

3-1994

March 16

120 W. Wilshire



SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Established June 20, 1958  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3492, Anaheim, CA 92804

CLUB OFFICERS

|                     |                  |          |
|---------------------|------------------|----------|
| President           | Jim Williamson   | 995-9080 |
| 1st Vice President  | Herbert Beckman  | 778-1496 |
| 2nd Vice President  | Connie VanKampen | 993-2827 |
| Secretary           | Beth Pelfrey     | 774-2754 |
| Treasurer           | Betty Nelson     | 530-1365 |
| Federation Delegate | George Mitchum   | 897-2407 |
| Director            | Merle Howe       | 529-3613 |

Note: Please see Searchers Roster for list of Committee Chairpersons.

AFFILIATIONS: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SEARCHERS: The Searchers Gem and Mineral Society, Inc., meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Anaheim Memorial Hospital Medical Office Building, lower level, 1211 W. La Palma Avenue, Anaheim. Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M. Visitors always welcome.

Membership dues are accepted January through September. Adult members: \$10.00 each, Junior Members, \$2.00 each.

Field Trips are usually held on the second weekend of each month. Trips are announced monthly. Maps, added activities, time changes, and other pertinent information will be published in the bulletin.

Board Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Meeting place, the boardroom, lower level of Anaheim Memorial Hospital Medical Office Building, 7:30 P.M.

WORKSHOPS: Workshops have been temporarily cancelled.

REQUIREMENT: Items for the bulletin must be in the hands of the editor by the first (1st) Tuesday of each month. Please mail items to Editor pro tem, Jeanne Howe, 1482 Ponderosa Ave., Fullerton 92635

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Show time is coming up fast! Don't let it surprise you. Your help is needed to sell tickets, donate prizes, sign up to work at the show and prepare show cases. If these things are done early it sure does take the pressure off the show committee. Our committee chairpersons will be circulating their clipboards again this evening and we still need a lot of help, so sign up **now!**

With this months bulletin you will find a copy of the newly revised By-laws, Standing Rules and job duties package. This package should be most helpful for new and established members alike. Within the package you will find everything you need to know about the workings of our club. Please remove this package and keep it for future reference.

A special thanks to Milly Arvanites for her efforts in the production of the club Roster. The Roster is here and ready for distribution tonight. Club Officers and committee persons are identified for easy reference.

**Jim Williamson**

### CLUB ACTIVITIES

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| March 8          | General Meeting                     |
| March 11, 12, 13 | Stoddard Wells Field Trip           |
| March 16, Wed.   | Show Meeting 7:00 P.M. at Neeley's. |
| March 23, Wed.   | Board Meeting                       |
| April 12         | General Meeting                     |

### DO YOU?

The ancient Persians believed that the earth rested on a giant blue sapphire, whose reflection colored the sky and the seas. It was a symbol of truth and sincerity.

From Rock Writing via Ghost Sheet

Area Shows and Events

- March 11, 12, 13            Stoddard Wells, see field trip
- March 12 & 13            Pasadena Lapidary Soc., Lamada Park,  
Masonic Temple, 2425 Seneca St.  
Pasadena, CA Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5
- March 26,27            South Bay Lapidary Soc. Torrance  
Recreation Ctr. 3341 Torrance Blvd.  
Torrance, Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5
- March 26,27            North Orange Co. Gem & Mineral  
LaHabra Clubhouse, 200 W. Greenwood  
La Habra, Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5

FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

WE WELCOME A NEW JR. MEMBER WHO JOINED AT OUR FEBRUARY 94 MEETING. HIS NAME IS TONY W. TAPIA. HE IS A STUDENT AT ANAHEIM HIGH SCHOOL AND IS THE GRANDSON OF TONY AND LOLA TAPIA.

BE SURE TO PICK UP A COPY OF THE 94 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER AT TONIGHT'S MEETING.

IN SEARCHING THROUGH THE ITEMS WE HAVE FOR SALE, I FIND THAT I DO NOT HAVE THE CLOTH JACKET PATCHES THAT WERE MENTIONED IN THE FEBRUARY BULLETIN. IF WE STILL HAVE SOME OF THESE, THEY MUST HAVE BEEN STORED AWAY IN OUR STORAGE AT THE TIME WE MOVED.

WE HAD A POOR SHOWING OF DUES PAID AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING. I DIDN'T EVEN TAKE IN A HUNDRED DOLLARS IN DUES. IN PAST YEARS, IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN SEVERAL HUNDRED BY FEBRUARY. AT THE END OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING, WE ONLY HAD 95 PAID UP MEMBERS.

MILLY ARVANITES

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Lew Gibilterra has been diagnosed as having Lou Gehrig's disease. He is very ill. The trouble started in his throat and he is unable to speak. By now, he can't dress or feed himself, but is still aware, and cards would be appreciated.

Harry Wildman has had health problems since last November, and has had surgery. He has cancerous tumors in his mouth and is now in radiation therapy.

Former member, Connie Lytle died on February 17. She was buried at Fairhaven. You will remember Connie suffered from MS. She also developed cancer and had chemotherapy and radiation. At the last she had a stroke and was in a coma for seven days. Our hearts go out to Ron and the children.

## TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

Tonight's program is planned as a Searcher information exchange. Herb Beckman will be moderator, and call on several members to speak about various activities connected with our show, and areas of participation.

We hope their remarks will stimulate questions and discussion. It will be an opportunity for all of us to learn from each other. Please ask questions even if, no, especially if you think everyone knows the answer but you. If this should be true, then you need to know it too.

Maybe you are ready for a new aspect of endeavor and need to know more about it. This is your chance to see who has suggestions to share.

With the proper spirit, this could be one of our most rewarding evenings.

Herb Beckman

## FOR SALE:

2 Show Cases, slant front. Call Marge Wease for price and details. 619/257-3843

ROCKS FOR SALE

PETRIFIED ARIZONA WOOD

ROSE QUARTZ

NEVADA RHYOLITE

PICASSO PICTURE ROCK

ZRBRA ROCK

SEPTARIAN NODULES

WOOD BURL ROOTS

RHODONITE

MEXICAN PARROT WING

GEORGE ARVANITES (714) 838-1924

DAFFI-NITIONS: Quartz - 2 pints of rock  
 Garnet - What you say when a rock drops on your foot  
 Barium - What to do with your clothes after encountering a skunk  
 Apatite - What a rockhound gets on a field trip

## WRA

Marie Cole has sent us information from the World of Rockhounds. They feel great elation that the desert bill was not passed. Four deadlines were missed, at least in part through the message of letters and phone calls conveying disagreement with its provisions. However, S21 did pass out of committee, and we need more dedicated efforts to combat it. Listed below, phone numbers of Calif. members of the House Natural Resource Committee.

Geo. Miller (chrnm) 202/225-2095

|                   |          |               |          |
|-------------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| Richard H. Lemon  | 225-4540 | Sam Farr      | 225-2881 |
| Elton Gallegly    | 225-5811 | Calvin Dooley | 225-3341 |
| John T. Doolittle | 225-2511 | K. Calcalvert | 225-1986 |

## REFRESHMENTS

Tonight the Neeley's are serving refreshments. Thank you from all of us.

For lack of a volunteer, I have agreed to take the job of getting refreshment people for each monthly meeting. So far George and Milly Arvanites have volunteered for May. The other months are open. Please sign the clipboard tonight. The job is really not difficult. Choice of refreshments is up to the person in charge, usually some type of punch and cookies or cake or whatever. The club pays a reasonable sum. There are only two exceptions--the June meeting is usually a pot-luck celebration for awards won at the show, and takes a little more preparation. The November meeting is traditionally "pie night" and members bring pies, so only punch and paper plate, forks and napkins need be supplied. Any other questions before you sign on the dotted line, ask me.

Jeanne Howe 714/529-3613

## FROM THE CFMS NEWSLETTER

Bernie Mauldin of PLAC Riverside District sent this dialogue he has been having with BLM regarding recent events which occurred in the Wileys Well District.

He comments on an article which appeared in a club bulletin in which a member reported that while on a club visit to that area, he was confronted by a new owner who met him with a gun and told them to leave the property. He didn't seem too negative about the potato beds, but didn't yield an inch on the Hauser Beds' "Keep Out" status. No one was aware of any new mining claims being filed, so it appeared necessary to find out the status of the area.

On Jan. 11, a call was made to the BLM Desert District in Riverside inquiring as to the status of the area so local clubs could be informed. After being told that the microfiche file did not contain the latest data, it was suggested that Fred Schuster in Palm Springs be contacted. He asked several questions and then said that they would contact the Sheriff and Rangers. They would call him back. After no call was received, he called them back on January 13. Since Mr. Schuster was unavailable, the secretary said someone else would return the call. No response. Called back on Jan. 18 and again Jan. 26...still no response. Mr Schuster finally returned my call and stated that he would contact the Rangers and find out why we had not been contacted. BLM finally called and stated the Wileys Well is in the El Centro District and that they are investigating. No information yet. Meanwhile, keep out and keep safe!

\* \* \* \* \*

George Mitchum says he will take this up at the CFMS Del Mar meeting, and will definitely follow through for us



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kevin Sweeney

February 3, 1994

(202) 208-6416

### BLM's Baca Decides to Step Down From Post

Jim Baca, Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), today announced he will resign from his post. Dr. Michael Dombeck has been named Acting Director of the BLM; he is currently chief of staff to Assistant Secretary Bob Armstrong.

Baca's decision came one week after he was offered a different position within the Department of the Interior, the Cabinet agency that houses the BLM.

"Jim deserves credit for the good work he has done as Director," said Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. "He brought vision and energy to a bureau badly in need of both. Its many employees now have a greater sense of mission and are now fully engaged in an effort to implement the principles of ecosystem management; that is a credit to Jim Baca."

"This personnel change in no way means a change in policy," said Secretary Babbitt. "In this Department the buck stops on my desk, and I remain as committed as ever to reforming our public lands policies. On grazing, in particular, for better or worse, I have been the primary architect and advocate of the Administration's policy; I will continue in that role."

"I had hoped Jim would stay on at Interior," said Secretary Babbitt. "Last week, I asked him to serve as Deputy Assistant Secretary. It was an important position, one that would have put his considerable talents to good use in pursuing reforms he and I both support."

"I have accepted his resignation because Jim and I have different approaches to management style and consensus building," said Babbitt. "That's not a statement about which style is the right one. It is, however, an acknowledgement that the management styles of the Department's bureau directors need to mesh -- they need to work as one."

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"It's my judgement that a very strong management team can become even stronger," said Babbitt.

Dombeck, who holds a doctorate in biological sciences, has spent most of his career with the BLM and the Forest Service. From 1989 through 1992, he served as science advisor and special assistant to the BLM Director. Prior to that, he spent several years in various fisheries program offices within the Forest Service.

-- DOI--

#### SHOW MEETING

The show committee will meet March 16, Wednesday at 7 PM at the Neeley's.

Most of the committees reported at our last meeting that everything is going well. We do need help in the kitchen, cooking, wash up, and serving. These are jobs any of you can do. Please sign up for a couple of hours duty.

Herb Beckman has done a fine job of getting the raffle tickets out to members. The other side of the job is up to you. We need good sales, and good prizes. Remember these prizes reflect on the club as do the hourly door prizes. Some clubs have very handsome gifts, others do less well. We would like to be among the first group.

Margaret says the crafts are winding down.

Don't forget to sign those clip boards when they come around. Also be sure to make yourself a note of the activities and times you have volunteered for.

Merle Howe reports we need at least 18 hourly door prizes. So far he has received none. He is more than willing to donate some, but the barrel isn't deep enough to come up with eighteen.

For anyone wanting to display their work, that does not have a case, Marge Wease has two for sale. They are the slant front type, standard size. Marge lives in Newbury Springs, and her phone number is 619/257-3843.

Larry Ritchie will have Children's Jewelry again this year. Now there's a fun booth to work in. If you haven't tried it you should.

Ken Landers, who has been in charge of grab bags for the show for years, says he has run out of grab bags, and needs someone, or several someones to sew a new supply.



## THUMBNAILS

Calcite is the rock used as the mark of #3 hardness on the MOHS scale. It is classified as a non-metallic mineral.

Double refraction is particularly evident in Calcite. Double refraction occurs when a ray of light which enters a rhombohedron breaks into two linearly polarized rays. The first ray obeys the laws of refraction. The second ray behaves abnormally. The two rays travel at different speeds. One image stays still while the other turns around it.

Iceland spar is the transparent form of calcite. It is distinguished from mineral quartz by the bubbles of carbon dioxide it produces with effervescence when touched by weak hydrochloric acid.

Calcite is deposited around mineral springs, and forms stalactites and stalagmites in caves.

It works as the cement in conglomerate, and is the main ingredient in Limestone. If pure, limestone is white, but is most often seen in beige and grays. It can be dissolved by even weak acid. As rain water has natural carbonic acid, it has a decided effect on limestone.

## CORUNDUM

Corundum,  $Al_2O_3$ , is the example used in MOHS scale for a hardness of 9. It breaks with conchoidal or irregular fractures.

Notable examples of corundum are rubies (red) and sapphire, usually blue, but also found in green, yellow and colorless.

The largest rubies come from Burma, up to 2.36 inches long. When the King of Burma became owner of one of the mines, he took the title of Lord of the Rubies. Rubies also come from Maylasia and Sri Lanka.

Sapphires are commonest in Sri Lanka.

Unattractive varieties are used as abrasives. Synthetic corundum is easily manufactured for mechanical precision engineering (watches and other instruments).

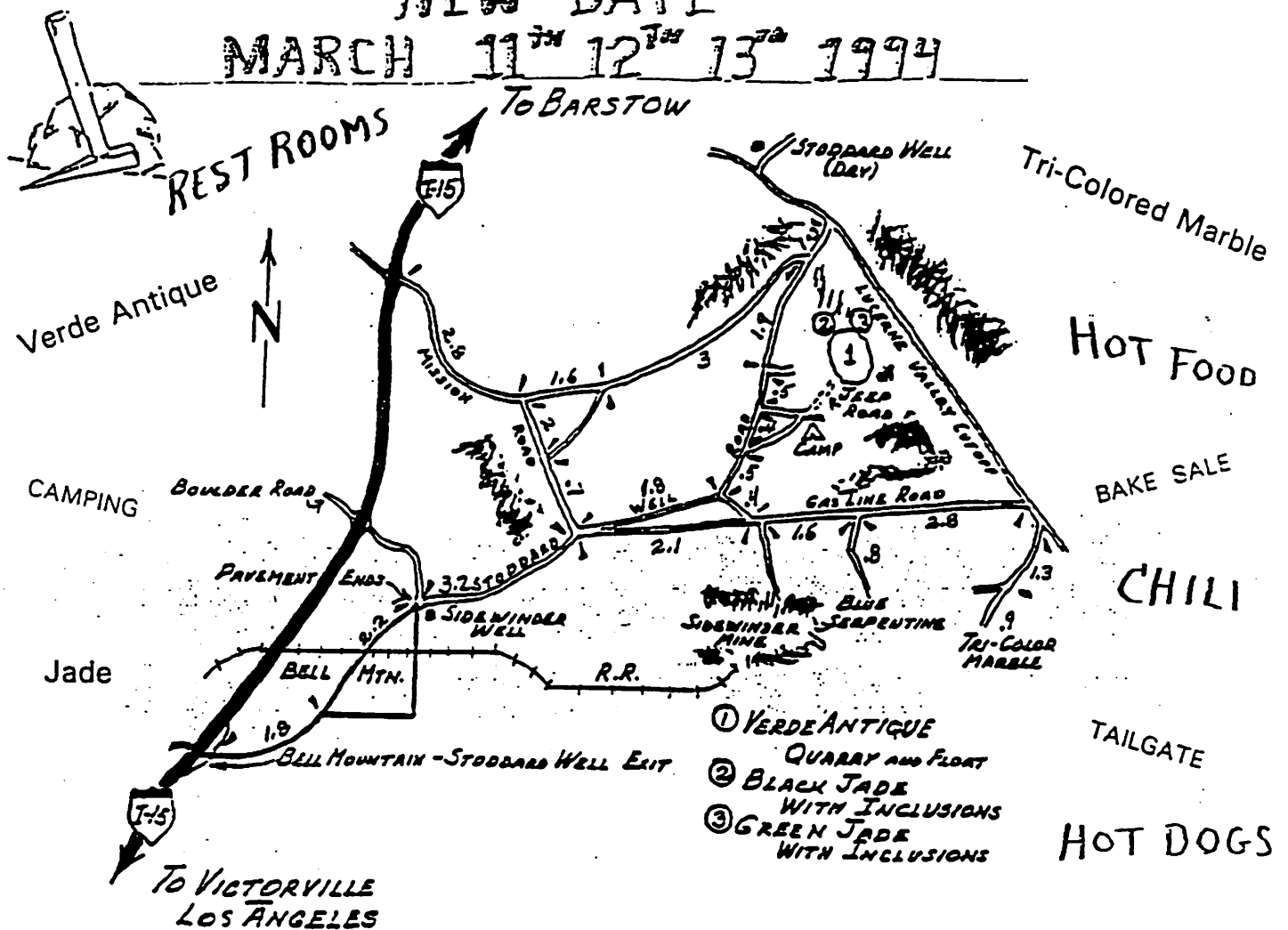
## CAMEOS

Cameos can be cut from any stone or shell where there are two definite bands of color. One layer of the stone is carved while another layer of a different color makes the background. This art was developed in ancient Greece who got their gems from Egypt. It also became popular in Rome.

# Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club 18th Annual Tailgate at Stoddard Well

NEW DATE

MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> 12<sup>TH</sup> 13<sup>TH</sup> 1994



## Verde Antique - Tri-Colored Marble - Jade

**WHAT IS A TAILGATE?** It all began about 16 years ago when the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club began hosting a free field trip and sale at Stoddard Wells collecting area. The Tailgate is open to all clubs and rockhounds. Everyone is allowed to sell or buy just about anything. Most items for sale are related to gems, minerals findings, and other related things, but you never know what you will see. The area is also noted for its abundance of rocks for collecting.

**CAMPING:** This is a dry camp area, so bring in your own water and other necessities. Supplies are available at the Bell Mountain service road. Roads are desert dirt and can handle motorhomes with no problem.

**GEM AND MINERAL COLLECTING:** Verde Antique, Green & Black Jade collecting areas are within walking distance from the Tailgate. The Verde Antique is in float and in a quarry. Jade with magnetite inclusions can be found in seams. Digging tools are needed for the better materials. A Field Trip on Saturday will take collectors to the nearby Sidewinder Mountains to find Tri-colored Marble which ranges from greys to dark green. A four wheel drive is advised for this trip.

**BAKE SALE:** There will be a Pie Booth with many delicious baked goods available throughout the Tailgate. This will be hosted by the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club.

**RAIN OR SHINE**

SEE YOU THERE!