock tonight .
If Hank can have a mineral
With his name attached to Hanksite
The perfect rock should by right
Be known as Herbetsite.

SHOW REPORT

By Beth Pelfrey

Howdy Searchers!

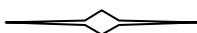
Well, 100% of the dealers are in. We have 13 for the first time. Looking good.

Remember, individual Searchers, WHO ARE NOT DEALERS, may get some space for one, maybe both show days to sell their creations and collections. Be sure to speak to Walter Mroch if you are interested. We have several already who have asked. This is shaping up to be a great show as usual.

Cathy O'Campo is handling the cases this year. We want you to have your very own case to put in anything that tickles your creative fantasy. Your case can be educational, humorous, elegant, casual, whatever you can dream up. Call Cathy or catch her at the next meeting to sign up. The club has plenty of cases and we want to be able to let you have the one you get for your own! Yes, that's correct: you get to keep it. You can paint it, put flounces on or in it. We need to get out of the case storage business and this is the time to start. The club has many cases we no longer need, so please ask Cathy and claim yours early enough to personalize it.

The security contract is set: Larry Richey and Jim Williamson are in charge. I know they will welcome your help. Security is so important to all of our dealers; we have an excellent reputation for safety at our show so keep on volunteering, not just for this, but all other areas so we as members are visible to our guests to answer questions, sell grab bags, work in the kitchen for Sharon Burson, clean case-glass so it sparkles and so much more. Who wants to demonstrate their skills? See Clare Gagnon to arrange a spot. Kathy Clark will do the Friday Night Dinner- YUM.

[Continue on the next page]



She and Sharon will need some help to clean the kitchen and stow the supplies. Also, we are looking for donations for the opportunity table at the Friday Night Dinner. It can be anything, maybe a knitted scarf or crocheted afghan. We need beads of all kinds (glass, wood, ceramic, etc.) and sizes and stretch plastic and/or leather cording for the “Bead-Building by Kids” table staffed by Cathy O’Campo. Clear out your closets and old jewelry boxes and get your beads to Cathy (714-490-0416).

If you intend to stay overnight for the duration of the show at the Community Center, we need to know the license plate number of each vehicle and a description of each vehicle (2 vehicles only per party, please). Contact Manny O’Campo by phone (714-490-0416) or Cathy O’Campo by email (way2mystique@sbcglobal.net) with “2006 Searchers Show” in the subject line.

Also, don’t forget to contact Ken Landers (714-535-5126) about the grab bags. He needs 300 of them by the April meeting.

We will need help to get the show material from storage to the Brookhurst Community Center. Talk to Manny O’Campo about volunteering to help out there. If you have a pick-up truck and/or a utility trailer that the Searchers can borrow, please let us know so we can use you and your trailer to pick up stuff from storage and get it to the Brookhurst Community Center.

I have scads of flyers. I need someone to volunteer to do local publicity and to be able to get the flyers out all over the place in an orderly manner. About 3 weeks before the show, we need to really hit the surrounding areas, shops, etc. Please let me know how you can help.

EVERY booth and committee needs help. Call me, write me, or call Manny O’Campo. Let Cathy O know that you will have a case in this show. Help to decorate and setup. I am not as hands-on as I have been in the past, but am expecting all of you to pitch in. Let us know HOW you will help and when! Come to the meetings and share all your good new ideas. I’m easy and open.

We need all of you to be at the meeting, even if you are not a committee chair; we need your energy and input. There are two meetings left: March 22 and April 26 at 7 PM at the Downtown Community Center.

My cell phone is 714-615-1670, home is 714-774-2754. Manny O, my co-chair, is 714-490-0416. Remember, if you don’t help, we may have some things that will not get done and blank areas at the show. We depend on volunteers.

SUNSHINE REPORT

By Carlene Blake

Our hearts go out to long-time members, Betty and Harry Nelson, who have learned that their beloved dog, Merlin, has a terminal illness.

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Kathy Clark

Please help us welcome the newest members of the Searchers' family, and take note of changes to add to your 2005 roster until you receive your 2006 roster. Pat Lynch has retired and her email pat.lynch@experian.com is no longer in effect. Delete this email from your roster.

I had a lengthy and enjoyable phone visit with Michele Lee on Sunday, February 19. She and Mike have retired and moved to a small community in northern California where they have owned property for a number of years. They are living in their motorhome while they build their new home. They have renewed their membership with the Searchers and will keep their eyes open for field trip locations in their area.

New member Carlene Blake who is a survivor of hurricane Katrina and lost her house, car and most of her possessions, has relocated to Costa Mesa to be near her 4 sons who live in southern California. Carlene has graciously accepted the responsibilities of the Sunshine Chairman.

We are in desperate need of a Hospitality Chairman. The duties include preparing a pot of coffee and hot water for tea and prodding members to volunteer to bring goodies to the general meetings. Cathy O'Campo generously took over the coffee-making duties last month. We all enjoy the refreshments during the break. This is an important part of our monthly meetings when members can socialize, discuss, compare, conduct business and make decisions. Someone, please, volunteer to fill this important position.

New Members

Christine Edmonds
555 S. Helena St.
Anaheim, CA 92805
714-758-7065
cdedmonds1@att.net

Carlene Blake
2364 Harbor Blvd. Apt.
104
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714-549-0099
cblake@promogiant.com

Evelyn Nissan
12641 Woodland Lane
Garden Grove, CA 92840-
5508
714-534-5063

Jonathan Tuman (Jr.
Member)
4056 E. Maple Tree Dr.
Anaheim Hills, CA 92807
714-637-7786
mxme9@sbcglobal.net

Changes of Address

Patricia Underwood
springmoon58@yahoo.com

Lowell & Mary Disney
m.marilow@verizon.net

Mike & Michele Lee (have
retired)
P. O. Box 85
Dobbins, CA 95935
530-692-9906
dragonfly@ez2.net

MARCH CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2 6-10 PM Lapidary, wire-wrap class	3	4 3-7 PM Lapidary, silversm.
5	6	7	8	9 6-10 PM Lapidary, wire-wrap class	10 Tailgate Party	11 3-7 PM Lapidary, silversm. Tailgate Party
12 Tailgate Party	13	14 7PM General Meeting	15 7 PM Board meeting	16 6-10 PM Lapidary, wire-wrap class	17 RSN Bulletin deadline	18 3-7 PM Lapidary, silversmithing
19 Field trip	20	21	22 7 PM Show Meeting	23 6-10 PM Lapidary, wire-wrap class	24	25 3-7 PM Lapidary, silversmithing
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Happy Birthday to all those Searchers' members who were born in March!.

SEARCHERS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Kathy Clark
18661 Silver Maple Way
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144
hanky1panky3@yahoo.com
714/639-9927

Please Print!

Date: _____
 Name 1: _____
 Name 2: _____
 Jr. Member 1: _____ 2: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
 Occupation: _____ Employer: _____
 Birthday: Month _____ Day _____ Birthday: Month _____ Day _____

2006 dues are valid March 1 through March 31.
 Individual: \$20
 Couple: \$25
 Junior members (17 and under): \$2

Please indicate the club activities that interest you:
 Minerology () Geology () Lapidary () Fossils () Other _____

Meet other Searchers and volunteer to help a committee(s):
 Anaheim Arts Council () Historian () Library () Website ()
 Membership () Monthly Drawing () Phone Comm. ()
 RSN Editor () Sunshine () Veteran's Workshop ()
 Hospitality () Workshop () Rock'n'Kids () Annual Show ()
 Silent Auction ()



The Rock Slab News

Volume 41 Issue 1

March 2006



Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark, *Editors*
18661 Silver Maple Way
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144

TRADITIONAL MARCH BIRTHSTONE

JASPER /BLOODSTONE

Legend holds that this stone trapped the blood of Christ as it fell (also St. Stephen's blood, as it is sometimes called St. Stephen's Stone). Its healing qualities are often associated with nosebleeds and hemorrhages. It is thought to heal blood diseases and to prevent miscarriages and hemorrhaging during childbirth. Redder varieties were thought to be lucky for soldiers, while the greener varieties were often associated with wealth and money. It represents courage, strength, power, and wealth.

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