

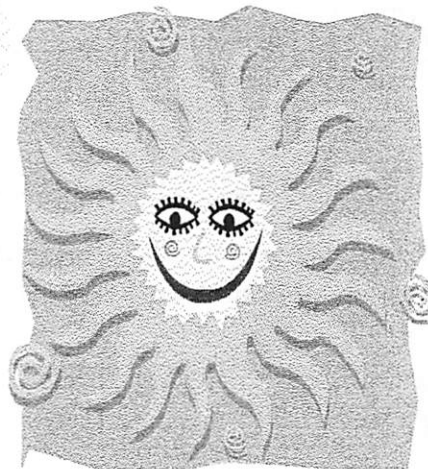
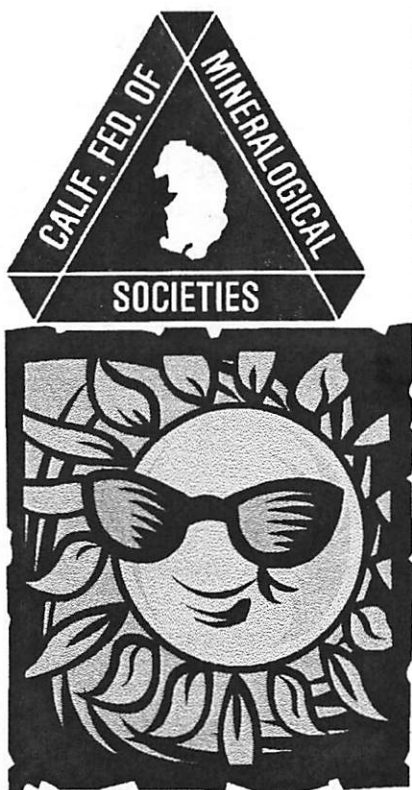
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The Rock Slab News  
Richard Butler Editor  
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Happy HOT August  
2000

SEARCHERS GEM &amp; MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

# The Rock Slab News



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**Classified Ads:** send in ads as soon as possible because space may be limited.

**Announcements, Birthdays and Anniversaries:** submit by the end of the first week of the month for publication in the next month's paper.



VOLUME 35, ISSUE 8

# The Rock Slab News



PUBLISHED BY THE  
SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

Established June 20, 1958

Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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(E-mail): [Slabnews@aol.com](mailto:Slabnews@aol.com)

(web page) <http://www.gemandmineral.com/searchers.html>

## CLUB OFFICERS

President  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Secretary

Betty Nelson  
James Perlowin  
Joan Macomber  
Nancy Norlund

714-530-1365  
949-837-7213  
714-821-0129  
714-960-6957

Treasurer  
Federation Director  
Director

Alicia Ojeda  
Beth Pelfrey  
Walter Mroch

714-635-4266  
714-774-2754  
714-826-2132

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Anaheim Arts Council  
Arts Council Alternate  
Historian  
Library  
Membership  
Monthly Drawing  
Phone Committee  
2001 Show Chairman  
Rock Slab Editor  
Hospitality

Margaret Neeley  
Richard Butler  
Jan Gillette  
Bob Dixon  
Milly Arvanites  
Jerry Norlund  
Doris Pelfrey

714-535-2030  
714-484-1947  
714-776-9467  
714-534-5063  
714-838-1924  
714-960-6957  
714-774-2754

Silent Auction  
Sunshine  
Veterans Coordinator  
Ways & Means Chairman  
Greeter  
Workshop Coordinator  
Youth Chairman

Jerry Norlund  
Dottie Johnson  
John Velazquez  
Open  
Larry Richey  
Herb Beckman  
Norbert Bernhardt

714-960-6957  
714-535-8579  
310-835-4432  
Help needed  
714-846-3573  
714-778-1496  
714-801-2181

Richard Butler  
Lana Brown  
714-484-1947  
714-870-4859

Rock Slab Mail Out

Paul Ellis

714-893-8238

Regular Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the new Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center Street, Anaheim, CA.

Visitors are always welcome.

Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month, January through December. The meetings are held at the new Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center Street, Anaheim, CA.

Members are always welcome.

**Membership Dues:** Annually: \$20 for adults, \$25 per couple, and \$2 for junior members under 17 years in age.

**Field Trips:** Held on the published dates of each month. Trip maps, added activities, time changes and other pertinent information will be published in The Rock Slab News.

**Workshop:** The workshop time and dates can be found on the monthly calendar.

**Deadline for Articles:** Must be in the hands of the editor by the Friday following each regular monthly meeting to insure publication for the next month.

Mail to:

Richard Butler, 205 North Western Avenue, #118, Anaheim, CA, 92801-7005, or FAX to 714-484-1949, or submit via  
E-mail: [Slabnews@aol.com](mailto:Slabnews@aol.com)

# August 2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Betty & Wes Miller 36th Anniversary 1	John Burton Birthday 2	Workshop 6:30 to 10:00 PM 3	4	Workshop 3:30 to 7:00 PM 5
6	7	Searchers Meeting 7:00 to 9:30 PM 8	9	Workshop 6:30 to 10:00 PM 10	11	Workshop 3:30 to 7:00 PM 12
13	14	Karyn Cummings Birthday 15	Donald Eyer Birthday 16	Workshop 6:30 to 10:00 PM 17  Board meeting 7:00 to 9:00 PM	18	Workshop 3:30 to 7:00 PM 19  Lee Gomez Birthday
20	21	22	23	Workshop 6:30 to 10:00 PM 24	25	Workshop 3:30 to 7:00 PM 26  Connie Van Kampen Birthday
27	28	29	Bob Burson Birthday 30	Workshop 6:30 to 10:00 PM 31		

**Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.**  
**Minutes of the General Meeting July 11, 2000**

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The meeting was opened by Betty Nelson with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and Milt Green gave an invocation before we all participated in a wonderful potluck dinner and deserts.

After dinner Audrey Nichols announced that that she had five trophies to present for consecutive years for entering a club case in our shows. Anna Gabourel had five years, Allen Silverstone and Walter Mroch had ten years, Jim Williamson had fifteen years and Wes Miller had thirty years. The only one to receive his large trophy for thirty years was Wes Miller, the other awards will be be given out at another meeting when the other participants are present.

Betty announced that she had entered our club case display at the Orange County Fair and appreciated all who helped her with the moving of the big case and getting it set up. She requested that all who had signed up to do demonstrations on July 22 to come up after the meeting and get their gate passes and parking tickets.

Larry announced that the National Vets Contest first place winner was metal weaving and that John Velasquez a had won third place with a metal sculpture.

Betty requested that all who participated in the Youth Heritage Day in June needed to log their hours of participation on our donation log for the club at the end of the meeting.

Betty requested that the members at the meeting, show by a hand count if their was still an interest in having a club picnic. The majority was in favor of a picnic. Future date may be at the end of August.

The June meeting minutes were read.

The meeting concluded with the donation drawing tickets posted for winners and Grace McGee won a stone inlaid box which was the member door prize. Donation drawing took in \$47.00.

Meeting closed at 8:30 PM with everyone helping to clean up the potluck tables that were used.

Submitted by *Nancy Norlund* Secretary  
Nancy Norlund

"The Dinosaurs of Jurassic Park: The Lost World" will be on display thro- ugh Sept. 10. Admission is \$7 for adults; \$6 for seniors, military and college students; and \$5 for children 3 to 17 years old. The San Diego Natural History Museum is in Balboa Park at the east end of the park, just off Park Boulevard. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily through Labor Day.

Thank you  
Jerry Norlund

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

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Harry and I want to express our deepest appreciation to the many Searchers who have sent cards, called and visited Harry during his current illness. The removal of his kidney and the attached lymphoma has been successful. Further treatments are anticipated.

This has been a really bad month for Searchers. Margaret Neely is still recovering from injuries caused by having her car broad sided by a driver running a red light. Dave Gough had to have part of a lung removed, Trudy Reed is still on chemo and radiation therapy, and Dick Reed has a broken ankle from jogging which doesn't want to mend. We wish a fast recovery for all of you.

Another thanks you to everyone who brought Beth and me items to put in the Searchers Fair Case. It looks really elegant. Thanks to Herb Beckman for getting the case out of storage and to my house for set up. Also thanks to the Reed s. Although Dick's leg was still in a brace, he whole family helped us get our case down to the Fair.

Once more I am looking for volunteers. Richard Butler had to withdraw from Show chairman for this year, so we will need to have someone replace him. Please let me know if you are interested. The five-year evaluation that Walt Mroch and Jim Williamson are doing should make the job a lot easier.

We also need 3 Searcher members to serve as a nominating committee for next year's officers. It hardly seems possible that it is that time again, but election it is just a couple of months away. . It is a short time assignment, but an important one for the club. Please let me know if you can help.

See you at the August meeting.

*Betty Nelson*

Betty Nelson,  
Searchers President.

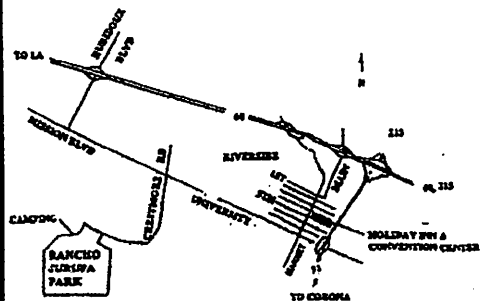
PS.

**NEWSFLASH! THE SEARCHES CASE WON THE TROPHY IN THEIR DIVISION AT THE FAIR FOR THE FORTH TIME IN A ROW**

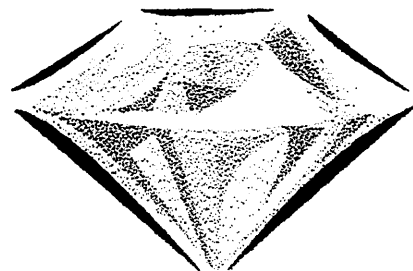
Dealers \* Exhibits \* Jewelry  
Lectures \* Prizes  
Gold Panning  
Metal Detecting  
Demonstrations  
Faceting Symposium

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
61st Annual Show & Convention  
**GOLD & GEM SHOW**  
Riverside, CA Convention Center

Chairman: Dural LaRue  
P. O. Box 1657  
Rialto, CA 92377  
Admission  
\$5.00 Adults  
\$4.00 Students, Seniors  
Under 12 free with adult



**AUGUST 4 - 6, 2000**  
Fri & Sat 10 to 6 Sun 10 to 5  
Hosted by: Valley Prospectors



## Membership Report From: Milly Arvanites

We would like to welcome the new members who joined at our July 11, 2000 meeting.

Steven Cramer  
1527 Dogwood Ave.  
Anaheim, CA 92801  
714-535-7156

Dale Carney Nichols  
1309 Mahogany  
Corona, CA 92882-3988  
909-372-0902

Florian Ioja  
19352 Baywater  
Huntington Beach, CA 92646  
714-963-4649

This brings our membership count up to **202**

Please make the following change to your roster  
Ana M. Gabourel **change to** Ana M. Lorenzo

### New Address:

Sharon Holly  
705 Vista Way  
Prescott, AZ 86303

Sarah Fuerstenau  
1812 E. 1st street  
Long Beach, CA 90802

## Old members come home

I have received word that past club members Alfred C. (Alfy) and Priscilla L. (Queenie) Osborne will be moving back to Orange County. They will be living with their Son Alf and Daughter-in-law Kathy Osborne at the address:

Alf & Queenie Osborne  
C/O Alf & Kathy Osborn  
10837 El Paso Ave.  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

They moved from Santa Ana to Corona several years back into a large Mobilehome. Both have been in ill health for some years now and they feel they can no longer stay alone and care for themselves. They have their mobilehome up for sale and are moving in with their Son at the above address. I am sure they would love to have any of us come visit them. I did not get a phone number.

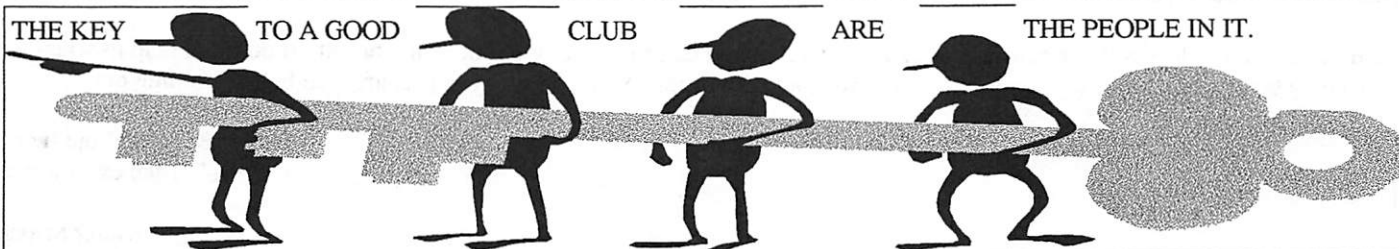
Milly

## Remembering

Dan and Ruth Scheibel of Brea, were members from May 1979 through 1993. They too were active with the club, came to all the meeting and also came out on all field trips. Each year they would appear in a new 5th-wheel and truck. I have just received word that Dan Scheibel has passed away.

Milly

THE KEY TO A GOOD CLUB ARE THE PEOPLE IN IT.



## APOLOGY

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I would like to apologize to Larry Richey for itemizing his sensational ring in the Searcher's (First Prize) Orange County Fair case as a "Black Opal with faceted CZ in 14K gold." I really blew it, Larry, calling the sensational faceted Diamond in your planetary ring a CZ. I should have been more careful with my label. Please accept my most sincere apology.

Beth Pelfrey

## A Paradox

This is as insightful, as it is scary.  
A Columbine student wrote it:

"The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less.

We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgment; more experts, but more problems; more medicine, but less wellness.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values.

We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.

We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years.

We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor.

We've conquered outer space, but not inner space; we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul; we've split the atom, but not our prejudice.

We have higher incomes, but lower morals; we've become long on quantity, but short on quality.

These are the times of tall men, and short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships.

These are the times of world peace, but domestic warfare; more leisure, but less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition.

These are days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses, but broken homes.

It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stockroom;

a time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to make a difference or just hit delete."

Patrick  
Pwsmail@earthlink.net

## Rockhound Dies in the Desert

A Nevada rockhound was found dead in the desert near Blythe, CA yesterday. He apparently died of dehydration and exposure after his Subaru became stuck while rockhounding at an opal site. He tried to walk out, but only got about 3 miles from his car. Temperatures were about 108 degrees for the two days before he was found. The rockhound apparently was not carrying any extra water with him.

### Editorial:

This guy broke about all the rules of desert survival and paid the price for it. If you must go out in the desert during the summer, (which I consider daft in the first place) take 4x the water you think you will need. At least a gallon per person per day. Try to convoy with another vehicle to guard against breakdowns. Always tell someone where you are going and when you expect to be back. Make sure you and your gear are in top shape. Take extra water.

This kind of thing leaves the impression with the general public that rockhounds are none too bright. It does not help us when we are going before that public to keep access to our rockhounding areas. So make sure you prepare well before heading out.

Be careful out there.  
Take extra water.

Walter Mroch



EXTENDED FIELD TRIP REPORT  
May 28 - June 7, 2000

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Prior to the start of the trip a number of Searchers gathered at Taboose Creek campground south of Bishop. We did sightseeing and went to the Mule Days Parade May 27 from 10 a.m. to noon. We never knew there were so many different colors and sizes of mules, which made the parade very interesting.

On the 28th we gathered at the dry camp 34 miles west of Tonopah, Nevada. The weather was hot and windy. There were 21 who stopped or stayed at the campground. Others had wanted to come but for various reasons couldn't make it.

The first field trip on Monday was for a blue, green, or red Wonderstone and banded rhyolite. It was about 8 miles from our camp. There was plenty of material, all in big chunks. With a sledge and crowbars the chunks were broken up into manageable pieces. By the time we got back to camp about 4 p.m. the wind was really blowing. No campfire that night.

On Tuesday Walter Mroch took us to his claims, a few miles from camp. There we found minerals, agate and some wood. At 2 p.m. we had planned for Ken and Mary Nelson's rocktail party to celebrate their new motorhome and tow vehicle. The 2 p.m. had been set to avoid the late afternoon wind but that didn't work. Ken had just finished pouring when the wind increased to a point where we had to give up on the party. Again, no campfire. Late in the afternoon we went to some nearby ash hills for petrified wood. It was badly weathered so all of it was small.

On Wednesday, back to another area of the ash hills where jasper and some agate was located. Beth and the Lees found some large chunks and went back that afternoon for more. By popular opinion we decided to leave the area of heat and wind and head for Fallon. There we went into a private campground with hookups.

Wonderstone Mountain near Fallon was still available for collecting so we went there Thursday, June 1. The Wonderstone was yellow and red with bands and was good quality, but it took work to get it out of the seams in solid rock matrix. Again, sledges and crowbars were used by some and others went through tailings. It was a productive day. That evening we had a campfire on a grassy area near our rigs. It was very pleasant to sit out in the evening although it didn't get dark until about 9 p.m.

On Friday we tried another area called Green Mountain. Not too much there, so we went back to Wonderstone Mountain and drove to the top. The day before we were on its side. There was weathered Wonderstone there but with good patterns. John Wease found one that turned out to be a boulder. With the help of Mike Lee's jeep it was pulled out of the ground. It took 4 people to load it. The estimated weight was 300-350 pounds, so John got the prize for the biggest rock on the trip. It did have excellent patterns and was worth the effort.

That afternoon at 5 p.m. we planned a potluck and another try at the Nelsons' rocktail party. This time it was warm but we had trees and motorhomes to shade us. The food was outstanding and Ken's and Mary's champagne fit right in. We had another campfire that evening.

Saturday, June 3, was a free day. June 4 was for sightseeing. There was a wildlife preserve, a good museum, plenty of shopping and a few went to the casinos under the pretext of watching a Lakers' game. Again, we had a campfire.

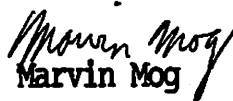
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Monday, June 5, we contacted the owner of a nearby rock shop. He drew us maps of how to find more material locally. So we went to nearby Lake Lahontan and hunted on the hills north of the lake. There were lots of agate and jasper and some was colorful. Everyone got plenty of material if they wanted it.

Tuesday, June 6, we went to Fernley and found moss agate on a high peak. Then on to the Lake area again for sky blue agate. Again, large pieces were found. That evening we had a group dinner at one of the casinos, as it was our last night together since the next day everyone went on their way.

I'm not sure who collected the most material. It was between Beth Pelfrey, Herb Beckman, Mike and Michele Lee, and John Wease. I do know that Beth had to leave a large quantity behind since she couldn't fit it all in her motorhome and car.

There were some goals for having a successful extended trip. One was to go to areas that had quality material and that was plentiful even if we had to work for it. Next, everyone who wanted to collect should get to go and be able to drive or share a ride with someone. Last, to make the trip as pleasant as possible for campgrounds, campfires and supplies, knowing that one can't always predict what the weather will be like. I tried to make all the goals possible and felt the trip went well due to the cooperation of all who attended.

  
Marvin Mog

## CFMS Show Dates

### August 4-6 Riverside, CA

Valley Prospectors  
Riverside Convention Center  
Bural LaRue  
P.O. Box 1657  
Rialto, CA 92377

### August 5-6 San Francisco, CA

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society  
Golden Gate Park  
9th Ave. and Lincoln Way  
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5  
Ellen Nott (415) 564-4230

## **WORKSHOP REPORT**

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*From: Herb Beckman*

The Searchers lapidary workshop meets every Thursday from 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM in the "visual Arts" room in the Downtown Community Center at 250 East Center Street, Anaheim, Ca. Any schedule exceptions are posted in the Rock Slab News monthly calendar.

Use of the Searchers workshop is limited to Searchers members only.

Workshop fees are \$3.00 per session (\$1.00 per hour with a \$3.00 minimum), and are used to defer equipment costs. Fees (if any) for other workshop activities, such as classes in wire wrap, casting, jewelry fabrication, etc. will be established separately.

Visitors are always welcome. There is no charge for visitors, however they are required to comply with workshop rules for safety's sake.

For those new to lapidary activities, we offer instruction in making cabochons in standard / calibrated millimeter sizes because settings for these stones are readily available. To get started, all you need to do is show up at the workshop. The workshop has available, considerable gem cutting material (some from the latest extended Searchers field trip) at no charge, for workshop attendees to use. We also have all the equipment and supplies you will need, except settings, to make nice jewelry. I encourage you to attend. We always have a good time while making beautiful gemstones and jewelry.

As announced at club meetings, we have expert wire wrap jewelry instruction in the workshop on Thursdays, and some Saturdays, to help you learn to make wire wrapped settings for your gemstones. There is currently no shop charge for this activity. Of course, you will need to get your own set of wire wrapping tools for this activity. Most of these tools are available at very reasonable cost these days, and you probably already have some, if not most of them on hand. Lists of these wire wrap tools are available at the workshop.

Come on out to the Searchers workshop and learn to craft fine jewelry using gemstone materials you have collected on Searchers field trips, at gem shows, or at Searchers meetings.. It's easy, and you will learn a lot, and have a good time in the process.

## **"WANTED"**

**Approx. 4 pound size tumbler can be new or used call after August 1st .**

**Lynn Selden (714) 826-4291**



**CFMS President**  
**By Pat LaRue**

Are you ready for big show? The organizing committee is putting the finishing touches on what promises to be a really great event. You should be busy making that last minute pitch to your club members to spend at least one day at the show savoring the sights and sounds. Even if you've barely mentioned it until now, it's never too late!

This was a quiet month. No one sent any e-mail or hand written notes addressing a concern which could serve as an inspiration for this column. Clubs are now in their summer season. Some continue meetings as usual; others have informal gatherings or do nothing at all. It's vacation time ...time to recharge ...time to reflect. The first year of the new millennium is at the half-way point. What have we accomplished as a Federation? Let's think about that one.

We are managing to adjust to the new procedures required for obtaining our club insurance paperwork needs. The paperwork required by the host club for the upcoming CFMS show was handled quickly and efficiently by our new insurance chair. Thanks Fred!! Please remember that even though our current chair is an insurance professional, he is still a volunteer for purposes of your club's insurance needs. The more accurately you fill out your needs on the paperwork, the faster he can serve you. Not waiting until the last minute helps too.

After a weather cancellation last year, the long anticipated field trip to Stone Canyon became a reality. Thanks to the cooperation of the participants, there is the real possibility that we will be invited back in the future. Please respect the fact that this is private property and let's hope an outsider doesn't ruin it for everyone else by trespassing. (We know someone from a CFMS club wouldn't dream of doing that.) Last year's Field Trip South chair did the legwork for this opportunity and continued to work with this year's Field Trip South chair to see that the trip was successful. Thanks guys!!

One Earth Science Studies week is in the history books and the next one is waiting in the wings. The Burns retired as longtime co-chairs of this program but will continue to serve on the committee. The popularity of the two programs continues to be high and the new chair will continue in the tradition started many years ago by Bill and Izzie. (Actually the committee members just moved the hats around.)

Our Program Chair has followed in the tradition of her predecessor (actually mentor). Her monthly articles provide ideas for clubs which wish to use them. Thanks Anne!

The seeds for a Safety Manual have been sown by Chuck McKie. Your input will make it a reality. Most manuals take several years to put together but Chuck does not want to wait that long. If you have a safety related item to contribute to the cause, particularly as it relates to our activities, forward it to him for consideration. He cannot be expected to write the whole thing by himself.

What can we accomplish in the second half of the year? We'll just have to wait and see. Just remember that all the Officers and committee personnel are volunteers. We choose to serve because we want to. In the mean time, enjoy your summer. See you at the show in August!!!,

**From your Editor**  
**PLEASE, HELP TO BRING ME UP TO DATE**

For sometime now I have been trying to up date my mailing list for the Rock Slab News, but now I need your **HELP** even if you think I have all of this please send any way.

- 1) If you have a new address I need it.
- 2) I need all the phone numbers that you think may be needed.
- 3) Birthdays and Anniversary. Just day and month.
- 4) E-mail address if you have one.

If you have E-mail please send them to me at [salbnews@aol.com](mailto:salbnews@aol.com) or just send them to me at 205 N. Western Ave. # 118 Anaheim, CA 92801-7005. If you have any question please give me a call at (714) 484-1947

**Thank you**  
**Your Editor**  
**Richard Butler**

By Ray Meisenheimer

The week-long learning opportunity at Camp Paradise will be held September 10 to 17, 2000. Camp Paradise is located about 42 miles north east of Marysville, (not Paradise City) on state highway E21. It is among stately pines at about 3500 feet elevation. It is well marked about one mile beyond Clipper Mills.

Workshops include wire wrap faceting, casting, stone carving, cabinet bead stringing and perhaps others. Unfortunately the petrified wood identification class had to be cancelled.

Rooms have double beds and/or cots with bathrooms and showers inside the building. Dorm rooms are small rooms for two persons. There is ample room for RVs and vans with bathroom facilities nearby.

Three home cooked meals are provided and food and beverage is sent out on field trips. You may bring snacks and soda if you wish. Field trips are almost daily, for collecting, visiting interesting historical sights and or gold panning. Programs fill each evening.

The fee for this weeklong learning experience is only \$200.00 per person. A small charge may be required for using material in the workshops.

Anyone wishing to arrive in camp a day or two early will be responsible for their own lodging fee for those days.

This is a church owned camp. For health reasons you must provide a sheet or cover to place between the mattress and your bedding. There is to be no alcohol at any time and pets must have prior permission by the camp manager.

There is an enrollment form in this newsletter.

If you want added information; please call

Cal Cason at (661) 589-4169 or  
Ray Meisenheimer (805) 642-3155.



**Jade Cove Field Trip  
September 15 - 17, 2000**

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Wagons ho Searchers—we're off to the beautiful central coast. Tenters, RVers and car campers will enjoy staying at San Simeon State Park, in the San Simeon Creek Loop. The campground is located 3 miles North of Cambria on SR1 at a whopping 10 foot elevation. After an exhaustive search this seemed like an excellent spot as we have all the civilized comforts: water, showers, campfire rings, tables, flush toilets, 40 ft. RV sites and tent sites, a dump station and nearby fishing, swimming, shopping, dining and propane—but no hookups. Each camper should make their own reservations by calling Reserve America at 800/444-7275 or you can reserve online at [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com). Then call the campground to reserve your actual site at 805/927-2035. Tell them you are with the Searchers staying in the San Simeon Creek Loop, sites #88 to #115. Our 35 foot site is \$14.00 per night. You are allowed 8 people and 2 vehicles per site so you can share with a fellow Searcher at half the cost! Bring a friend and introduce them to rock-hounding and the cool central coast. Dogs cost a big buck per night. There are many hotels in the San Simeon/Cambria area, and South towards Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo. Many are pricey, but lower cost rooms can be reserved at:

Motel 6	\$52 to \$72 per night for 2 persons	805/927-8691
California Seacoast Lodge	\$65 to \$125 per night for 2 persons	805/927-3878
El Rey Garden Inn	\$79 to \$99 per night for 2 persons	805/927-3998
Inns of California	\$60 to \$85 per night for 2 persons	805/927-8659
Sands by the Sea	\$50 to \$100 per night for 2 persons	805/927-3243
San Simeon Lodge	\$69 to \$129 per night for 2 persons	805/927-4601
Silver Surf Motel	\$60 to \$119 per night for 2 persons	805/927-4661

I'll be pulling in late Friday. There is a low tide Friday evening at 5:55 PM at 1.1 foot, sunset is at 7:11 PM and the moon will rise at 8:40 PM at a howling 98% full—ought to be beautiful.

Saturday morning we'll drop by easily accessible Moonstone Beach in Cambria to collect off the beach what else—moonstones. Moonstones were believed to protect the wearer against witchcraft and enhance prophetic dreaming and psychic awareness. Moonstone is a type of opalescent feldspar. Your collecting bag and a short walk are all that is needed. A low tide of 0.9 feet is at an early 6:05 AM. Sunrise is at 6:49 AM. If any of you early birds can't sleep—we'll meet you at the beach after the sun is up!

We'll then travel North and depending on the time stop for lunch across the street from Hearst castle. High tide is at 12:18 PM at 5.1 feet, so it will be a good time to stop ocean collecting wise. A few more miles North along scenic Coast Highway One (7.7 miles North of San Simeon, and 6 miles North of the campground, immediately after the sand dunes, and just before the light house), brings us to the Piedras Blancas elephant seal rookery. The vista point has a number of excellent educational and interpretive signs—and good parking. If the young juveniles and subadults too young to take part in the breeding season have begun their fall haul-out to rest after 5-months at sea and are on the shore, I've scheduled a Friends of the Elephant Seal docent to provide a short tour and lecture. We should also be able to observe sea otters as their preserve is along the coastline.

When did the elephant seals come this far South? In November 25, 1990 less than two dozen elephant seals were counted in the small cove just south of the Piedras Blancas lighthouse. Spring of 1991 brought almost 400 seals to molt. In January of 1992 the first birth occurred. The colony grew at a phenomenal rate. In 1993, about 50 pups were born. In 1995, 600 pups were born—the population explosion was underway. By 1996 the number of pups born soared to almost 1,000 and the colony stretched all the way to the beaches that run along the Coast Highway! The number of elephant seal pups born at Piedras Blancas in 1999 was about 1,900. The total population of a rookery is difficult to estimate because all members are never present at the same time. Researchers multiply the number of pups born times 3.5-4.5 to get an approximation. The total population for Piedras Blancas in 1999 was estimated to be around 7,500. It is speculated that elephant seals return to mate on the same beaches where they were born, the colony will likely continue to grow.

The tagged elephant seals that began populating the Piedras Blancas beaches indicate that most were from San Miguel Island, San Nicolas Island, and Ano Nuevo. However, all the major rookeries were represented. Overcrowding



or failure to successfully wean pups may have prompted them to move and El Ninos disperses their relocating. 14

In the 1880s northern elephant seals were thought to be extinct, harvested by shore whalers and sealers for their blubber. The oil obtained from elephant seals is second in quality only to the sperm whale. A small group of between 20 to 100 elephant seals that bred on Guadalupe Island, off Baja California, survived the ravages of the seal hunts. Protected first by Mexico and later by the United States, they have steadily expanded their range. Today they are protected from hunting and harassment by the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972. The total population estimate for northern elephant seals in 1999 is around 150,000.

But we were talking about collecting rocks! So, on to jade country with various jade types! A little further North we will come upon Willow Creek. This is an easily accessible site with--lots of jade and actinolite. Both are thought to bring prosperity, luck and wisdom to its wearer. Actinolite is believed to rid oneself of unwanted conditions (poverty, bad luck and stupidity perhaps)? Jade is the common name for either of two minerals, both white to green in color. Jadeite  $\text{NaAl}(\text{SiO}_3)_2$ , rarer and costlier, is found in Myanmar, China, Japan, and Guatemala. Nephrite  $\text{Ca}_2(\text{Mg,Fe})_5\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH,F})_2$  occurs in New Zealand, Central Asia, Siberia, and parts of North America. Valuable vulcan jade is found only along our coastline. Jade was used by primitive peoples to make implements and has been prized by the Chinese and Japanese as the most precious of gems. The Jade Beach collecting area is considered any beach area for several miles North of Gorda and South of Plaskett Creek. Bring collecting tools if you'd like, or just stroll along the beach and see what you pickup. Low tide is 1.0 foot at 6:38 PM. Sunset is at 7:10 PM and we'll pry ourselves out of the water and back to the campground for a late potluck dinner. Bring your chair to sit around the campfire and we'll discuss Sunday's schedule. And bring a little wood so we can have a campfire! Moonrise is at 9:13 PM at 94% ah-h-h-h-hwho-o-o-o-o-o!

Sunday morning brings the earlybirds a low tide of 1.4 foot at 6:34 AM. We may lose part of the group to Hearst Castle tours, hikers to Montana de Oro or Morro Bay, or shop stops at San Luis Obispo, Cambria, Pismo Beach, Santa Barbara, Solvang or Carpinteria. Driving South along the beau-ti-ful coast are possible collecting sites at Jalama Beach for agate (especially brown with white veining), fossils, marasite, and petrified whale bone. Whale bone is more plentiful after an approximate 3-mile hike South down the beach. Gaviota Beach also yields petrified whale bone and fossils.

Every site has easy access and conventional vehicles are all that are needed. The one-way is approximately 300 miles, and 5 to 7 hours depending on how you drive and if you're towing. You might want to bring a hiking stick in case you decide to stop at actual Jade Cove or one of the other sites that require a steeper trail down the bluffs to the ocean. Please feel free to contact me via phone at 714/821-0129, or e-mail at joanmacom@aol.com if you have any questions or suggestions. Feel free to come earlier and stay later. Hope to see you at the beach! Rock On!

Special "Thanks" to those of you that provided information for this trip: George L., Herb (the one and only), Lynn S., Mike C., Beth P., Richard B., Ed Q., Vic C., Connie Cat--and Darren, the husband unit, who patiently waited for this to be arranged and can't wait to load up the trailer and go!



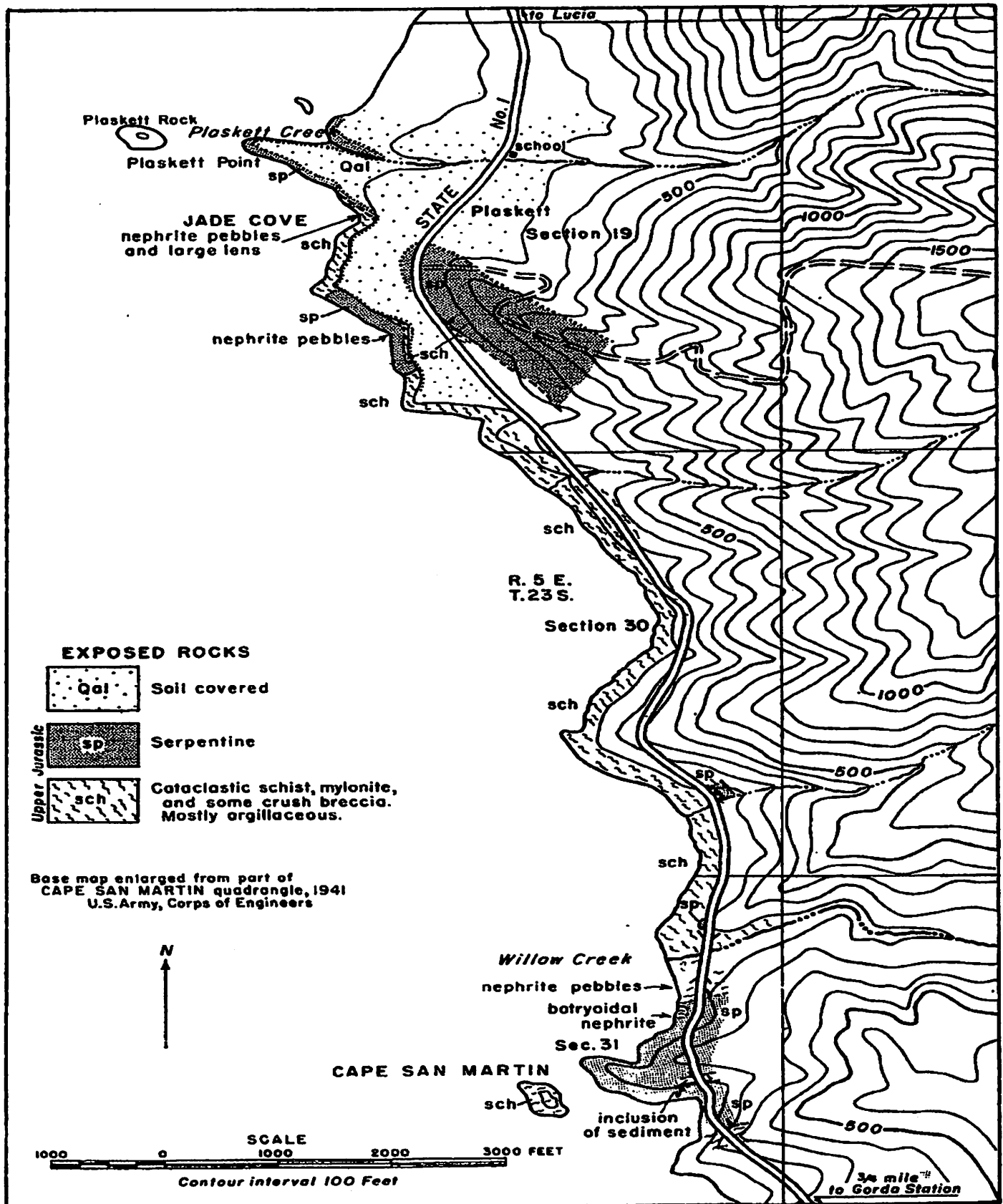


FIGURE 2. Topographic and geologic sketch map of the Plaskett-Cape San Martin region, Monterey County, California, showing nephrite localities.



## Rock'n'Trips Y2K

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### August

- 4-6 CFMS Show, Riverside CFMS  
7-13 Midwest Federation Field Trip Convention CFMS Keweenaw Week 2000, Lake Superior Copper District  
(Copper, Silver, Datolite, & associated minerals) Steve Whelan, 906/337-2599 or [swhelan@portup.com](mailto:swhelan@portup.com)  
12 Himalaya Mine, Mesa Grande, CA (Tourmaline) San Diego County Gem & Mineral, Simon King  
619/444-3731 or [simonking1@msn.com](mailto:simonking1@msn.com)  
19-20 Green Horn Mountains (170 miles) DelAirocks@aol.com  
31-04 South Western Utah (400 miles) DelAirocks@aol.com  
TBA Hill of Quartz San Diego County Gem & Mineral, Simon King  
619/444-3731 or [simonking1@msn.com](mailto:simonking1@msn.com)

### September

- 2-4 Cedarville (Labor Day) COOP/CFMS, Debbie Bunn  
(Petrified wood, etc.) 916/929-6665 or [fossilsff@aol.com](mailto:fossilsff@aol.com)  
4-6 Kokoweef Cavern Culver City, [brad@bigdiff.com](mailto:brad@bigdiff.com)  
10-16 Camp Paradise, Marysville, CA (450 miles) CFMS, Ray Meisenheimer 805/642-3155  
15-17 Jade Cove, CA Searchers/Joan Macomber

### October

- 9-10 Searies Lake, Trona Culver City, [brad@bigdiff.com](mailto:brad@bigdiff.com)  
9-16 AFMS Show Moab Field Trips (720 miles) COOP/CFMS, Debbie Bunn  
(Gastroliths, coprolite, agates, etc.) 916/929-6665 or [fossilsff@aol.com](mailto:fossilsff@aol.com) or  
Keith Lindholm and Carole Lockhart 916/638-2314  
14-15 Trona Trona Club/Jon Gladwell at [myrddin@imagina.com](mailto:myrddin@imagina.com)  
21-22 Whillier Claim (140 miles) DelAirocks@aol.com

### November

- 23-26 Calico Thanksgiving Searchers/George Lux  
23-26 Burro Creek, AZ (400 miles) DelAirocks@aol.com  
25-28 Wiley Well Culver City, [brad@bigdiff.com](mailto:brad@bigdiff.com)

### December

- 12/2/2000 Holiday Party Searchers

### The show of show

August 8th 2000

By: James Perlowin 1st Vice President

Werner & I became club members of the So. Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society in Torrence in the summer of 89'. Up until then, all we knew of petrified wood was that there was a petrified forest National Park in Arizona, where you were not allowed to pick up anything. We had visited there several years before.

Approximately a year after we joined the club, Walton Wright, the well known paleontologist gave a talk on that subject. I have been hooked on petrified wood ever since.

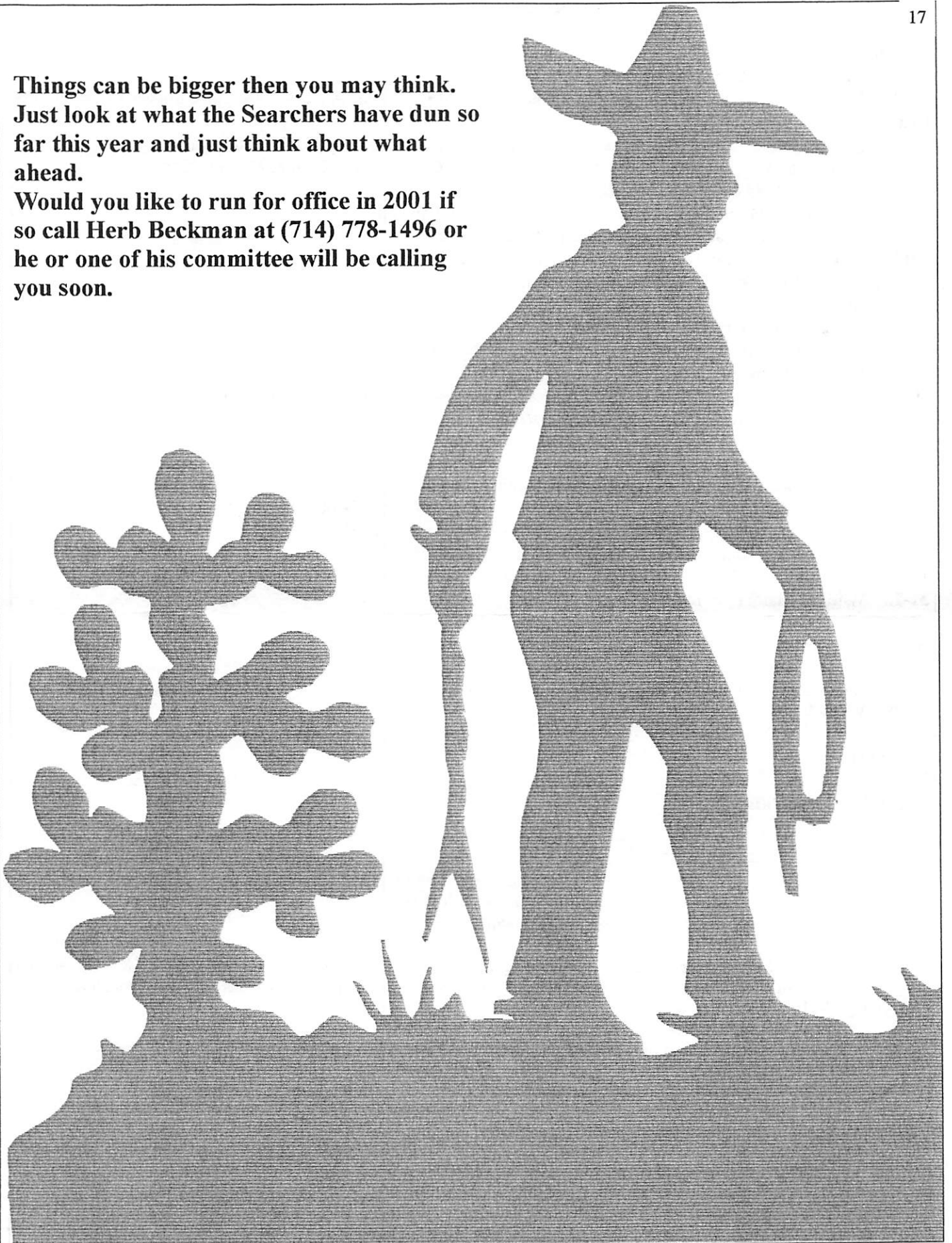
Werner does the cutting and polishing and some jewelry, while I'm interested in the scientific aspects of identifying what type (species) of tree it was basically, what grew where and when.

We simply enjoy sharing our new found knowledge and love for petrified wood.

Helga Wagoner

**Things can be bigger then you may think.  
Just look at what the Searchers have dun so  
far this year and just think about what  
ahead.**

**Would you like to run for office in 2001 if  
so call Herb Beckman at (714) 778-1496 or  
he or one of his committee will be calling  
you soon.**



My son came home from school one day with a silly grin on his face, He thought he was smarter than me, his Mom, and could put me in my place.

**HE SAID:**

Guess what I learned in Civics Two, that's taught by Mr. Wright, It's about the laws of the land today, its called THE CHILDREN'S BILL OF RIGHTS.

**IT SAID:**

I don't have to clean my room; I don't have to cut my hair. Nobody can tell me what to eat, my freedom of speech is guaranteed. It's my choice of what I read, or watch on TV.

I have freedom of religion, and regardless of what you say, I don't have to ask your God for help I DON'T HAVE TO PRAY.

I can wear an earring in my ear, and, if I want, can pierce my nose. It's my choice if I so desire, to tattoo Satan's numbers across my toes.

AND if you try to spank me, I will charge you with the crime, and I can back up all my charges, with the marks on my behind.

**HE SAID:**

Don't ever touch me, this body is only for my use, not for your hugs and kisses and stuff, that's just another form of! Child abuse.

**HE CONTINUED WITH:**

Don't fill my head with morals, like your mama did to you, that's what's called mind control, and it's illegal too!

Mom, I have these children's rights, you can't do a thing to me, and I can call Children's Services, better known as C. S. D.

**MY TURN!!!!**

My very first impression was, to toss this boy out the door, but here was a chance to teach him a lesson, for once and ever more.

I took my time and mulled it over, I couldn't let this go. This kid of mine didn't realize, that he was messing with a pro!

**AND AWAY WE GO.....**

The next day we went shopping, and in spite of every plea, I didn't buy him 501s or shirts designed by Nike.

I had called and talked to C. S. D.; they said they didn't care, if I bought him K-Mart shoes, or a pair of Nike Airs.

**AND THEN:**

I canceled his appointment to his driving school; I'd probably be dead by now, if only looks could kill!

**I SAID:**

There's no time to stop and eat, or pick up stuff to munch, I think you should follow C.S.D.'s advice, and make yourself a sack lunch. So, what if you are too hungry, to wait 'til dinnertime? Well, we're having liver and onions, Cause it's a favorite dish of mine.

**He ASKED:**

Can we stop to get a movie, so I can watch it on the VCR? Absolutely not! I sold the TV in your room and bought new tires for my car.

I also rented out your room; you really don't need a bed. C.S.D. says all that's required of me is to put a roof over your head.

I only have to buy your clothes, and the food that you must eat, the money you used to get for an allowance, will buy me something neat.

No more eating after we shop, no more joking along the way, I too have a BILL OF RIGHTS that goes into effect today!

What's the matter, are you crying? Are you down on your knees? Why are you asking God for help?.....

**WHY NOT CALL THE C.S.D.?**

