



The Rock Slab News

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

September 2011 - Volume 48 Issue 9



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Searchers Board Officers

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2nd VP: Steve Duncan
Director: Norbert Bernhardt
Secretary: Steve Pottberg
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Kim Campbell

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Membership: Glenn Benedict
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Robert Burson
Show Co-Chair
Beth Pelfrey
Sunshine
Veteran's Coordinator:
Larry Richey
Website: Gary Grayson
Workshop: Adrian Callard
Rock's Kids:
Terri Benedict

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy September everyone! Hope you all enjoyed your warm summer months and are getting ready for a beautiful fall. It was nice to visit with fellow Searchers at the annual picnic a couple weeks ago. We had lots of yummy food to eat, games to play and time to visit with each other. The weather was also just perfect! Thank you to Veronica, Steve, Tracy and everyone else that had a part in putting such an enjoyable event together!

Tery-Lynn

The circumstances of our lives have as much power as we choose to give them.
~David McNallyto

SEPTEMBER BIRTHSTONE

Sapphire

Sapphire, the September birthstone, has been popular since the Middle Ages and, according to folklore, will protect your loved ones from envy and harm. Medieval clergy wore sapphires to symbolize heaven, while commoners thought the gem attracted heavenly blessings. Blue sapphires range from very light to very dark greenish or violetish blue, as well as various shades of pure blue. The most prized colors are a medium to medium dark blue or slightly violetish blue. Sapphire is a variety of the gem species corundum and occurs in all colors of the rainbow. Pink, purple, green, orange, or yellow corundum are known by their color (pink sapphire, green sapphire). Ruby is the red variety of corundum. Sapphire (Greek: *σάπφειρος*; *sappheiros*, "blue stone") is a gemstone variety of the mineral corundum, an aluminium oxide ($\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$), when it is a color other than red or dark pink; in which case the gem would instead be called a ruby, considered to be a different gemstone. Trace amounts of other elements such as iron, titanium, or chromium can give corundum blue, yellow, pink, purple, orange, or greenish color. Pink-orange sapphires are also called *padparadscha*. Pure chromium is the distinct impurity of rubies. However, a combination of e.g. chromium and titanium can give a sapphire a color distinct from red.



GENERAL INFORMATION

General Meetings: 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
Board Meetings: 7PM, 1st Wednesday 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 2010/ 2011			
Date	Leader	Location & material	Status
Sept 25&26, 2010	Robert Burson	Mule Canyon –agate and jasper, also possibly silver onyx	Done
Oct 9 &10, 2010	Norbert Bernhardt	Lucerne Valley-orbicular rhyolite and ??	Done
Nov Dates TBD	Steve Duncan- Joint trip with the Indian Wells club	Sheep Springs and Rainbow Ledge- agates and famous Rainbow Ridge jasp-agate	Done
Dec 12, 2010 Sunday	Steve Duncan	Sierra Pelona claim for banded onyx. Due to the busy holiday season this will be a one day trip	Done
Jan 21,22&23, 2011	Steve Duncan	Burro Creek AZ-agate, jasper, pastelite	Done
Feb 19&20, 2011	Jimmy Peterson	Siam Siding-Chapenite Cadiz-trilobite fossils	Cancelled
Mar 19&20, 2011	Robert Burson & Jay Valle	Chuckwalla Mts-agates (plume, moss, fortification and banded) and jaspers	Done
APR 9&10, 2011	Jimmy Peterson	Siam Siding-Chapenite Cadiz-trilobite fossils	Done
May 14& 15, 2011	Jim McGeough	Buffington Pockets Nevada (about an hour outside of Vegas)- Blue agate	Done
May 28, 2011	CFMS Trip	Calico Mountains for sagenite Details at CFMS website	Done
June 11, 2011	CFMS Trip	Somis-fossil sand dollars, clams, and scallops Details at CFMS website	Done
July 15-19, 2011	Norbert Bernhardt	Crystal Ridge Quartz crystals and Garnets	Done
July, 2011	CFMS Trip	Greenhorn Mt-rose quartz Details should become available on the CFMS website	Done
Sept 10 & 11, 2011	Steve Duncan	Sandy Wash for agate Lucerne valley for orbicular rhyolite	Done
Sept 16,17&18, 2011	CFMS Trip	Jade Cove-Jade and Serpentine Details should become available at the CFMS website	CFMS Trip
Oct 22 & 23 2011	Jim McGeough	Goldfield Nevada Agates and more	Planned

The Rock Slab News		Searchers Gem & Mineral Society	
		3 collecting days trip	
Nov, 2011 Dates TBD	Robert Burson	Baxter Wash? Chuckwallas? Wileys Well?	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

CLUB MEETING ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2011

Date	Presenter	Subject
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

UPCOMING CFMS GEM SHOWS

September 17-18 - STOCKTON, CA

Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club
 Scottish Rite Masonic Center
 33 W. Alpine Avenue
 Hours: 10-5 Daily
 Jan Bradley or Dorothy Tonnacliff
 (209) 629-3837 / (209) 603-4539
 Email: slmshow@juno.com
 Website:
<http://www.stocktonlapidary.com>

September 24-25 - MONTEREY, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
 Monterey Fairgrounds
 2004 Fairgrounds Road
 Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5
 Matt Biewer (831) 659-4156
 Email: mattbiewer@aol.com
 Website: <http://www.cvgms.org>

October 8-9 - TRONA, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
 13337 Main Street
 Hours: Sat; 7:30-5; Sun. 7:30-4
 Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356

Email: slgms@iwvisp.com

Website:

www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub

October 15-16 - ANDERSON, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
 Shasta Distrist Fairgrounds
 Briggs Street
 Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4
 Steve Puderbaugh (530) 365-4000; Cell
 (530) 604-2951

Email: steve@applyaline.com

Website:

www.shastagemandmineral.com

October 15-16 - PLACERVILLE, CA

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society

El Dorado County Fairgrounds
 100 Placerville Drive

Hours: 10-5 daily

Karen Newlin, (530) 676-2472

Email: info@rockandgemshow.org

Show Website:

www.rockandgemshow.org

October 15-16 - SANTA ROSA, CA
 Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
 Veterans Memorial Auditorium
 1351 Maple Ave
 Hours: Sat. 10-6: Sun 10-5
 Debbie Granat (707) 542-1651
 Email:
santarosarockshow@hotmail.com
 Website: www.srmgs.org

October 15-16 - WHITTIER, CA
 Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
 Whittier Community Center
 7630 Washington
 Hours: 10-5 Daily
 Marcia Goetz (626) 260-7239
 Email: joemar1@verizon.net

November 5-6 - LANCASTER, CA
 Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
 Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
 2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14
 Hours: 9-5 daily
 Cheri George, (562) 243-8470

Email: lizardwoman3@yahoo.com
 Website:
www.palmdalegemandmineral.com

November 5-6 - 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) 461-5783, (619) 889-6886 cell
 Email: rhbobhancock@cs.com
 Website: www.sdmg.org

November 19-20 - OXNARD, CA
 Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
 Oxnard Performing Arts Center
 800 Hobson Way
 Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4
 Norb Kinsler, (805) 644-6450
 Email: show_info@oxnardgem.com
 Website: <http://www.oxnardgem.com>

FIELD TRIP REPORT

Owens Valley, CA July 15-19, 2011

By Norbert Bernhardt

Our Searcher's extended trip for 2011 was to the Owens Valley in the vicinity of Independence and Bishop. We had 9 Searchers attend and all had a good time! The weather was actually ok for July but it got hotter towards the end of the trip.

We went to a few locations around Crystal Ridge to collect quartz crystals and also to a grossular garnet location close to Bishop.

As usual we had the traditional pot-luck on Saturday with lots of food! Jimmy and I went trout fishing and came back with some nice trout that we cooked up for a feast!

I will be leading a one day field trip in December to Nuevo Dump, which is close to Lake Perris, for rose quartz, schorl and garnets. More information to follow in the November Rock Slab News.



SEARCHER'S GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY PICNIC AUGUST 21, 2011



OCTOBER FIELD TRIP

The searchers October trip will be on Oct 22&23, 2011 to Goldfield Nevada collecting rainbow agate, opalite and jasper. This trip will be led by Jim and Donna McGeough. Goldfield is approximately 175 miles north of Las Vegas on Hwy 95. We will be dry camping (no amenities) at the site which is accessible by any vehicle or rv, signs will be posted.

Leaders will get there on Friday afternoon, and Steve Duncan plans to be there Friday AM for anyone coming early. We will meet Sat at 9am, and check out this area, there are lots of loose rock all over the area. There are 8 separate sites listed in Gem Trails of Nevada in the general area that we can also think about (Goldfield is #64). Sunday we will do some of the same or check out some new areas or possibly go to Gold Point an old Ghost Town close by. Because this is a longer trip than normal you may want to do a full day of collecting on Sunday, and drive home Monday.

To get to the Goldfield area go 2.4 miles North from Goldfield on US Hwy 95 to where a Searchers sign will be seen on the left side of the roadway. Turn west and follow the signs approximately 4 miles. There are hotels in town (might want to check for reservations before you come) if you want to get a room. Bring backpacks, rock hammers, picks, gads, hiking shoes, water, sunscreen, hats etc. Plan for cool or warm weather. We will have a pot luck on Saturday night.

Contact info for the leaders and Steve:

Jim's cell is 909/225-5481

Donna cell is 909/234-1857

Steve's cell is 714/724-7102

ANY GEO-GENIUSES???

via Petrograph, September 2011

National Geographic has a number of these Geo-Genius tests, want to give this one a try? **(Answers on page 8)**

- 1) What river, used by early fur traders, flows near Springfield, Hartford, and Middletown?
- 2) What river flows near Twin Falls, Payette and Weiser before it cuts through Hell's Canyon?
- 3) Mumbai and Karachi are ports on what broad arm of the Indian Ocean?
- 4) The country of Luxembourg shares its name with a province in what neighboring country?
- 5) What city, previously the capital of Morocco, is a west-central commercial and tourism center?

WORD OF THE DAY

For those of us lapidaries who indulge in lapidary, there is a dark side of our hobby, a black turn to our name: **Lapidate** (verb), pronounced ['læp-ê-deyt],

Definition: To stone, to throw stones at, to stone to death. **Usage:** Lapidate, unfortunately, has a large family of relations: the process noun is "lapidation" and someone who throws stones is a lapidator.

"Lapidary" is the adjective meaning "related to stones" and lapidable means "may be stoned (for)," as a lapidable offense, known in Nigeria, Iran, and a few other countries, where this Old Testament and Islamic form of the death penalty is applied to adulterers, most often women.

Suggested Usage: “Those who live in glass houses should not lapidate others.” In fact, in civilized nations, lapidation is a game played mostly by children, “Nothing evokes lapidation from a child like the sight of a lake or other body of water. Etymology: Today’s word comes from Latin lapidare “to throw stones,” derived from lapis, lapidis “stone,” a relative of Greek lepas “crag, rock.” The word “lapis” itself occurs in the name of the translucent, blue, semiprecious stone, “lapis lazuli.” A dilapidated house might have originally been run down from loss of stones, for the word comes from Latin dilapidare “to throw away, squander” from dis- “away” + lapidare “throw stones.”

Ref -Dr. Language, YourDictionary.com

BENCH TIPS

by Brad Smith

brad@greenheart.com

Santa Monica, CA USA

BALL BURS

I use ball burs quite a bit for carving and for cleaning up bits of solder that need to be removed. Ball burs seem to be more controllable than other cutting burs. They're less apt to grab and walk over your piece leaving nasty scars. And I've found that size matters. The large 8-10 millimeter size is a useful size for carving off bulk material while the small half millimeter or less size can be used at high speed for signing your name on the back of the piece.

CLEANING STEEL SHOT

Steel shot in a vibratory or rotary tumbler works great to burnish up your finished silver pieces. Surfaces are shined and hardened by the shot impinging on it. Carbon steel shot can get rusty and even stainless steel can develop a blackish coating that's hard to remove. My solution of choice to clean the shot is Classic Coke. Just pour an ounce or two over the shot and let the tumbler run for an hour or so. A bad case might require a second cleaning. I'm no chemist, but I've heard that it's the phosphoric acid in Coke that does the trick.

While you're waiting for the shot to clean up, just settle back and enjoy the rest of the Coke.

DEBURING A HOLE

When you drill a hole, there's usually a burr produced on the underside of the metal. Typically you would then file or sand this smooth, but doing so will put scratches on your piece that will take time to polish off. A quick way to remove the burr is to grab a drill that's about three times as large as your hole. Simply twist it in the hole to cut off the burr. I usually do this by hand but if you have many holes to do, put the drill into a holder like a pin vice.

BOLIVIAN GEMS: THE BOLIVIANITE



It is a natural combination of Citrine and Amethyst, giving a diversity of color starting with a delicate yellow, through a shades of lilac to reach deep violet. These special characteristics, make The Bolivianite, a unique gem in the world.

The natural union of the Citrine and the Amethyst was produced thousands of years ago by the crash of two electromagnetic forces that imprinted this

peculiarity. The mine is located in the Bolivian Pantanal, German Busch Province, east of Santa Cruz, approximately 30 Km. from Bolivia-Brazil border.

The legend told about a beautiful Ayorean Indian Princess called Anahi. She fell in love with a Spanish Conquer, and was killed by her own tribe because of jealousy and intrigue. At the moment of her death she gave a Bolivianite to her lover.

THE NEVADA MINERAL & BOOK COMPANY

<http://minbooks.net/>
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GEO-GENIUS ANSWERS

(from Page 6)

- 1) Connecticut River
- 2) Snake River
- 3) Arabian Sea
- 4) Belgium
- 5) Marrakesh