

The Rock Slab News

MAY 2009 VOLUME 46 ISSUE 5

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Norbert Bernhardt

Hello Searchers!

It's here! Our 50th Annual Gem and Mineral Show.

The show opening is just days away and everything seems to be in good order. We are fortunate to have an experienced group, and we also are fortunate to have new members learning the ropes!

My thanks go out to Jim Williamson and Larry Richey for doing an outstanding job in organizing this year's show. Now, you can help them by volunteering for a few hours at the show and encouraging your friends and neighbors to come and see what our hobby is all about.

See you all at the Show!

MAY PROGRAM

by Brian Kussman

The May program will be a "Rock Swap." Bring in your extra gem rough, slabs, rocks or minerals and trade them, if you wish, for something you don't have.

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: 7PM, Wed. after general meeting,
 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: January 1, 2009

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 \$25
 Couple \$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:
 Kathy Clark
 18661 Silver Maple Way
 N. Tustin, CA 92705-2144

Charter Date: April 20, 1958

Affiliations:

- California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SEARCHERS BOARD

Officers

President	Norbert Bernhardt	714-734-9665
1 st V.P. (Programs)	Brian Kussman	714-527-1531
2 nd V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714-724-7102
Director	Keith Droste	714-563-5063
Secretary	Kathy Clark	714-639-9927
Treasurer	Pat Lynch	714-829-4737
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott	714-871-7900

Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	714-535-2030
Editor	Kathy Clark	714-639-9927
Historian	Beth Pelfrey	714-774-2754
Hospitality	Lorri Renck	714-397-3584
Librarian		
Membership	Glenn Benedict	714-573-1424
Monthly Drawing	Skip & Connie Cone	714-827-8675
Phone Tree	Audrey Nichols	714-971-6789
Phone Tree Asst. 1	Sharon & Robert Burson	562-860-5938
Phone Tree Asst. 2	Karen Martinez	562-423-2832
2009 Show Chairman	Jim Williamson	714-995-9080
Show Co-Chair	Larry Richey	714-846-3573
Sunshine		
Veterans' Coordinator	Larry Richey	714-846-3573
Webmaster	Walter Mroch	714-826-2132
Workshop	Herb Beckman	714-778-1496
Rock'n Kids	Ana Lorenzo	714-734-9665

Sponsored by:
Anaheim Arts Council

2009 SHOW PEP TALK

by Steve Duncan

Hopefully the Searchers has done something good for you; now is your chance to do something in return to help the club. As you know, we are a non-profit organization, and our major fundraiser is our yearly show. And this year is a special year, being our **50th** Show. So how can you help? Here are 3 ways:

1. Get people to come to the Show. The Show is an opportunity for folks to get to know us, and often people join the club after meeting us at the Show. Also, Show visitors buy grab bags, food, and tries at the Wheel of Fortune, all of which raise money for the club. The goal this year is for every member family to get 10 visitors to come to the Show. This is probably the most important thing we are asking members today. In the past there was an implied requirement for members to sell 10 raffle tickets each. As we don't have the raffle anymore, today the implied requirement is for each member family to get 10 new people to the Show. This should be an achievable goal; please try to do it.
2. We are known for delicious homemade desserts at the Show. Everyone who is a capable desert maker is asked to make something to donate to the Show kitchen. Cookies, cakes, cupcakes, cobbler, pies, the list of possibilities is endless. And for those of you who are culinarily challenged, store bought goodies are also accepted. Please bring your donations to the Show kitchen.
3. We have some talented artists in the Searchers, and we need pieces to be donated for the door prizes. These can be anything from cabs to completed jewelry, wire wrapped as well as fabricated from silver/gold. Please bring your donations to the Show.

This is your opportunity to do something for the club. The club is really not much more than a group of individuals working together for a common goal; in this case, the chance to share and perpetuate the love of rockhounding, lapidary, and jewelry arts. Thank you for working with us.

SUNSHINE REPORT

We send our best wishes to Marcia Duncan for a successful neck surgery and a speedy recovery. We'll miss you at the Show!!

And to Chris Edmonds' husband Sam who has recently been in the hospital, we send our good wishes hoping he will be feeling better soon.

MAY FIELD TRIP

by Steve Duncan

The May trip will be the weekend after the Show, **May 9th and 10th**. This trip will be slightly different than normal because we will be concentrating on fossils, Trilobites in particular. Robert Burson has consented to lead us to some of his special places near Cadiz, and he and I plan to get out there before the trip and remove some over-burden and open some new holes so that everyone should have a good chance of finding something nice. We will spend all day Saturday at the Trilobite site.

Sunday we will spend at Siam Siding looking for Chapenite and Opalite. Some of this material can be found in float, but serious digging will probably increase your chances of finding something nice. The good news is that the digging is in soft sand. Last time I was there I dug for an hour without finding anything, but then found a brick-sized piece of chapenite which cut and polished beautifully. So I am excited to return.

On this trip we will camp off of Cadiz Road south of the railroad tracks. To get there take Interstate 15 north to Barstow, and Interstate 40 east to Ludlow. Exit at Ludlow, and continue east on the Nat'l Trails Highway (old Route 66) to Chamblis. At Chamblis you will take Cadiz road south, and after it crosses the railroad tracks start looking for Searcher signs. This will be a dry camp in a desert area, so come prepared. The weather could be hot in the daytime and cold at night. Don't forget sunscreen, hats, and lots of water. We will have our traditional potluck on Saturday night. A little firewood is always appreciated.

For the collecting, a rock pick and a spray bottle is all you need for the trilobites. You may wish to bring something to pack your trilobites in for transportation, newspaper or bubble wrap work well. You should add a shovel for Sunday if you are motivated enough to dig. One of the problems with digging in soft sand is that the sand wants to run back into the hole. In the past I have used an old tarp or blanket; I shovel the sand into the blanket, then drag it a few feet away and dump it so that it can't make its way back into the hole.

Field trips will leave from camp at 0830 each day.

As I said, these will be the last two trips before the hot weather, but don't be alarmed. We should probably have a hot weather gold panning trip during the summer, and the CFMS has some trip options for you.

The CFMS is running a trip to the North Edwards area on March 23; this is called the Great Onyx Hunt, and will include the Sierra Pelona Onyx claim which has lots of beautiful material. This also gives you a chance to meet some rockhounds from other clubs.

And for those of you wanting something a little dramatic, there is a 5-day CFMS trip to the Davis Creek and Lassen Creek area in Northern California. This is a great obsidian area. This trip is May 20th to May 25th. And there is a 10-day trip to Apache Creek, New Mexico, where the main targets would be various agates. I have had the opportunity to visit Apache Creek, and it is a beautiful area, much different than the desert we are used to collecting in.

More information about the CFMS trips is available at their website <http://www.cfmsinc.org> under

field trips. All three of these trips sound very good, as they are going to known good areas, and you will have some local experts to advise you. If you have any questions about anything field trip-related please give me, Steve Duncan, a call (714-724-7102) or drop me an email at wsd@iteris.com.

MAY EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
1		Show set-up
2	10a-5p	The Searchers 50th Annual Show "Rock n Roll Rock Hop" Brookhurst Community Center 2271 W. Crescent Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801 www.searchers.rocks.org
3	10a-4:30p	
7,14,21,28	6-10pm	Thursday Workshop (lapidary, wire wrapping)
9,23,30	3-7pm	Saturday Workshop (lapidary, silversmithing)
9	8:30am	Field Trip— Cadiz Road for fossils (Trilobite)
10	8:30am	Siam Siding for chapenite and opalite
8,9,10		GemFaire at Costa Mesa, Orange County Fair Grounds (call 503-252-8300 or see www.gemfaire.com)
12	7pm	May General Meeting (Rock Swap)
13	7pm	Board Meeting @ Norbert's

JUNE EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
4,11,18,25	6-10pm	Thursday Workshop (lapidary, wire wrapping)
6,13,20,27	3-7pm	Saturday Workshop (lapidary, silversmithing)
9	7pm	June General Meeting
10	7pm	Board Meeting @ Norbert's

For a complete listing of Gem & Mineral Shows go to www.cfmsinc.org, www.rockngem.com and www.gemfaire.com. And don't forget the Route 66 Gold Miners at www.route66goldminers.org and the GPAA at www.goldprospectors.com.

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

2009 “ROCK N ROLL ROCK HOP”

by Jim Williamson

Our 50th Annual Gem and Mineral Show is just days away!

On March 22nd the Searchers met for a very successful grab bag stuffing party at Norbert and Ana's. Close to 500 bags were put together and those present enjoyed coffee, treats, and good company. The grab bags are a big seller at our Show, and it's easy to see why we sold out last year.

The grab bag stuffing party was followed by a Show Committee meeting that proved to be very productive. The committee has been working hard to bring everything together. However, your help is needed!

At the April general meeting the sign-up sheets will be available for the numerous jobs required to present our hobby to the public. This is your opportunity to get involved. Being part of the Show is a good way for new members to support the club and get to know the members better. The expertise and help provided by the more seasoned members is valuable and will make the Show the great event the Searchers look forward to each year.

ROCK N ROLL ROCK HOP SHOW CHAIRPERSONS

Show Chairman: Jim Williamson 714-995-9080 rockpick@sbcglobal.net
 Co-Show Chairman: Larry Richey 714-846-3573 sandbandit1@verizon.net
 Publicity: Clarke Benich 714-639-9927 clarkebenich@yahoo.com
 Security: Jesse Garza 714-523-2353 sirimgarza@sbcglobal.net & Larry Richey
 Friday Night Dinner: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 hanky1panky3@yahoo.com
 Demonstrations: Keith Droste 714-563-4754 kdroste@sbcglobal.net
 Kitchen: Beth Pelfrey 714-774-2754 pelfrey@sbcglobal.net
 Dealers: Walter Mroch 714-826-2132 hwmroch@gmail.com
 Grab Bags: Chris Edmonds 714-758-7065 christin-edmonds@sbcglobal.net
 Hospitality: Steve Duncan 714-724-7102 wsd@iteris.com
 Membership: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 hanky1panky3@yahoo.com
 Decorations: Darshini 714-484-2766 darshini_inspirit@yahoo.com
 Layout and Electrical: Herb Beckman 714-778-1496 hbeckman@earthlink.net
 Setup and Tear Down: Norbert Bernhardt 714-734-9665 nbern@cox.net
 Hourly Door Prizes: Rachel Brophy 562-522-3667 shamrockwishes@yahoo.com
 Prom Queen: Burt Fortin 714-890-8083
 Cases and Trophies: Margaret Neeley 714-535-2030
 Silent Auction: Robert Burson 562-860-5938
 Show Secretary: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 hanky1panky3@yahoo.com
 Show Treasurer: Pat Lynch 909-393-2186 (daytime 714-830-5607) pat.lynch@experian.com
 Wheel of Fortune: Jim Peterson & Ester Reynolds 714-633-7573 jimmypeterson@msn.com
 Signs: Terri & Glenn Benedict 714-573-1424 terri024@sbcglobal.net
 Special Exhibits: Betty Nelson 714-530-1365 betty@azteche.com
 Children's Jewelry: John O'Connor 714-669-8149 joconnor@kfengineering.com
 Anaheim Arts Council: Margaret Neeley 714-535-2030

DEMONSTRATORS WANTED

by Keith Droste

We want to give our members first shot at demonstration spaces at our upcoming show in May. If you make jewelry, gem carve or whatever, why not share it with the public. We would like to keep this within our club, however, we will go to the Vets and outside demonstrators if necessary. If you feel like “showing off” your skills, please call me, Keith Droste, at 714-563-4754 or e-mail kdroste@sbcglobal.net to discuss days and times. The sooner we can get this together the happier the show committee and I will be. P.S. Also need “cabbers”!

HOURLY DOOR PRIZES

by Rachel Brophy

Knock, Knock. Who's There? . . . Donut. Donut Who? Do-nut you wanna contribute toward the Searchers' annual gem show?

I know that's a lame lead-in, but it might be just lame enough to catch people's attention!

As you all know, Searchers will be hosting its 50th Annual Gem & Mineral Show, “Festival of Gems-50Years of History” on May 2-3, 2009. That's where you come in! We need items for the hourly door prizes, not to mention gift boxes to put them in and any other desirable pieces suitable for the give-away.

I've witnessed several of you will amazing talents, and I've only been a member for a month! So, please help us out by donating one of your polished gems or interesting finds for the drawing. It's a great way to showcase our best and most talented members. . .that's you!

If you are interested in donating an item for the drawing, please contact me, Rachel Brophy, at sham-rockwishes@yahoo.com. I'd be happy to help take it off your hands.

SHOW CASES

by Margaret Neeley

Have you signed up to put in a case? If not – Why not? Do it now! Since you are a member we know you have an interest in rocks, so gather them up and show them.

At our show we do not have any regulations as what must be put in a case. In past years members have displayed minerals – silversmithing – polished stones mounted or not – beading – crystals – rocks that seem to have a picture – inlay work – unusual slabs – or something you may have purchased made out of rock that you like. Don't forget we have a workshop if you need help.

If you need a case or have one that you will loan or sell, let me know. Margaret Neeley at 714-535-2030.

HOT FROM THE KITCHEN

by Beth Pelfrey

A few days from S-Days, and are we ready? Probably. This is a reminder for all of you who have already signed up and those who haven't.

Searchers, please bring most of your donated desserts on Friday or Saturday so we have the best chance of selling out and not having leftovers. We will need desserts both days for the busiest periods: 11-2:30 each day.

Friday I will plan to be there around 9 AM to clean and unpack the boxes from storage into the correct areas and will welcome all helpers.

All the purchased perishable and non-perishable food will be put away

We will share in the Friday Nite Dinner prepared by the wonderful, generous, incomparable Kathy Clark

Friday night after the crew dinner, we will clean and put away stuff

Saturday at 8:00 AM (If the BCC staff arrives in time!) we open, and will cut and wrap the delicious fresh desserts - pies, cakes, brownies and so on - that members have brought in. We make coffee, tea, lemonade, and whatever else we need throughout the day. This will continue until the show closes. The show hours are 10-5 Saturday.

Sunday morning has the same hours and the same things, except the kitchen will be closed by 3:30 - the show closes at 4:30 - so we will clean, pack away dry goods, sell the rest of the perishables and BE OUT OF THE CENTER BEFORE 7:00 PM.

Those of us who have cases will have to pack up our cases immediately after the show closes and get back to the business of cleaning and packing up the kitchen

We will also need volunteers both days for the "back room" and the "serving line". Try to plan to work at least one hour or two.

This is our 50th Annual Show, so let's make it a "super duper" one!

Thanks for everything you have and will do.

Beth Pelfrey, Show Chair

(714) 774-2754

pelfreye@sbcglobal.net

SHOW SECURITY

For Your Safety and Protection

CASES

Please remember that we do not allow any display case or exhibit to be opened or removed during Show hours.

Sunday at the close of the Show everyone will leave the exhibit hall until Security has cleared the building. This should take 5 to 10 minutes with your help. Then you will be allowed back into the exhibit hall to remove your case, or open it to remove your things. If you need help or have a problem, please let myself or Show Chairman know. This is for your safety and protection.

NAME BADGES

Remember to wear your club name badge to the Show this year. Sunday at the close of the Show everyone will leave the exhibit hall until Security has cleared the building. This should take 5 to 10 minutes with your help. You will be allowed back in **if you are wearing your Searcher name badge**. This is to insure that all unauthorized people or leftover guests from the Show will be cleared from the exhibit hall and **ONLY** those people involved in the Show breakdown activities will be allowed back into the exhibit hall.

If anyone needs help with their display or they need help from someone other than a club member or they are non-club members picking up exhibits at the close of the Show on Sunday, they **will need a special badge**. Please see me Friday during setup, Saturday during the Show or early Sunday so I may see that they receive a badge or proper pass before the close of the Show.

Thank you,
Jesus Garza, Show Security

We need more people to sign up for Security duty at the Show for all 3 days, May 1-3. Please contact Jesse Garza as soon as possible to let him know the hours you can help out. (See the Show Chairpersons listing for Jesse's contact information).

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 3492 Anaheim, California 92803

www.searchersrocks.org

Membership Application

PLEASE PRINT

Date _____

Name (1): _____

Name (2) _____

Jr. Member (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Phone # _____ Occupation _____

Please indicate your field of interest by checking any/all of the following:

Mineralogy () Geology () Paleontology () Lapidary/Workshops () Field Trips ()

Other () _____

How did you become aware of the Searchers? Friend/Relative () Member () Internet ()

Other () _____

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization and we rely upon volunteers within our club to serve on our committees as well as our board members. This field is optional and only serves as future information. Making a checkmark in any area in no way obligates you to volunteer or serve in any of the positions or on any of its committees.

Please mark any/all fields you may be interested in, or have a special expertise in:

Anaheim Arts Council () Club Historian () Librarian () Webmaster ()

Phone Comm. () Membership Chairman () Monthly Drawings ()

Newsletter Editor () Sunshine () Hospitality () Annual Show ()

Veteran's Workshop () Silent Auction () Rock'N'Kids () Workshop ()

Annual Dues: Individual: \$25 Couple: \$35 Junior Members (17 & under) : \$10

Valid Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, not prorated. *Subject to change.*

Please make Check payable to: "The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc."

**mail to: Glenn Benedict
Membership Chairman
1202 Skyline Drive
North Tustin, CA 92705**

The Rock Slab News

February 2009

Volume 46 ISSUE 2



MAY BIRTHSTONE Moonstone

Moonstone is one of the May birthstones. The energy of moonstone is balancing, introspective, and lunar. It is capable of helping one with the changing structures of one's life on the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual levels. Once called the travelers stone it is used for protection against the perils of travel. Moonstone is also a talisman of good fortune. It is also said to both arouse tenderness within the self and to bring happiness to the environment in which it resides. Other metaphysical attributes of moonstone include, ability to lessen the affects of the moon cycles on the wearer by reducing the tendency to over react to emotional conflicts and by relieving anxiety and stress. Moonstone is a gemstone material in the feldspar family. Hardness is 6. There are many types of moonstone: some will display internal inclusions especially rainbow and blue moonstone.



Kathy Clark, *Editor*
18661 Silver Maple Way
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