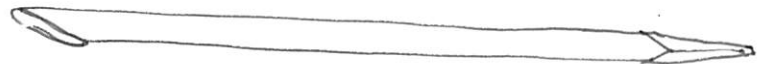
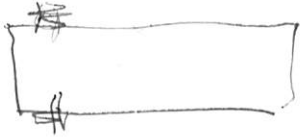


11-1995





SEARCHERS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

Established June 20, 1958

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 3492, Anaheim, CA 92804

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Dr Chris Madsen	535-2936
1st Vice President	Herb Beckman	778-1496
2nd Vice President	Connie Van Kampen	993-2827
Secretary	Doris Pelfrey	774-2754
Treasurer	Betty Nelson	530-1365
Federation Delegate	Elmer Parsons	870-5495
Director	Jim Williamson	995-9080

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Historian	Jan Gillette	776-9467
Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	535-2030
Arts Council Alternate	Mae Freedman	774-6665
1995 Show Chairman	George Mitchum	897-2407
1995 Co-Show Chairman	Floyd Neeley	535-2030
Bulletin Editor	Marge Jordan	897-2407
Bulletin Editor Alternate	Jeanne Howe	
Bulletin Mailout	Bernie and Elena Goldgorin	995-0542
Membership	Milly Arvanites	838-1924
Public Lands	Elmer Parsons	870-5495
Refreshments	Jeanne Howe	529-3613
Sunshine	Froma Reiter	879-3514
Sunshine Alternate	Doris Pelfrey	774-2754
Veterans Coordinator	Larry Richey	846-3573
Monthly Drawing	Floyd Neeley	535-2030
Meeting Host	Bill Keyes	535-1484
Phone Committee	Marie Cole	639-7983

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

The Searchers Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. regular meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month on the basement level of the Anaheim Memorial Hospital Medical Office Building, 1211 W. LaPalma Avenue, Anaheim, CA. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

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

Field Trips are usually held on the second 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, basement level Boardroom of the Anaheim Memorial Hospital Medical Office Building at 7:30 PM.

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 all items to: Marge Jordan, 12161 Bartlett Street, Garden Grove, CA 92645-1525.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The holidays are coming fast upon us now. The year is winding down, yet in many ways it seems only a month or so since my first President's Message -- I fear that the rapid passage of time is one more sign that I'm not getting any younger.



This month's meeting remains one of my favorites since, as the nights grow longer and colder, the celebrations grow warmer and for our club, it's pie night!

As I look back over the year, we have made some progress but problems also remain. The greatest immediate challenge facing us is completing our slate of officers for 1996. The nominating committee has worked over time to secure some excellent people for next years board, however important positions such as field trip chairman and secretary remain open. Once again I am going to ask those of you who have already given much to the club over the years to again assist your club, and to encourage any new members who are willing to take the challenge to come forward -- you will receive much assistance from the veteran members as I can personally assure you. There is a great wealth of talent and many people willing to assist you, as they have me, in taking on a position of leadership in this club.

Finally, the Board is happy to be able to present to the membership tonight, a proposal for a temporary workshop, until our permanent facilities in Anaheim have been built.

The ideal solution to a workshop would be a central location with long term commitment and no or minimal rent however, this still appears to be years away. We feel that getting the workshop up and running again is a top priority, especially valuable to our new members and to enable us to recruit and keep more new members. Hopefully we have found an acceptable solution for the short term.

Enough said -- now let's get to the pies!

L C MADSEN, MD

FUTURE CLUB ACTIVITIES:

November 22 - 27th	Thanksgiving Field Trip - Wiley's Well area
November 22nd	Board Meeting
December 1st	Deadline - Ticket Purchase Installation/Christmas Dinner
December 5th	December Bulletin items due
December 16th	Annual Christmas/Installation Dinner



SHOW DATES:

- Nov 17 - 18 Mineralogical Society of Southern California
Fairplex Bldg 4
Pomona CA
Hours: Fri & Sat 10 - 7
Sun 10 - 5
- Nov 18 - 19 Pomona Rock Hourds
Masonic Temple
1025 N. Vine Street (between 4th and "J")
Ontario, CA
Hours: Sat 10 - 6
Sun 10 - 5
- Nov 25 - 26 Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society
Barstow Community Center
841 S. Barstow Road
Barstow, CA
Hours: Sat 10 - 6
Sun 10 - 5

HIGHLIGHTS - OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING:

Meeting was called to order by Dr Chris Madsen. The meeting was well attended. We had two guests, Ken and Sandy Schultz.

Our program for the evening featured two excellent videos. The first, "How to be Safe Around Abandoned Mine Shafts," and the second, "How the Earth was Formed."

Floyd Neeley, Chairman, Nominating Committee thanked his co-chairmen, Milly Arvanites and Mae Freedman for their hard work contacting members to run for an office and he also stressed that we still need to fill three positions, Field Trip Chairman, Secretary and Federation Director.

Marie Cole reported on the September 30th Beach Party. It was well attended, lots of good food and fun and great weather.

Connie Van Kampen and Steve Knox gave information on the upcoming field trip to Trona and Searles Lake, October 14th and 15th. Steve also brought in samples of crystals to be found.

Marvin Mog will be the field trip leader for the Thanksgiving Trip to Wiley's Well, November 22nd to November 27th.

Former Searcher, Leona Barry, passed away early part of October. Her husband Bill preceeded her in death about two years ago. Before moving to Northern California several years ago they were both very active members.

Our Annual Installation/Christmas Dinner will be held December 16th at the Fullerton Elks Club. Tickets will be available at the November meeting. There will be more information in the November bulletin.

Doris Pelfrey

IN MEMORY OF
NORMAN ALISON HICKMAN

I've lost another dear friend!

Norm was born in Shreveport, Louisiana on May 14th, 1937. He moved to Texas with his family during his high school years. He married Billy, and they had two daughters, Alison and Nancy. Billy has since passed away in 1987 right after our Thanksgiving field trip.

Norm joined the Searchers in 1976 when he lived in Orange. He was very active in the club, serving two full terms as field trip chairman, and led many other trips over the years. While living in Orange, he worked at Ford Aeronautics in Newport Beach as an engineer.

Norm sold his home in Orange and bought five acres in the high desert of Newberry Springs. In July 1980 he started working at the Edison Cooleration Generating Plant in Daggett as an instrument technician. His land was always open to the Searchers in their passings, and there were many times we camped on his property to go on field trips, and times when he hosted the entire Searchers club for outings. He retired in November 1992, and was called back to work in 1993, working from March to November on a special project.

On September 7th, 1995 he went into the Victor Valley Community Hospital in Victorville for gastric problems, had surgery with no relief to his problems. He then had a second surgery and passed away on the night of October 17th, 1995.

Norm is survived by his wife Sue, his two daughters Alison now 34, and Nancy 33, and a sister Nancy who all reside in Texas.

Norm had always been a Gem and Mineral Dealer known as "De-Gem," as well as being G.I.A. Certified. He and Sue met at a Yucaipa show. They were married in Quartzsite at the Justice Court, the day before opening of the 1988 Quartzsite Pow Wow. Where else could two avid rockhounds be married? On our arrival with other Searchers in Quartzsite that year, we were all surprised with their news, and showered them with bottles of champagne.

Sue is and has been very active with the CFMS and for the last five and a half years served on the BLM California Desert District Advisory Council and the Public Lands Action Committee. Sue plans to remain at the same address in Newberry Springs. At her request, the Searchers donation was sent to the CFMS Scholarship Fund.

Anyone who has ever been on a field trip with Norm, and especially ridden with him in his little yellow Ford Courier truck, that wasn't even a 4-wheel drive will always remember a wild, hair raising "E" ticket experience, and, it even got better after he got his Toyota 4-wheeler. Some of us will remember "Norm's little thing," (a candle) when we couldn't have a campfire.

May Norm, George and Bill be together hunting their "Gems" in the sky. We will always cherish our memories.

Milly Arvanites

SHARING AND CARING:

Doris Pelfrey has been having problems with shingles and we sincerely hope that she is doing better.

Queenie Osborne had surgery (carotid andarterectomy) on November 9th to remove a blockage. Alf reports that the surgery was very successful and the doctor is very pleased with the outcome. She has improved so much that she was discharged from the hospital Sunday, November 12th and is now home. We all wish you well Queenie and hope you'll be out and about before long.

Jim Erhart will be going in to Long Beach Memorial Hospital for surgery on Tuesday, November 14th. We wish you well Jim and hope your hospital stay is a short one.

Marge

KEEPING IN TOUCH:

Had word from Merle and Jeanne Howe. They are now settled in their new home and seem to be enjoying the new locale. They've joined the Hemet rockhounds and have been enjoying some of their functions and also planned to exhibit at their small club show November 4th. Jeanne sez they're also enjoying evening band concerts and picnics in the park. Sounds good to me! Good to hear from you two...you're missed!

Marge

REFRESHMENTS:

This evening our refreshments will be PIE. Our traditional Searchers Piefest. We will need volunteers to help with the cutting and serving.

There will be no general meeting in December - the 16th of December will be our Annual Installation/Christmas Dinner to be held at the Fullerton Elks Club.

Our next General meeting will be January 9th. We will be looking for someone to volunteer for refreshment chairman for 1996. If you would like to volunteer please let Herb Beckman know.

Marge

DECEMBER BULLETIN WILL BE A MAIL OUT. I WILL NEED ALL ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER BULLETIN NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 5TH. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS. I NEED YOUR ITEMS IN WRITING. THANKS.

Marge

PROGRAM REPORT:

The October program consisted of two videos. The first was a very graphic presentation by the Nevada Bureau of Mines on the dangers inherent in poking around in old, abandoned mines. This one sure kept me awake, and determined to be very alert to the dangers that we might encounter even in our carefully planned outings.

The second video, entitled "The Heat Within" was an exceptionally good explanation how the heat within our planet has influenced the geological progression of our world. It is part of the "Miracle Plant" series, and contains a very clear computer simulation of how the continents evolved from just one continent (Pangea), into the evenly distributed continents and oceans we have today. It also projects how the African rift valley will break away from the African continent in the future. Truly an excellent video.

The November meeting will be a busy one, with a short program of slides on the Mayan structures on the Yucatan Peninsula by Betty and Harry Nelson. In addition, we will have a silent auction, pie night, and the annual election of officers.

I am still working on the January and February 1996 Programs and have nothing to report at this time.

The Christmas dinner meeting at the Fullerton Elks Club promises to be a fun for all event. We will be entertained by a choral group accompanied by Froma Reiter, installation of the 1996 officers, and music until midnight for your dancing and entertainment pleasure. Please plan to attend and enjoy an opportunity to socialize with your amicable fellow Searchers without the specter of having to disband early (we will have the room all to ourselves until midnight if we want). A program of recorded music (acceptable sound level) from the 30's, 40's 50's and beyond is being prepared to encourage dancing, and remembrances of how it was when we were young. Earlier artists will include Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, the Mills Brothers, Nat King Cole, to name a few. Later artists will include Julie London, George Shearing, The Carpenters, the Beatles, etc and more recent artists such as Credence, Clearwater, the Manhattan Transfer and others.



To date, I have only received about thirty (30) ticket orders/purchases from Searchers. We are committed to have around eighty (80) Searchers and guests attending the Christmas Dinner. Please get your orders in and your tickets. We will be taking orders and selling tickets at this November meeting. After that date, only a few days remain to receive and process your orders, our deadline is December 1st. Please get your orders in quickly. See next page for menu, prices, times and street address.

No host cocktails 6:00 PM, Dinner 7:00 PM, Program 8:00 PM. Fullerton Elks Lodge, No. 1993, 1451 N. Brea Blvd (at Harbor). We will be in the Party Room. Let's have a good turnout and a great evening. See you there!!

Herb Beckman

DEAR GIVERS

meet and greet 6pm.
dinner program 7pm.
8pm.
SATURDAY DEC 16, 1995

Fullerton
Elks Lodge No 1993
1451 No Brea Blvd (at Harbor)
no. Fullerton CA 92632
host bar in party room

Choose
Prime Rib member 12.50
Baked Potato non-member 15.00
Mixed Veg. Rolls
coffee, tea, milk
sherbet
Vegetarian plate & sherbet 10.00 & 12.50

Grilled Breast of Chicken member 10.00
Rice Pilaf non-member 12.50
Mixed Veg - Rolls
Coffee, tea, milk
sherbet

deadline: December 1
questions?

Herb Beckman 778-1496

Betty Nelson 530-1365 op #

PLEASE CUT AT ABOVE LINE AND SEND WITH MONEY TO:

Herb Beckman
2105 Bangor Way
Anaheim, CA 92806

How many _____	Prime Rib	member 12.50	non 15.00	_____
How many _____	Grilled Chicken Breast	10.00	12.50	_____
How many _____	Vegetarian	10.00	12.50	_____
total				

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP REPORT:

Our October field trip was to Trona, CA to collect specimens on the Searles Lake in conjunction with their annual Gem and Mineral Show. Rumors were that the beautiful pink halite, for which Searles Lake is famous, would not be available this year. The rumors were correct.

When I drove into the Trona area, I was overpowered with the unique aroma of the Searles Lake salt brine, as I'm sure were all the other (approximately 16) Searchers who went on this field trip. However, this sensation lasted only a few minutes before the odor was normal and was only noticeable again when I got a brief whiff of fresh air (very rare in Trona) and then noticed the odor again, briefly.

It was clear when assessing the architecture of the home in Trona that this is not a friendly environment. All the houses are built with large roof overhangs on all four sides so that the direct sun never hits the walls or windows (except for early morning and late evening when the sun's rays have little heating effect). Fortunately, this annual event is scheduled for October, when it is rarely very hot.

The Gem Show was very interesting, mostly Searles Lake minerals were in evidence. There were several familiar dealers who had many attractive offerings. The Auction was the center of activity much of Saturday. Those who attended had a great opportunity to bid on excellent examples of the famous Searles Lake pink halite, and many beautiful specimens were sold at bargain basement prices.

The three field trips out onto the lakebed were each unique and rewarding especially to those who had their cars near the front of the line for the caravan onto the lake. The first field trip enabled rockhounds to collect Hanksite crystals, Halite crystals (clear ones), and other crystals that had been pumped out onto the lakebed by the North American Chemical Company employees over the previous several days. It was like you have dreamed of - just walking long the ground (salt) and pick up beautiful large crystals just laying on the ground in great profusion, and put them in your collecting bag. It was not so good for those who were not near the front of the caravan, however, everyone was able to collect some nice specimens. If you go next year, be sure to be near the front of the caravan.

The second field trip (3:00PM Saturday), enabled us to get "down and dirty." You have never seen or experienced any mud as dirty and sticky as the mud we had to sort through to find halite, borax, hanksite, and other crystals on this outing. It was truly gross! But fun!!

Searchers and guests (the "Our Club" which had approximately 10 members in attendance) were camped approximately five miles North of town (yes, the odor of salt brine saturated the air there too) in a nice, but primitive campground. The evening sky was exceptionally beautiful as it often is in the high desert near Death Valley. We saw many shooting stars/meteorites Saturday night, a truly beautiful show during and after our campfire.

Sunday morning, the third and last field trip was in search of the elusive pink halite crystal clusters. Very little, if any pink halite was found, however, this year the algae was predominantly raspberry/pomegranate purple in color - very elegant. Many Searchers came away from this field trip with beautiful specimens. Some of these will be found in the silent auction at the November meeting and, (perhaps) a few spectacular specimens will be on display during the meeting.

Clearly the North American Chemical Company and the Trona Gem and Mineral Society worked together very well to put on this event, there were many rockhounds and dealers in attendance. Hopefully they were not overwhelmed by the numbers of field trip attendees (I estimate that over 400 vehicles were out on the lake on

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP REPORT (Cont'd):

Sunday to collect halite specimens. This means that a thousand or more people were there). Hopefully this will not discourage them from holding this event next year. If the event is repeated and you plan to attend, please contact me or Steve Knox. I have developed a list of equipment you should take to be assured of a chance of a success on these field trips. Also, several quirky practices were observed in the queuing system for cars which you should be aware of before you go. Check with us before you go, and you will have a much better probability of success.



Herb Beckman

NOVEMBER (THANKSGIVING) FIELD TRIP:

Marvin Mog will be our field trip leader for our Thanksgiving Trip to the Wiley's Well area. Thanksgiving dinner will be at 3:00 PM Thursday. This will be our usual potluck so bring or prepare your favorite dish or dishes.

Marvin and Jacque will be at the campground Tuesday (Nov 21st) early afternoon.

Please see map and further information elsewhere in this bulletin.

Herb Beckman

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

We still need officers for our 1996 Board. Open nominations for these positions will be accepted from the floor at tonights meeting. How about some volunteers?

Our new slate of officers so far for our 1996 offices follow:

President - Herb Beckman
1st Vice President - Lola Tapia
2nd Vice President -
Secretary -
Treasurer - Bob Gabourel
Federation Director -

I would like to thank Milly Arvanites and Mae Freedman for all their help.

Floyd Neeley



DON'T FORGET - SLABS FOR VETS!

Larry Richey will have a box available at our general meetings to collect slabs for use at the Veteran's Lapidary Shop and would appreciate it if you would donate any of those surplus slabs that you may have on hand.

Editor

MEMBERSHIP:

Please note in your Rosters a new temporary address for the Erharts, it is:

14949 Beechwood
Chino Hills, CA 91709

Milly Arvanites

WHAT IS CHALCEDONY?

It is cryptocrystalline quartz. 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 fibers in petrified wood. It is the center of many geodes. It is red, white, blue, green, brown, purple, pink, black and clear.

If it is pale green it is called chrysoprase, one of the more valuable types of chalcedony. If it is red, it is carnelian. If it is in layers it is onyx (or sardonyx). If the layers are bent it is banded agate. If clear with fine minute bands, it may be rainbow or iris agate.

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

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

via Orange Coast Gazette, 11/95
and others

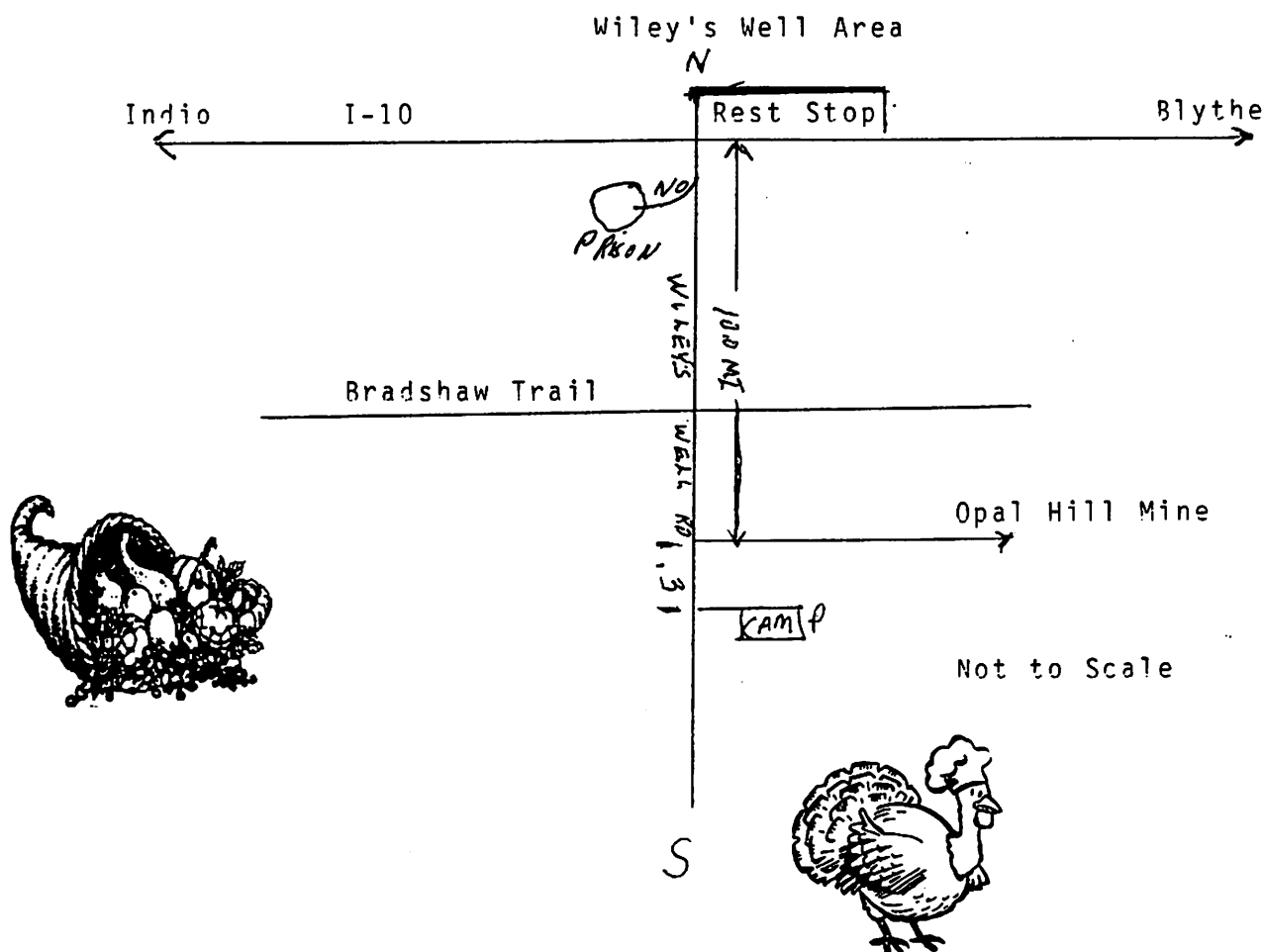
FLAT LAPPING TIP:

After lapping flat stones, such as cut thundereggs, with 600 grit, wash them and leave under a heat lamp or 100 watt bulb for about 15 minutes. When stones are warm, polish them on a flat wheel with tin oxide. By pre-heating, the polishing is almost instant. Otherwise, the felt wheel has to heat the stone before the polishing begins.

via Orange Cost Gazette,
11/95 and others



NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP - THANKSGIVING
November 22 to 27, 1995



It is a dry camp so bring plenty of water and wood for campfires. I'll be at the campground Tuesday, November 21, early afternoon through November 27, Monday morning.

Thanksgiving Dinner will be 3 P.M. Thursday. Bring or prepare your favorite dish or dishes. We never lack for plenty of good food on this trip. Come and have a good time. Games will be available.

Field trips will be Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Bring a shovel if you want to dig for geodes.

Any questions, call Marvin Mog at 714-774-6374.

Searchers Gem and Mineral Society assumes no responsibility for injuries or property damage due to accidents, carelessness, or acts of God. Searchers and their guests assume all risks during club activities.

