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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Searcher Members!

It's April and we're just weeks away from our Annual Show!! The show committee has put in numerous hours and lots of hard work to make this the best show ever. If you have not yet signed up to volunteer, please make a point to contact either Beth or Robert, or any committee member for that matter and SIGN UP!!! Our club is only as good as our members, and this event is our best opportunity to show the community just how wonderful our club and it's members are. PLEASE plan to volunteer at least 2 hours, and try to do more if you can! I look forward to seeing ALL our club members at our show and participating!

Everyone also remember, this months general meeting is on the 3rd Tuesday in April, the 19th!

Tery-Lynn

APRIL BIRTHSTONE Diamond



In mineralogy, diamond (from the ancient Greek ἀδάμας – adámas "unbreakable") is an allotrope of carbon, where the carbon atoms are arranged in a variation of the face-centered cubic crystal structure called a diamond lattice. Diamond is less stable than graphite, but the conversion rate from diamond to graphite is negligible at ambient conditions. Diamond is renowned as a material with superlative physical qualities, most of which originate from the strong covalent bonding between its atoms. In particular, diamond has the highest hardness and thermal conductivity of any bulk material. Those properties determine the major industrial application of diamond in cutting and polishing tools.

Diamond has remarkable optical characteristics. Because of its extremely rigid lattice, it can be contaminated by very few types of impurities, such as boron and nitrogen. Combined with wide transparency, this results in the clear, colorless appearance of most natural diamonds. Small amounts of defects or impurities (about one per million of lattice atoms) color diamond blue (boron), yellow (nitrogen), brown (lattice defects), green (radiation exposure), purple, pink, orange or red. Diamond also has relatively high optical dispersion (ability to disperse light of different colors), which results in its characteristic luster. Excellent optical and mechanical properties, combined with efficient marketing, make diamond the most popular gemstone.

GENERAL INFORMATION

General Meetings: 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
Board Meetings: 7PM, 1st Monday of each month, Jan - Nov
Workshop: Thursday, 6 - 10 PM, free wire-wrap class, Saturday, 3 - 7 PM
Free silver-smithing class 1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays (schedule varies)
Location: Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 250 East Center St, Anaheim, CA 92805
Mailing Address: Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc, P.O Box 3492, Anaheim, CA 92803
Membership Dues: Individual- \$25, Couples- \$35, Junior (17 & under)- \$10
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 editor:
Yery Camacho, 13900 Studebaker Rd, #4, Norwalk, CA 90650
Charter Date: April 20, 1958
Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Sponsored by: Anaheim Arts Council
Web Site: www.searchersrocks.org

April Birthstones... *continued from previous page*

As the April birthstone, diamonds are the ideal gift for a loved one. And now you have more choices than ever. Get creative and give the ultimate gift of beauty: a fancy-color diamond. Fancy-color diamonds are natural, rare and truly exotic gem of the earth. Diamonds in hues of yellow, red, pink, blue, and green range in intensity from faint to vivid and generally the more saturated the color, the

higher the value. In fact, diamonds sparkling with intense color are rare and may be priced higher than a colorless diamond of equal size. Because fancy-color diamonds are very desirable, color is sometimes introduced in a laboratory. These are correctly called *color-treated diamonds*. When purchasing a fancy-color diamond, the shopper should ask if any enhancements or treatments were used to improve its color and/or clarity.

FIELD TRIPS

FIELD TRIPS SPRING 2011			
APR 9&10 2011	Jimmy Peterson	Siam Siding-Chapenite Cadiz-trilobite fossils	Planned
May 2011 Dates TBD	Jim McGeough	Buffington Pockets Nevada (about an hour outside of Vegas)- Blue agate	Tentative

For a more complete listing of shows go to website: www.cfmsinc.org
Also see www.motherlodemineralsociety.com/events.html.

Other websites of interest:

- www.firemountaingems.com
- www.southsunproducts.com
- www.pioneergem.com

- www.route66goldminers.org
- www.auctionmasters.com

APRIL FIELD TRIP

April 9 & 10, 2011

Siam Siding and Latham Shale, Cadiz, CA

Leader Jimmy Peterson

The Searchers will have a field trip to Cadiz, Apr 9&10, 2011. Siam Siding is famous for Chapenite, brecciated jasper. Small pieces are everywhere, but if you want any size you will need to be prepared to dig. You will be digging in soft sand, but it is still digging. The shale cliffs above camp contain trilobite fossils; we will spend some time there showing everyone how to collect trilobites.

We will be camping near Cadiz, directions to camp are below. This is a dry camp, with no amenities. Bring what you need, including lots of water and sunscreen. Also bring something for the Sat night potluck. The trips will start at 0900 on Sat and Sunday. Limited supplies and gas are available at Amboy (~8 miles from camp?). There is also a small motel there, which may or may not be open; there is a motel in Ludlow which is a bit further away.

Because it is still cold dress in layers, you will still want sunscreen and lots of liquid.

Google maps says 3.5 hours from Orange to Chambliss (right next to Cadiz).

If you have any questions call me at 714 724 7102, or email me at wsd@iteris.com

Directions from Orange County:

Take 15 North to Barstow, then 40 East to Ludlow. Exit Ludlow, right at the bottom of the exit, then left at the stop onto Nat'l Trails Hwy (old route 66). Go East on Nat'l Trails Hwy past Amboy (this is the last gas and supply stop) to Chambless, turn right on Cadiz Rd. Cadiz Rd goes straight southeast for ~3 miles, and then bends sharply to the left. It goes a little less than a mile, and then turns right and crosses the tracks. **DO NOT** cross the tracks. You will turn left off Cadiz Rd onto a dirt road a couple of hundred yards before the turn towards the tracks. Camp is ahead a ¼ mile. There should be Searcher signs at the turn off, and at camp. You should be able to see the vehicles at camp from the paved road. Any vehicle should be able to make it to camp, and to the collecting spots, although there is some dirt road driving.

CLUB MEETING ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2011

Date	Presenter	Subject
Tuesday, April 12 th	Janie Duncan	"Beads around the World"
Tuesday, May 10 th	Walter Johnson	"Gem Identification for Beginners"
Tuesday, June 14 th	Conrad Grundke	"A History of Intarsia/Commeso in some Native American Families"
Tuesday, July 12 th	Lothar Vallot	"Simulates, Synthetics, and Treatments"
Tuesday, Aug 9 th	NONE	Rock swap
Tuesday, Sep 13 th	Joe Girtner	"Jewelry Processes – inlay, jewelry design, process, and sculpting"
Tuesday, Oct 11 th	NONE	Silent Auction
Tuesday, Nov 8 th	None	Officer election/pie night

ATTENTION SEARCHERS AND FRIENDS LAST COMMITTEE MEETING BEFORE THE SHOW

OUR "BIG SHOW" IS APRIL 29 (SET-UP DAY) AND OPEN SATURDAY APRIL 30 AND MAY 1. Remember this is our big annual show and this year is number 52! That's longer than some of you have been in existence - not me - I am older than dirt.

So the point is, we need help during set-up, at the show and during tear down. Remember I am always saying it's OUR club, and we all need to take responsibility to work together to make it a success. SO please call or write me or one of the chairpersons to offer some time. I put a list of committees and description of the fun in the March Rock Slab News. **Please refer to it!**

If you want to put in a display case, call Norbert at (714) 734-9665.

The final show Committee meeting is April 21, Thursday, from 7-9 PM at the Downtown Community Center. All chairpersons please attend; all interested and helpful members you are so very welcome.

The Grab Bag Stuffing Party is on Saturday April 16 from 10 AM-2 PM (We should be able to finish in that time.) at the home of Betty Nelson, 10571 Overman Drive, Garden Grove, CA. Cross streets are Katella between

Brookhurst and Euclid. Call me, Beth at (714) 774-2754 or Robert Burson at (562) 860-5939 if you are coming so we know how many drinks to provide. Even though we will span the lunchtime, unless it is potluck, only snacks will be provided. Betty has a huge backyard, wonderful friendly dogs and a pool, so with supervision, swimming is allowed.

Please search your garages, backyards and closets for items to put on the **Wheel of Fortune**. Could be pretty rock rough, crystals, interesting small items kids will like and windowed or polished specimen.

For the **Hourly Door Prizes**, we are asking donations of the kinds of things you would like to win: pieces of jewelry, a gas gift card, "ships and shoes and sealing wax..." Please be generous.

The **Silent Auction** our biggest event- about 2-3 each day, so we need GOOD rough, crystals, "windowed" samples of material like obsidian, chapenite, North Edwards onyx, petrified wood, howlite, halite, barite, you name it, I can't! If you know where it is from, please include a note or paper! Bring it to the show on Friday, Saturday or to a meeting before then.

Virgil Talbot **Head of Security** will want volunteers in 2-hour or better shift.

Last but certainly not least, the committee near and dear to my heart: **THE KITCHEN!** Teri-Lynn and Ira Wheeler and Tracey and Debbie Jackson are putting the kitchen together a little differently this year but it sound superb. I understand we will have the famous hot dogs, nachos and trimmings as usual and a sandwich, but the rest is up to them. They are working closely with Adrian Callard for the **Friday night Dinner** and everyone needs help, serving, preparation, cashiering. Please plan on 2 or 4 hour shifts and please **call Teri-Lynn or Tracey** so they can have a more logical schedule. Don't forget the desserts to bring! Bar Cookies, Brownies, regular delicious cookies, cakes and pies that do not require refrigerated serving. For example, coookies (oops, Freudian slip on my part!) fruit pies, pecan pies, coconut cake. **Sugar-Free items will be welcome for those who must be conscious of sweets. Be sure to label them as Sugar-Free.**

Now this applies to the whole show: If you do come without scheduling to volunteer and there are enough on each shift, please be flexible enough to ask when to come back. See me or Bob Burson to be directed to a booth in need of help.

Let's all get on board and make this a whiz-bang of a show!

Beth Pelfrey, (714) 774-2754, pelfreye@sbcglobal.net

A FEW NOTES ABOUT MORRISONITE

by Keith Droste

Morrisonite is called "The King Of Jaspers." It was discovered on the Morrison Ranch which is located in Oregon in a High-Desert region known locally as "The Owyhees"

Morrisonite is a 7 on the hardness scale and takes a great polish. Although it is no longer mined, there is still quite a bit of it still available from dealers on line, at shows and even on e-bay. Prices vary depending on the quality. A similar jasper is being mined in that same general area called Carrisite. I have seen some very nice pieces, although I don't think it outranks Morrisonite.

The best way to learn about Morrisonite is on line, where there are a number of excellent sites. Rare Rocks & Gems. com has what they call an "Anti-Sniper Sale." Once you register with them, which is free, you are notified of upcoming sale dates and times. You have to be on line at the specified time to view the auction items. They sell some really wonderful pieces of Morrisonite as well as other jaspers. The catch is that you have to be really fast. Find an item you like, click on the picture which will give you the price and bid. Bidding is fast and furious! If you aren't interested in bidding this is a site well worth looking at. They have a spectacular gallery with prime examples. Take a look. <http://www.rarerocksandgems.com/>

Here are several other web sites that will probably be of interest:

<http://www.idahogems.com/morrison.htm>,

<http://www.triplearockshop.com/morrison.html>

http://thegemshop.com/osc/mining_morrisonite_hist.php

There is one more site with great pictures and other sources, but the address goes on forever. If you want the address, send me an e-mail at: and I will send it to you so you can paste it in.

BENCH TIPS

by Brad Smith

brad@greenheart.com

Santa Monica, CA USA

PICKLE PROBLEMS

Dropping a hot item into the pickle after soldering causes a hiss that sends small droplets of the acid pickle into the air. This will rust your nearby tools and can't be all that good to breathe either. My solution is to use a coffee cup of water next to my solder block to quench the piece before dropping it in the pickle.

Also, a hot pickle pot gives off fumes that bother me in my home workshop. I get around that by using my pickle cold. I mix it a little stronger than with a hot pot so that it works about as quickly. I keep it in a large-mouth peanut butter bottle and cap it off whenever I'm done using it.

MODIFY TOOLS FOR PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount avoid slipping by grinding a groove in the face of your prong pusher or one jaw of your flat-nose pliers. Easiest way to cut the slot on the pusher is with a file., and the easiest way to cut the slot on your pliers is with a cutoff wheel in the Foredom.

USE A SPRAY BOTTLE

Those little spray bottles you can find at the drug store are great for firescale preventors and debubbling solutions. A quick firescale preventor is liquid flux, and a homemade debubbling solution is a little Dawn liquid in rubbing alcohol.

BROKEN DRILLS

Have you ever broken a drill bit off in a hole? Sometimes you can grab it with pliers, but other times the steel piece is below the surface in the hole. If this happens, you can usually dissolve the steel in a solution of alum. Alum is typically available from a food store or a drug store. Use about a teaspoon per cup of warm water. Submerge your piece so that the partially drilled hole is facing up to let the bubbles float free and not block the hole.

UPCOMING CFMS GEM SHOWS**April 8-10, 2011 - Vista, CA**

San Diego County Council
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 N. Santa Fe Avenue
Hours: 9-5 daily
Ray Pearce (769) 726-7570
Cathy Davis (858) 278-9987
Simon King (619) 991-2226
Email: raysrocks@cox.net

April 9-10, 2011 - Mariposa, CA

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club
Mariposa Co. Fairgrounds
Hwy #49, 1.8 miles South of Mariposa
Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5
Diane (209) 742-7625
Email: mineralmuseum@sti.net
Website:
www.thematrixmariposagemmineralclub.info

April 9-10, 2011 - Paradise, CA

Paradise Gem & Mineral Society
Elks Lodge
6309 Clark Road
Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
Manuel Garcia (530) 877-7324
Email: mmpeg@earthlink.net
Website: <http://paradisegem.org>

April 15-17, 2011 - San Jose, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
334 Tully Road
Hours: Fri 9-5, Sat & Sun 10-5

Frank Mullaney (408) 265-1422
Email: info@scvgms.org
Website: www.scvgms.org

April 23-24, 2011 - Santa Cruz, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
Corner of Church and Center St
Hours: 10-5 both days
Dean Welder (408) 353-2675
Email: wdeanwelder@yahoo.com
Website: www.scmgs.org

April 30 - May 1, 2011 - Anaheim, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun 10-4:30
Beth Pelfrey (714) 774-2754
Email: martin.swiderski@jacobs.com
Website: www.searchersrocks.org

May 13-15, 2011 - Anderson CA

Northern California Treasures
Sponsored by:
Superior California Gem & Mineral Society
Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
Paradise Gem & Mineral Club
Shasta District Fairgrounds - Anderson, CA
Near Redding, CA - Off Highway 273
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 9 - 5, Sun. 10-4
Show Chairman: Steve Puderbough -
steve@applyaline.com
Website: www.superiorcal.com

YUCAIPA GEM AND MINERAL SHOW

Fellow rock hounds, lapidarists, geologists, and jewelry aficionados,
The Yucaipa Valley Gem and Mineral Society is happy to announce our 51st gem and jewelry show, May 21-22, at the Yucaipa Community Center (34900 Oak Glen Road, Yucaipa, CA 92399). There will be 18 dealers selling everything from rough to fine jewelry, beads, books, and tools, a silent auction, kids activities, displays, and a raffle for over a 150 prizes. The hours are Sat 9am to 5pm and Sun 10am to 4pm. This show is held in conjunction with the Yucaipa Iris Festival, which has many other vendors and events. Parking and admission are free.

Our club would appreciate if you would include our show announcement in your bulleting and/or announcement at your monthly meetings. If anyone has questions, they can call me at 909-794-0731 (evenings) or email me at res09ayd@verizon.net.

Thank you very much.

Lee Peterson
Show Coordinator

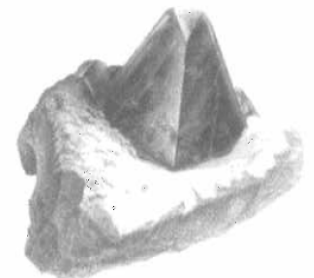
New Location AND New Date!!

WEST COAST GEM & MINERAL SHOW

MAY 20 - 22, 2011 Show Hours: Friday & Saturday - 10 - 6
Sunday - 10 - 5

**Holiday Inn - Orange County Airport,
2726 S. Grand Ave. (Dyer Road at 55 Fwy, Exit 8), Santa Ana, CA**
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SHOW INFORMATION

Start Date: May 6, 2011

End Date: May 8, 2011

Show Name: 10th Annual *Eastern Sierra Gem and Mineral Show*

Host Club: Lone Pine Gem and Mineral Society

Show Site: Robinson Building, Tri-County Fairgrounds

Address: Sierra Street and Fair Drive

City: Bishop

State: CA

SHOW DAYS & TIMES

Day 1: Friday, **May 6, 2011** Start time: **6 PM**
End time: **9 PM**

Day 2: Saturday, **May 7, 2011** Start time: **9:30 AM**
End time: **5 PM**

Day 3: Sunday, **May 8, 2011** Start time: **10 AM**
End time: **3 PM**

ADMISSION FREE

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, EVENTS AND NOTES

FIELD TRIP(S), DEMONSTRATION OF LAPIDARY, LAMPWORK BEADS, FLINT KNAPPING AND SPHERE MAKING, WORLD'S LARGEST FULGURITE ON DISPLAY, DISPLAYS OF LOCAL MINERALS, FOSSILS, AND OTHERS. FAMOUS SPINNING WHEEL. GEODES FOR SALE AND FOR CUTTING. VENDORS, DOOR PRIZES, AND SUCH.

Children's Activities: Mappers Day June

SHOW INFORMATION CONTACT PERSON

Francee Graham , PO Box 667, Lone Pine, CA 93545 Phone 760 876-4319 E-mail franceem@qnet.com



Brookhurst Community Center

**2271 W. Crescent Avenue
Anaheim, CA**

Saturday, April 30 Hours 10AM - 5PM
Sunday, May 1 Hours 10AM - 4:30PM

free admission



www.searchersrocks.org

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exhibits
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door prices
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714 693-GOLD (4653). Store hours: Tu - Sat 10am - 6pm