



The Rock Slab News



The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

October 2012 - Volume 48 Issue 10

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Searchers Board Officers

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Library
Membership: Beth Pelfrey
Monthly Drawing:
Skip and Connie Cone
Sunshine:
Veteran's Coordinator:
Larry Richey
Website: Walter
Workshop: Adrian Callard
Rock's Kids:
Terri Benedict

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall has arrived! With fall comes some important business for the club. It's time to prepare for the annual elections and the Nominating Committee is currently being assembled. This committee will conduct our Directors Elections at the general meeting in November. If you're interested in serving on the Board of Directors, the October general meeting will be the time let the Nominating Committee know. The club will also be conducting a review of it's By-Laws. We are asking members to volunteer to sit on the Review Committee, and would like to see the committee consist of seasoned as well as new members. We will organize this committee at this months (October) general meeting. PLEASE step up and volunteer! The review of the By-Laws needs be completed by December. If any members have suggestions for amendments, you are asked to present them to the committee in writing. Please submit all written recommendations to the committee by the November general membership meeting. These recommendations will be brought to the Board of Directors at their December Board meeting. If there are any significant changes being proposed, they will be presented to the general membership at the January general meeting for a membership vote. Once this has been done, the new updated By-Laws will then be made available at the February general meeting as well as published in the February issue of the Slab. Don't worry, it's not all business! The fall also brings fun activities for the club. We have a great field trip coming up to Buffington Pockets, one of my personal favorite spots. The details are still being ironed out, so stay tuned. We also have our annual October general meeting silent auction. This is always a great way to add interesting finds to your collection! If you have material, equipment, etc that you'd like to donate to the silent auction, please bring it to the general meeting this month. I hope you all enjoy the change of season fall brings... take time to get outside and find that special rock!!

Tery-Lynn Wheeler

OCTOBER BIRTHSTONES

Tourmaline and Opal

Tourmaline has become a favorite gemstone among jewelry designer, and gem collectors the world over. Since it is available in a wide variety of colors, it is ideally suited to almost anyone's taste. Tourmaline also is known for displaying several colors in the same gemstone. These bi-color or tri-color gems are formed in many combinations; gemstones with clear color distinctions are highly prized. One multi-color variety is known as watermelon tourmaline, and features green, pink, and white colors bands; to resemble its namesake, the gemstone is cut into thin slices having a pink center, white ring, and green edge. Tourmaline is found in many localities including Brazil, Afghanistan, East Africa, and the USA.



The name opal derives from the Greek Opallos, meaning "to see a change (of color)." Opals range in color from milky white to black with flashes of yellow, orange, green, red, and blue. An opal's beauty is the product of contrast between its color play and its background. Opal is a formation of non-crystalline silica gel that seeped into crevices in the sedimentary strata. Through time and nature's heating and molding processes, the gel hardened into the form of opals. The opal is composed of particles closely packed in spherical arrangements. When packed together in a regular pattern, a three-dimensional array of spaces are created that give opal its radiance.



GENERAL INFORMATION

General Meetings: 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
Board Meetings: 7PM, 3rd Tuesday 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

FIELD TRIPS

FIELD TRIPS 2012			
Date	Leader	Location & Material	Status
October 26-29	Jim McGeough	Buffington Pockets	scheduled
November 17-18	Cady mountains		scheduled
January 23-24	Burro Creek		scheduled
January 25-27	Quartzsite Show		scheduled

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

CLUB MEETING ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2012

Date	Presenter	Subject
November 13	Cabinet member elections and pie party	Cabinet member elections and pie party
December 1	Christmas/End of Year Banquet	Marie Calendars, 6pm

Buffington Pockets Field Trip**October 26-29****Trip Leader Jim McGeough**

The Searchers will be having a field trip to Buffington Pockets in Nevada. We will be collecting agate materials and possibly some petrified wood. We will be camping in the river bed area near the highway.

4X4 is recommended but will not be needed for much of the areas.

Directions:

Take the 15N toward Las Vegas.

Exit NV146 Southern Highlands Pkwy/St Rose Pkwy

Merge right I-215 towards Henderson/Lake Mead

Exit NV 564 Lake Mead Parkway exit left

Stay straight on Lake Mead Pkwy 10 miles past Lake Las Vegas and you will come to toll booth for Lake Mead Recreation Area National Park Area may be open or closed

Turn left after toll onto Northshore Rd NV 147

Go approximately 15 or so miles passing Callville Bay and Redstone Reststop.

Exit onto Echo Wash on the left (there is a bridge here and hopefully we can post a sign here)

We will be camping down in the wash not far up from the road.

Motels/hotels are in Overton NV about 10 miles or so North of where we will be:

The North Shore Inn on Lake Mead

Overton CA 702/397-6000 \$89.99 Fri or Sat nite AAA Disc available also or AARP

Pretty nice place we have stayed here and they have Breakfast too.

Plaza Motel

207 Moapa Valley Rd

Overton NV 702/397-2414 \$54.99 Fri or Sat nite any size bed or two Queens

Not as nice, never stayed here

Most of the rock will be surface collecting but you might want to bring some digging tools in the event we locate a seam. There is an overabundance of materials and locations in this area.

We will be having our pot luck on Saturday night.

Call or email if any other questions

Thanks

Jim McGeough

jimtmcgeough@yahoo.com

909/225-5481

UPCOMING 2012 CFMS GEM SHOWS

October 13 & 14: GRASS VALLEY, CA

Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
Nevada County Fairgrounds (Main Building)

11228 McCourtney Road

Hours: 10 – 5 Daily

Kim Moore (530) 470-0388

Webmaster@ncgms.org

www.ncgms.org/ourshow.htm

October 13 & 14: TRONA, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society

SLGMS Show Building

13337 Main Street

Hours: Sat. 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4

Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356

slgms@iwvisp.com

www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/

October 13 & 14, VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society

Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum

2040 North Santa Fe Avenue

Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4

Ray Pearce(760) 726-7570

Lois Harr (760) 724-0395

raysrocks@cox.net

October 20 & 21: ANDERSON, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society

Shasta County Fairgrounds

Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4

Sara Fenske

sarafenske@yahoo.com

shastagemandmineral.com

October 20 & 21: LOS ALTOS, CA

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society

Los Altos Youth Center

One San Antonio Road

Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 11-4

Steve Jobe (408) 834-5384

steve_jobe@sbcglobal.net

www.pggr.org

October 20 & 21: PLACERVILLE, CA

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society

El Dorado County Fairgrounds

100 Placerville Drive

Hours: 10 – 5 Daily

Arlene Williams (530) 676-2472

info@rockandgemshow.org

www.rockandgemshow.org

October 20 & 21: WHITTIER, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society

Whittier Community Center

7630 Washington Blvd.

Hours: 10 – 5 Daily

Marcia Goetz (626) 260-7239

joemar1@verizon.net

October 26 & 27: WEST HILLS, CA

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers

First United Methodist Church

22700 Sherman Way

Hours: Fri. 3-9; Sat. 10-5

Mary Beth Pio (818) 349-2943

info@rockchippers.org

www.rockchippers.org

November 3 & 4: CONCORD, CA

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society

Centre Concord

5294 Clayton Rd (near Ygnacio Valley Rd.)

Hours: 10 – 5 Daily

Harry Nichandros, (925) 289-0454

show-cf@ccmgs.org

www.ccmgs.org

November 2 - 4: EUREKA, CA

Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society

Redwood Acres Fairgrounds

3750 Harris Street

Hours: Fri. 9-6; Sat. & Sun. 10-5

Toni Tyson (707) 502-9574

Diane Reed (707) 839-2079

bluiis911@msn.com

November 3 & 4: LANCASTER, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Avenue H
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4

pgmc@antelecom.net

www.palmdalegemandmineral.com

November 3 & 4: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society
Desert Empire Fairgrounds
520 South Richmond Road
Hours: 9 – 5 Daily

John DeRosa (760) 375-7905

IndianWellsGems@hotmail.com

www.indianwell.weebly.com

November 3 & 4: SAN DIEGO, CA

San Diego Mineral & Gem Society
Al Bahr Shrine Center
5440 Kearny Mesa Road
Hours: Sat. 9:30-5; Sun. 10-4

Bob Hancock (619) 889-6886

RHBOBHANCOCK@2cs.com

<http://www.sdmg.org/>

November 10: VALLEJO, CA

Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society
Vallejo Vets Building
420 Admiral Callaghan Lane
Hour: 9 – 5

Dan Wolke, (707) 745-1816

dncwolke@sbcglobal.net

November 10 & 11: SACRAMENTO, CA

Sacramento Mineral Society
Scottish Rite Temple
6151 H Street
Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4

Stanley Henneman (916) 363-5011

lakota27@sbcglobal.net

www.sacramentomineralsociety.org

November 10 & 11: YUBA CITY, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
442 Franklin Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4

Katie Slightam (530) 673-9649

mktalternatives@comcast.net

www.sutterbuttes.net

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Hello Searchers,

Back in May the Searchers sponsored local kids at the boys and girls club of Anaheim and had offered to come to share a brief bit about rock hounding, etc. Unfortunately the member that was going to do this has been unable to. If you would be interested in speaking to the kids (I would guess it would only be about an hour, if that, of your time) as well as bringing some goodies for them to see, please email me at we34god@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Teri-Lynn

2013 SHOW GRAB BAGS

The material that has come in for the grab bags so far is fabulous, but we still need your support. Slabs, crystals, fossils, and tumbled stones are all things the kids love and are needed for the grab bags. Please donate what you can. Bring donations to the monthly meeting, the lapidary shop, or contact Lydia to arrange pickup (714) 453-8186.

BENCH TIPS

by Brad Smith

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or facebook.com/BenchTips

TEMPLATES



Whenever I have to make more than 2-3 exact copies of anything, I think of making a template. A template lets me easily draw the shape of an item. Art stores sell templates for common shapes like circles, ovals, hearts, etc, but if you need other shapes, it's easy to make your own. Simply cut the shape out of sheet plastic, copper or brass.

The brass template let's me quickly trace the design of these ginkgo leaf earrings onto silver sheet, and the nickel template makes it easy to drill the pin inlay pattern into the ironwood.

After finding a poor selection of stock templates for ovals at my local art store, I was pleased with the wide selection on Cool Tools at <http://www.cooltools.us/> If you order, be sure to look for the 10% off code each month on their Home page.

Kingsley North also has some nice templates at <http://www.kingsleynorth.com/>

DENTAL TOOLS



A ready source of free tools is your local dentist. Dental picks can be reworked into wax tools or straightened and sharpened to make a stylus for marking and layout. The steel in these tools is high quality, and the handles are designed for comfort. A special note however - don't try to bend one of the tips to a different shape - the steel will snap. To change the shape, heat the tip to red hot and bend it with pliers while it's hot.

And don't forget to ask your dentist for some of the cutting burs they throw out. These are useful for a variety of things. It's best to call a week or two before your visit and ask the dentist to put some of these tools aside for you. It's good practice also to ask that they run them through the sterilizer for you.

In addition, here's an interesting web site that might be of interest to your readers.

FAKES & FRAUDS

Unfortunately, there's a growing amount of deception and outright fraud these days at gem and mineral shows and in some of the online venues that sell these items. Often "genuine turquoise beads" turn out to be dyed magnesite, and I've been told that the majority of colored stones being sold typically have had some "enhancement" done to them.

If you're interested in what kind of fakes and frauds have been uncovered, there's a well-done page at <http://www.the-vug.com/vug/vugfakes.htm>

PtCreations

2812-B Walnut Ave.
Tustin, Ca 92780 714-904-2181

Classes, jewelry, faceted stones, rocks, slabs and minerals.
Now open Wednesdays 11am-4pm and during classes and events.
Check the "Calendar" on our web-site for schedule.
www.ptcreations.net

THE NEVADA MINERAL & BOOK COMPANY

<http://minbooks.net/>
342 S. Tustin Street • Orange, CA 92866
Ph. 714-633-1549

Rusty's Gold & Treasure Hunting Supply

Club members show your ID card and receive a 10% off purchases over \$100
Authorized dealer for Garrett, Fisher, and Tesoro metal detectors
5642 E. La Palma Ave., #208, Anaheim, CA 92807 (corner of La Palma and Imperial Hwy.)
714 693-GOLD (4653). Store hours: Tu - Sat 10am - 6pm

Desert Institute Presents Geology: Creation of the Joshua Tree Landscape

Twentynine Palms, CA – Investigate the natural architecture and origin of Joshua Tree National Park’s landscape with D. D. Trent, Ph.D. and co-author of *Joshua Tree National Park Geology* during this two-day field class.

- Date/Time:** Saturday, November 17, 8 am – 5 pm
Sunday, November 18, 9 am – 5 pm
- Meet at:** Oasis Visitor Center, 74485 National Park Drive
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
- Credit Fee:** \$160 (\$150 for JTNPA/PINE members)
- Non-credit Fee:** \$110 (\$100 for JTNPA/PINE members)
- Program Coordinator:** Kevin Wong, Desert Institute, (760) 367-5535, www.joshuatree.org