

12-1993



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

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Merle Howe	529-3613
1st Vice President	Herbert Beckman	778-1496
2nd Vice President	Phil Martinez	633-5328
Secretary	Beth Pelfrey	774-2754
Treasurer	Margaret Neeley	535-2030
Federation Delegate	George Mitchum	897-2407
Director	Lola Tapia	776-9815

Note: List of Committee Chairpersons will appear
in Searchers Roster

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, 1211 W. La Palma Avenue, Anaheim.
Meetings begin at 7:30 P.M. Visitors are always welcome.

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

Field Trips are usually held on the third weekend of each month.
These are announced monthly. Trip 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.
These will be held in the boardroom in the basement of the Anaheim
Memorial Hospital Medical Office Building at 7:30 P.M.

WORKSHOPS: Workshops have been temporarily cancelled.

Silversmithing - 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 all
items to:

Jeanne Howe, 1482 Ponderosa Ave. Fullerton, CA 92635

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HO HO HO!

Here it is Christmas time and the end of my time in office. Please, all of you, have a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.1

I, personally, have had a wonderful year as your president. You all have made it such a happy, easy time, and I appreciate that.

Please give Jim all the support that you have given me, and our club will grow and prosper even more.

God bles all of you in the New Year.

Thanks again,

Merle

P.S. The Christmas party was last night, and it was a great success. Everything was done up just perfect. Sorry some of you missed it.

M.H.

CLUB CALENDAR

No December Board meeting.

January 11, 1994	General Meeting
January 26,	Board Meeting
January Field Trip	The Victorville Rock Swap usually held in January has been moved to March.
January 15	One day field trip

SHOW DATES

The only Southern California show we know of is:

Jan. 22 & 23	Orange Coast Mineral & Lapidary Soc. Plumber's Union Hall 3904 W. First Street SANTA ANA, CA Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5
--------------	--

Lordsburg, New Mexico, is having their '94 Annual Show February 15 to March 9. There will be 60 field trips, programs, and classes, with free dry camping. Anyone interested in meeting there after Quartzsite or Tucson, contact Marvin Mog at 774-6374.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Norman C. Jeffcoat reports his new address:
1440 Camper View Road
P. O. Box 9014
San Dimas, CA 91773-3999
1-909/599-5888

No new members, as By-laws prohibit accepting them during November and December. Hope to see lots of them in January. All are welcome at meetings and activities in the meantime.

RECAP OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6 MEETING

The revised By-Laws were accepted by vote of the membership.

The president (with provision for alternate) was appointed to attend City Planning Committee meeting regarding the new facility to house the Anaheim Coalition of organizations to which we, as well as, Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, Senior Center and Arts Council belong.

The newly elected Board consists of:

President	Jim Williamson
1st Vice President	Herb Beckman
2nd Vice President	Connie Van Kampen
Secretary	Beth Pelfrey
Treasurer	Betty Nelson
Federation Delegate	George Mitchum
Director	Merle Howe

Marvin Mog presented a slide show on their trip to Australia, and he and Jacque donated some super items to our drawing.

CITRINE

This bulletin is kind of skinny, so I'll have room to comment on last month's article on Topaz and Citrine. The part about the Russian peasants baking smoky quartz in their bread to turn it into citrine fascinated me, so at the next show I bought a small crystal. Then I baked rolls (and the crystal). It had a faint glow. I tried again. This time it looks slightly golden, but a far cry from the brilliant citrine color. Maybe, rolls don't work as well as bread, or maybe this is one of those stones that the peasants discarded. I'll try once more, but as the artist who did the stain glass window of the Last Supper said, if Judas cracks in the furnace one more time, I'll know it is not to be.

Jeanne

SUGGESTION

To open geodes, soak a string in KEROSENE, tie it around the geode and burn the string. Plunge the geode into COLD WATER. In many cases this will develop a crack and a light tap with a hammer will finish the job.

From the Desert Hobbyist
and others.

WHAT IS CHALCEDONY?

It is cryptocrystalline quartz, of course. It has the same chemical composition as quartz, but it has a greater amount of impurities. It fills fissures, seams and cavities in rocks; it replaces wood fibres in petrified wood; it is the center of geodes. It is red, white, blue, green, brown, purple, pink, black and clear.

If it is pale green it is chrysoprase, one of the more valuable types of chalcedony. If it is red, it is carnelian. If it is in layers it is onyx. If the layers are curved, it is banded agate. If it is clear and has fine minute bands, it may be rainbow or iris agate.

Chalcedony can be plume; it can be dendritic agate; it can be moss agate; it can be those beautiful pink limb casts. Bloodstone is a form of chalcedony. The jaspers are also charcedony with more impurities.

Chalcedony is precipitated from water. It always occurs in massive cryptoforms and has lower optical properties than does crystalline quartz.

The Orange Coast Gazette, Tourmalines, The Glory Hole.

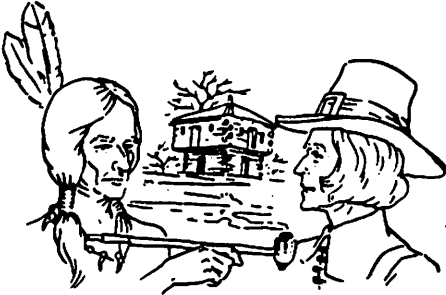
OH THEM TIGER EYES!

When we first started in business, very few people were familiar with real stones. One day a lady came in and was completely enthralled with all the stones. When she came to the case with all my different cabs, she said, "How do you get them colored like that?" I explained that the color was natural. She said, "Really? But who painted the design?" I replied, "Our Creator."

Then she started asking me how expensive each one was, and I showed her prices from 50¢ to \$5. Next she spotted the tigereye cabs and said, "Boy, I'll bet that's expensive!" I replied, "Well, a little more than the other stones, and of course, they come from Africa." Her reply was, "Yes, I understand. They would have to kill a lot of tigers to get that many tigers' eyes!"

Erma Pharaoh in Glacial Drifter via Rocky Review and others.

Sorry this came too late to be included in our November Bulletin, but its a cute article anyway and perhaps you can enjoy it belatedly. From Rocky Review.



U. S. HISTORY LESSON by Bernie Mauldin

Once upon a time in America's early days, Ecologists were all imported. The first of them came on the Mayflower. They brought with them their trunks full of causes and prejudices. They had been at Plymouth Rock less than an hour when they petitioned the Captain to take them back to Europe immediately.

The local Wigwam Branch of the Sierra Club had informed them that millions of Buffalo were polluting the west with tons of manure, and they were overgrazing the grasslands. They were positive that the continent was sinking under the weight of all that low grade fertilizer. There was no way these Pilgrims were going out west and wade around in that stuff.

They complained that all those Buffalo would leave them no room for all the Feral Horses and Burrows they intended to introduce, and with all the Buffalo eating grass how could they blame overgrazing on cattle? The Captain refused to grant them passage even after they explained that Buffalo gave off huge quantities of methane gas which was destroying the ozone layer, causing cancer in the endangered Prairie Dogs and smog in Los Angeles.

They realized all too soon that they had to stay, whether they liked it or not. So they chopped down some old growth forest and killed all the striped owls they found. They built a stockade and some log cabins from the logs. They planted maple trees in Vermont and Pecans and Peaches in Georgia. They planted cotton and peanuts all over the South.

When the snows came they chopped down more trees for fire wood. They also hacked down some wasp nests and poison oak but they blamed those on visiting rock hounds from California. Long before spring time they had a large hill-side of nothing but stumps. It was so different from the rest of the countryside that they named it a National Scenic Area and turned it into a National Park. The cabins grew very smoky from the wood fires, but the hardy Puritan Ecologists grew accustomed to the smoke, some even became addicted to it. When the summer months came they were quite warm. It was impossible to build a fire in the cabins in order to inhale the smoke. One of the Ecologists was quite inventive. When the urge to smoke overcame him, he ground up bits of bark, dried leaves and other items, tore a page from the Sears and Roebuck Catalog and rolled and smoked the first American cigarette.

from GREEN VALLEY ROCKER via ORANGE COAST GAZETTE 5/92

PERSONAL INTEREST

We were happy to see Lew Gibilterra at the Christmas Party. We understand Lew has not been well lately and will be checking in for tests on Monday.

Wes Miller continues to improve slowly, and is eager to get back to a meeting.

Marge Jordan was at the Christmas Party looking much better than she has for some time. Her surgery to replace her hip is scheduled for December 28 at St. Joseph's in Orange.

Christmas must bring out the best in all of us. Several other members who have been "poorly" during this past year were at the party, and it was great to see them all spiffed up in their party clothes and looking good.

CLUB RECEIVES GIFT OF EQUIPMENT

For those of you who have not heard, we fell heir to an almost new 12 inch saw (the paint had not even worn off the blade yet) and a new (in the box) large flat lap. The things were given anonymously. Hobby City gave these people the Searchers name as an appropriate donee. There were some small items also, and some old books on geology and rock hounding. The donors were delighted to hear that we saw slabs for the veterans to use, and make other contributions to the workshop at the Naval Hospital as both of them are veterans themselves. They said they would get double the pleasure in making the gift, knowing that.

JANUARY FIELD TRIP

Silverado Canyon Fossil Dig

This will be a one day trip for Marine fossils. Conventional cars okay.

Meet at the Lucky Market Parking lot, Chapman Avenue and Yorba Street in Orange (near the 55 Freeway), on Saturday, January 15th at 9:00 A. M.

We will depart the lot at 9:15 A.M. caravanning to the dig. Bring rock picks/digging tools, buckets, and newspaper to wrap the fossils. Pack a lunch and bring drinks.

There is a Community Center with a small park nearby.

Connie Van Kampen

5

THANKSGIVING FIELD TRIP REPORT:

THE TRIP THIS YEAR WAS TO THE CHAMBLISS/CADIZ AREA EAST OF AMBOY. A TOTAL OF 28 PERSONS IN 10 RIGS CAME OUT, ALBEIT NOT AT THE SAME TIME. THE EVERITTS, MARTINEZS, ARVANITES'S AND NELSONS CAME OUT TUESDAY FOR AN EARLY START. THE COLES, THEIR CHILDREN, AND GRAND CHILDREN CAME LATER AS DID THE REEDS, LEES, MOGS, AASENS, AND ROSES.

UPON ARRIVAL THE FIRST THING I DID WAS GET THE TRUCK STUCK IN A "CRITTER" CONDOMINIUM WITH THE TRAILER STILL ATTACHED. WITH SEVERAL SHOVELS, BLOCKS OF WOOD, THE OTHER EARLY ARRIVALS, GEORGE'S JEEP, ONE TOW ROPE ETC., WE FINALLY GOT UNSTUCK AND SETTLED. JUST TO SHOW I'M NOT THE ONLY NERD, MARV MOG GOT STUCK COMING IN AND MIKE LEE GOT STUCK TO A MINOR DEGREE.

THE WEATHER ONCE AGAIN WAS TERRIFIC WITH CAMPFIRES EVERY NIGHT. IT WAS ONLY BREEZY ONE DAY AND EVENING, BUT WIND BREAKS AROUND THE CAMPFIRE RING DID THE TRICK. FOR THE THANKSGIVING DINNER, IT WAS SOMEWHERE AROUND 65 TO 70°.

IMPROMTU ROCKTAIL PARTIES WERE HELD SEVERAL TIMES. WE PLAYED A "WASHER TOSS" GAME FOR PRIZES. IN THE GAME 3" WASHERS ARE TOSSED FROM 14 FEET AWAY INTO HOLES FOR SCORE. COUPLES COMPETED WITH JAY AND MARIE COLE TAKING THE TOP PRIZE. GEORGE AND MILLY DIDN'T MAKE A POINT SO THEY GOT THE BOOBY PRIZES. GEORGE RECEIVED A VERY "UNIQUE" BOOBY PRIZE, SO IF CURIOUS, JUST ASK HIM WHAT IT WAS.

WE TRIED THE CHAPINITE AREA FOR TWO DAYS. NICE SPECIMENS WERE FOUND. FORREST REED AND MICHELLE LEE PROBABLY FOUND THE BEST. THE AREA HAS BEEN PRETTY WELL DUG OVER AND WE COULDN'T FIND THE "MOTHER LODE" AS IN THE PAST. NEXT WE WENT TO THE MARBLE QUARRY AND FOSSIL AREA. THE EVERITTS AND LEES TOOK HOME MARBLE PAVERS FOR STEPPING STONES. SEVERAL PEOPLE FOUND TRILOBITE SPECIMENS: JIM EVERITT FOUND THE BEST ONE. ON SUNDAY WE STARTED OUT TO FIND CHALCEDONY ROSES BY FOLLOWING AN OLD MAP. DIDN'T FIND THE RIGHT SPOT, BUT KEPT GOING UP INTO THE MARBLE MOUNTAINS AND FOUND THE CASTLE MINE (ABANDONED EXCEPT FOR A SMALL LIVEABLE TRAILER). TURQUOISE, MALACHITE AND AZURITE SPECIMENS WERE FOUND, NOT IN LARGE QUANTITIES HOWEVER. ON THE WAY, WE MANAGED TO FIND 4-WHEEL DRIVE ROADS (?) WHICH ON A SCALE OF ONE TO SIX WOULD BE ABOUT A 5.8. OTHER MATERIAL COLLECTED CONSISTED OF RAILROAD SPIKES, GLASS BALLS, AN OLD 12 LB. SLEDGE, AND PALLETS FOR FIREWOOD.

UNDER THE CATEGORY OF SPECIAL EVENTS (OTHER THAN STUCK VEHICLES):

MARV AND JACQUE GAVE US A SLIDE SHOW ON AUSTRALIA AROUND THE CAMPFIRE ONE EVENING FOR THOSE OF US WHO DIDN'T MAKE THE LAST MEETING. WE ALL ENJOYED THAT.

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT, THE FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN SCHEDULED A LUNAR ECLIPSE FOR SUNDAY NIGHT. THE SKY WAS CLEAR AND BRIGHT. EIGHT OF US STAYED FOR THAT SPECIAL PROGRAM ACCOMPANIED BY HOT DOGS.

THE SAME NIGHT, WHILE WE SAT AT THE CAMPFIRE A SMALL KIT FOX CAME BY FOR A WEINER SNACK COURTESY OF JIM EVERITT.

WHILE TAKING THE PALLETS APART, GEORGE ARVANITES FELL BACKWARDS AND HIT HIS NOSE. IT'S NOT TO CLEAR HOW HE DOES THAT.

MARV MOG TOLD US A HILARIOUS AUSTRALIAN JOKE ABOUT CONFUSING WHAT B.C. MEANT, WHETHER IT WAS BATHROOM COMODE OR BAPTIST CHURCH. ASK MARV TO TELL IT TO YOU.

WELL ENOUGH OF THIS TRIVIA, WE HOPE EVERYONE HAD A GOOD TIME.

KEN & MARY NELSON