

The Rock Slab News

JANUARY 2007 VOLUME 42 ISSUE 1

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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

Happy New Year Searchers!

Hope you all had a nice holiday season and a safe New Year's evening. Well, ready or not the year 2007 has begun, and with it comes lots of work to be done as well as good times to be had. In case you have not yet heard, those working for you to keep the club up and running for yet another year (the Board) has been slightly altered from last year and has acquired a couple of extremely valuable additions as well. I will be staying on for another year, Virgil Talbott has decided he has been 1st V.P. long enough, but he will be Federation Delegate this year, and coming in to take his place as 1st V.P. is Walter Mroch! Steve Duncan will be staying on as 2nd V.P., and Robert Burson will be acting as Director to help out since Karen Fox has moved up to Canada. Karen is really going to be missed. She had a lot of organizing to do both as President in 2005 and as Director in 2006, and I don't think I have told her "Thank You" for making things so easy for me, so if you're reading this, Karen, I really appreciate you going over everything with me and all the hard work you put into this club. I will miss you as Director, but even more as a friend! Please keep in touch.

Lorri Renck will be staying on as Secretary. Patricia Underwood decided to step down from Treasurer, but has agreed to be Hospitality Chairman again, and in her place will be Pat Lynch as our new Treasurer.

I want to thank all of last year's Board members for all their hard work, as well as for staying on for another year, and I am delighted to welcome Walter Mroch, Robert Burson, and Pat Lynch to our team. We're very lucky to have them.

I also want to thank all those who served as Committee Chairpersons last year for their time and labor. Committee Chairpersons for the most part go somewhat unnoticed most of the time and rarely get thanked nearly enough for all they do. Take for instance, Margaret Neeley who is C.C. for the Anaheim Arts Council. Margaret has been in this position for many years now.

[Continues on the next page]

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

[Continues from 1st page]

Then there's Larry Richey who has put in countless hours as our Veteran's Coordinator, and Herb Beckman who has been in charge of the workshop now for 9 years! Beth Pelfrey has been a Committee Chairperson as Historian for many years running, another unsung hero.

Anastacio O'Campo (Manny) has been C.C. on our monthly drawings for quite a spell now, and he and his wife Nora frequently volunteer for other events such as the Anaheim Street Fair or Heritage Day. Audrey Nichols is C.C. for the phone tree, with Robert and Sharon Burson listed as 1st asst. Steve Duncan is C.C. in charge of the website, Carlene Blake is on Sunshine, and Maggie Vigil is our Librarian.

Our Show Chairman for 2007 is Betty Nelson as I'm sure you are aware of by now. This is probably the toughest C.C. we've got, and from last I heard, everything for this year's show is right on schedule. If Betty should ask you to volunteer in some area, please give her the respect she deserves and help her out. If you absolutely cannot do it, maybe you could help her just as much by finding someone who can!

Now let's take a look at our editors . . . Jenny Stavreva and Kathy Clark. There's a lot of hours put into these newsletters each month, and the two of them did a great job last year and are continuing on through 2007. Kathy Clark writes most of the articles in the newsletters (in case you haven't noticed) which takes a considerable amount of time to say the least. Kathy is also our Membership Chairman, as well as being Betty Nelson's assistant as co-chairman for the 2007 Show Committee. Somehow she manages all this in between taking care of her home and husband, music lessons, playing viola in the Leisure World Orchestra, orchestra practice on Monday nights, weekend art and jewelry courses (off & on), and taking care of her in-laws at least one day a week so I can take the day off. What's more, last year she attended all but one Board Meeting without fail even though it was not required of her, and never missed a single General Meeting. Incredible. Yea, I know this sounds either impossible or seriously exaggerated, but over the course of a year I have been in such close contact with Curt and Kathy (on a daily basis) as his parent's caregiver that I've witnessed it with my own eyes.

At the Christmas Party last month I was given a beautiful Silver Onyx Clock made by Jimmy Peterson and presented to me by Virgil Talbott for "all my hard work as President in 2006" and he said there would be an engraved plaque with my name etc. to stick on it. I had some seriously mixed feelings from that moment on because I felt so honored to be a part of something made up of so many wonderful people, yet I didn't feel as if I had earned such a trophy, and I hadn't. It was the people who I just listed in this message who earned it, and it's those same people who deserve to have their names engraved on the plaque that goes on it. Without their efforts, time and hard work, how could our club survive? It can't. The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society exists solely through the ongoing efforts of those who volunteer their time to keep this organization alive.

So now I want to thank all those who I had the privilege to work with last year, and just so you know, I consider it an honor to be allowed to work with you all again through 2007. Now to all of you who's volunteer efforts have helped to keep this club alive over the years, I want to say a special "Thank You So Very Much," and I mean that from the bottom of my heart, because I have made some great friendships through this organization, the kind of friendships that will last a lifetime, and had it not been for you all that would have never come to pass. And that, my friends, is something you cannot put a price tag on!

Happy New Year To You All,
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:** 6 PM, 4th 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)	Walter Mroch	714/826-2132
2 nd V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Director	Robert Burson	562/860-5938
Secretary	Lorri Renck	714/397-3584
Treasurer	Pat Lynch	909/393-2186
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott	714/871-7900

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	Patricia Underwood	714/293-2940
Library	Maggie Vigil	714/288-2072
Membership	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Monthly Drawing	Anastacio O'Campo	714/490-0416
Phone Tree	Audrey Nichols	714/971-6789
Phone Tree Asst. 1	Sharon & Bob Burson	562/860-5938
Phone Tree Asst. 2	Karen Martinez	562/423-2832
2007 Show	Betty Nelson	714/530-1365
Show Co-Chair	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Sunshine	Carlene Blake	714/625-8697
Veteran's Coordinator	Larry Richey	714/846-3573
Website	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Workshop	Herb Beckman	714/778-1496
Rock 'n' Kids	OPEN	

JANUARY EVENTS

9 7-9 pm General Meeting
 17 7-9 pm Show Meeting
 20 & 21 Rainbow Ridge Field Trip
 24 6-8 pm Board Meeting

For a full list of CFMS Gem Shows, go to www.cfms.org.

2007 SHOW SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

By Norbert Bernhardt

It is getting to be that time of year again!
 Show time!

We need some good materials for the Silent Auction for our 2007 Show. Suggested items for the Silent Auction are rocks, minerals, faceted stones, jewelry or lapidary tools, jewelry (not custom jewelry), slabs, lapidary related books and beads. Please identify your item as to where it comes from or what it is.

Please call me (Norbert Bernhardt 714-734-9665) ASAP so we can coordinate picking up or having you drop off any items that you would like to donate. I want to have everything labeled and ready to go by the beginning of March. I am trying to have a variety of items that appeal to men, women, kids, and dealers.

JANUARY FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Date	Location	Leader	Details	Status
Jan 20,21	Rainbow Ridge	Steve Duncan	Multi-colored jasper	Planned

JANUARY PROGRAM

By Virgil Talbott

Our January program presented by Janie Duncan, who is a third generation rockhound originally from Montana, is a one-hour educational touch and feel rock talk. Janie does this talk at schools but has done it for seniors, rock clubs, pre-schools and scout groups. She passes the rocks around and lets the kids or attendees touch them. This talk is a basic informational talk that goes into the three types of rocks, local resources, crystals and more with a section on dinosaurs. She will be bringing her dinosaur egg from China.

This sounds like just the ticket to get us all back on the rockhounding track after such a long holiday. Please come and enjoy the meeting.

JANUARY FIELD TRIP

RAINBOW RIDGE

January 20 & 21, 2007

By Steve Duncan

Happy New Year everyone, and I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday. We have started to put together the field trips for 2007, and it looks like a good year. In January I will lead a trip to Rainbow Ridge. Rainbow Ridge is a famous location for multi-colored jasper. This trip is planned for the 20th and 21st of January. This location is a private claim held by the Indian Wells Gem and Mineral Society, but we have their permission to collect at their claim; there is a \$5 per person fee. The last trip there a couple of years ago yielded what for me were some of the prettiest cabs I have ever made with material I collected.

We will be camping near a site called the quarry. To get to the campsite, take 395 north towards Inyokern. Approximately 16 miles past Red Mountain you will come to a junction with South China Lake Blvd. going east and the Randsburg Inyokern road going west. Take the Randsburg Inyokern road west for about 4 miles and then turn left onto a dirt road. There is a shooting range on the right side of the road at the turn off. We will also try to have Searchers signs there. Go about 2 miles, go past the quarry on the left, which is chained off, and slightly further up the road you will find a flat area with an old foundation on it. This is the campsite. We will leave at **0830** both days for collecting. The collecting location Sunday is still TBD.

This is a typical desert camp with no facilities, so bring what you need, including lots of water. It can be warm in the daytime and cold at night. The camping location should be accessible for RVs. The collecting areas will probably be best accessed by truck, but 4-wheel drive should not be a necessity (at least that's what we understand today). If we learn differently, we can always carpool (truck pool?). We will have our traditional potluck and campfire on Saturday night. Non-campers will find motels in Ridgecrest, about 10 miles away. I hope to see a lot of you join us to usher in the new year of field trips.

Future trips: Beth Pelfrey has graciously agreed to lead a February field trip, location TBD. And Jimmy Peterson has agreed to do March, and he did have a location in mind, which I promptly forgot. Robert Burson is planning to do the April field trip, probably to the Wiley Wells area. For those of you who may not know this is a famous geode location, and I understand that Robert has some very interesting places to lead us to. This trip may well turn into a 3-day trip for those that are interested, due to the distance to the location, as well as the many collecting sites to explore. And Virgil Talbott has agreed to repeat the gold panning trip in the summer when it is too hot for the desert.

So it looks like we are off to a good start this year as far as field trips go. Now we only need one more thing, and that is for you to participate. We have a lot of fun on the field trips, and if you haven't tried one of them you don't know what you are missing. We go to some very picturesque locations, we sometimes have some adventurous drives to get there, and we often find some remarkably nice material. And our potlucks and campfires are legendary. So please think about joining us. You don't need much, I will be glad to advise people about the minimal equipment necessary. (Call me at (714) 724-7102 or email me at wsd@iteris.com). And as we stated above, if it turns out that 4-wheel drive is necessary we will carpool, so you don't need to have your own 4x4. Some people camp, some people RV it, and some stay in nearby motels, meaning the degree of roughing it is up to you. So come on out, you are a rockhound after all.

SEARCHERS 48TH ANNUAL GEM ROUNDUP

CHAIRMEN

1. Show Chairman: Betty Nelson 714-530-1365 betty@azteche.com
2. Co-Chairman: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 hankylpanky3@yahoo.com
3. Publicity: Virgil Talbott 714-871-7900
virgil_talbott@adelphia.net
4. Security: Larry Richey 714-846-3573 sandbandit1@verizon.net
5. Friday Night Dinner: Patricia Underwood 714-293-2940
springmoon58@yahoo.com
6. Demonstrations: Bob Gilland 714-776-4958
7. Kitchen: Beth Pelfrey 714-774-2754 beth714sc-rocks@yahoo.com
8. Dealers: Walter Mroch 714-826-2132 hwmroch@comcast.net
9. Grab Bags: Chris Edmonds 714-758-7065 cdedmonds1@att.net
10. Hospitality: Steve Duncan 714-724-7102 wsd@iteris.com
11. Membership: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 hankylpanky3@yahoo.com
12. Decoration (western): Betty Nelson 714-530-1365
betty@azteche.com
13. Layout and electrical: Herb Beckman 714-778-1496
hbeckman@earthlink.net
14. Setup and Tear Down: Virgil Talbott 714-871-7900
virgil_talbott@adelphia.net
15. Hourly Door Prizes: Anastacio O'Campo 714-490-0416
16. Donation Awards
17. Clown: Burt Fortin 714-890-8083
18. Cases and Trophies: Cathy O'Campo 714-490-0416
way2mystique@sbcglobal.net
19. Silent Auction: Norbert and Ana Bernhardt 714-734-9665
nbern@cox.net
20. Show Secretary: Patricia Underwood 714-293-2940
21. Show Treasurer:
22. Wheel of Fortune: Jim Peterson and Ester Reynolds 714-633-7573
jimmypeterson@msn.com
23. Signs: Beth Pelfrey 714-774-2754 beth714sc-rocks@yahoo.com
24. Special Exhibits: Floyd and Margaret Neeley 714-535-2030
25. Children's Jewelry: Pat Lynch 909-393-2186
pat.lynch@experian.com

For a list of CFMS Gem Shows, please go to www.cfmsinc.org

SHOW REPORT

SHOW MEETING ON JANUARY 17 @ 7 PM

By Kathy Clark

*The next show meeting is Wednesday, January 17, at 7 pm at the Anaheim Center. Our Show Chairman, Betty Nelson, has requested that **all** Show Committee Chairmen attend this meeting. All Searchers are very welcome at all show meetings. Please attend and contribute to your show.*

Thing To Do:

- 1. Keep tumbling. Bring rocks to the meetings and give to Christine Edmonds.*
- 2. Bring tall dry weeds, old gold panning stuff, boots, horseshoes, water bags, old western hats, etc. to meetings and give to Betty Nelson.*
- 3. Make or buy pies to sell in the kitchen during the show.*
- 4. Talk to Norbert and Ana Bernhardt regarding rocks and any other items they need for the silent auction.*
- 5. Reserve May 4, 5 & 6 on your calendar so you can attend and work at the show.*
- 6. Your ideas*

Another year has gone by without raising our membership dues. The dues for pairs and especially for juniors do not cover our portion for the Federation dues. Our annual show is vitally important to the livelihood of the Searchers, so your participation and all your great ideas are looked forward to with great anticipation by the Show Chairpersons. Every time you attend a general meeting, use the workshop or just receive a newsletter, please keep in mind that we have necessary expenses to meet and that most of these funds come from our annual show.

DECEMBER PROGRAM

By Kathy Clark

Our December program was the installation of officers for 2007 and an optional gift exchange held at Mama Cozza's restaurant in Anaheim on Sunday, December 3. We enjoyed a very nice Italian buffet and music brought to us by Searcher member Yery Camacho.

The elected board officers for 2007 are:

President	Clarke Benich
1 st V.P. Programs	Walter Mroch
2 nd V.P. Field Trips	Steve Duncan
Director	Robert Burson
Secretary	Lorri Renck
Treasurer	Pat Lynch
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott

A silver onyx clock made by Jimmy Peterson was awarded to Clarke Benich to recognize the Searcher membership's appreciation to him for a presidential job well done for 2006. Afterwards there was the gift exchange amongst much laughter and socializing. A good time was had by all.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Kathy Clark

Please welcome the newest members of the Searchers' family and note the following changes:

New Members:

Russell Baldwin
Kasey Baldwin (Jr. member)
Riley Baldwin (Jr. member)
1073 Corona Lane
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714-834-4510 (Day)
714-557-7610 (Eve)

Myrtis Pebley
608 N. Tudor Place
Anaheim, CA 92801
714-776-1480

Todd Clarke
Cullen Clarke (Jr. member)
Kaylee Clarke (Jr. member)
27171 Echo Canyon Ct.
Corona, CA 92883
909-234-0563

Changes:

Carlene Blake
719 Oceanhill Dr.
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
714-625-8697
Carlene@BlakeEstates.com

*Happy Birthday
to all those Searchers' members who
celebrate their birthdays in JANUARY!*

JANUARY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
7	8	9 7-9 pm General Meeting	10	11 6-10PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	12	13 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
14	15	16	17 7-9 pm Show Meeting	18 6-10 PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	19	20 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing Field trip
21 Field Trip	22	23	24 6-7 PM Board Meeting	25 6-10 PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	26	27 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
28	29	30	31			

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 January 1 through January 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 42 ISSUE 1

January 2007



JANUARY BIRTHSTONE

GARNET

Garnets have had a mixed reputation as they possess high indices of refraction, are hard enough, have pretty colors, are wonderfully transparent, lack cleavage and are durable; thus making garnets good candidates for gemstones. However, many people consider garnets to be inferior to other colored gems probably due to garnet's relative abundance and widespread use, and therefore a typically low price. Garnets are greatly variable in colors and varieties, though, and many of these are both rare and beautiful, producing genuinely precious gemstones. The main differences in physical properties among the members of the garnet group are slight variations in color, density and index of refraction. The most common crystal shape for garnets is the rhombic dodecahedron, a 12-sided crystal with diamond-shaped (rhombic) faces. Most garnets are red in color, but a few varieties can have a wide range of colors such as uvarovite which is always a bright green

Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark, *Editors*
18661 Silver Maple Way
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