

In This Issue

BIRTHSTONES
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CFMS EVENTS
2011 NAT. VET. ARTS
52ND ANNUAL SHOW

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Searcher Members!

February has turned out to be a little disappointing for us rock hounds with field-trip cancellation after cancellation, but I know our field-trip organizers are working diligently to get them rescheduled, and get us out there digging up some good things! Keep your eyes posted on emails for further information on the new field-trip dates. Although we haven't been able to get out and play in the dirt, we have plenty on the schedule to play with right here in town. Our annual show planning is well underway, and **THE CLUB NEEDS YOUR HELP**. Please contact the show coordinators to find out how you can get involved and help make this years show the biggest and best ever! Also, I ask again that you help Yery out and share any articles, information, etc with him to place in our monthly newsletter. We have so many excellent and knowledgeable people in our club and I'm sure we'd love to hear from you! I have a little request as well...if you would like something brought up, discussed, etc at our general meetings, PLEASE bring it to my attention prior to the meeting day. You can easily email me with whatever you'd like to present or talk about at the meetings (before the meeting day). This way we are sure to have you on the agenda, and have ample time dedicated to you and your topic. It's really hard for me to take care of club business, see to urgent club needs and get the meeting started on time if people keep approaching me on meeting night with these things, and I just want to be sure everyone has ample opportunity to share what they need to at our meetings.

Thanks everyone, and let's hope for a drier March!

Terry-Lynn

MARCH BIRTHSTONES Aquamarina and Bloodstone



continue on next page

GENERAL INFORMATION

General Meetings: 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov
Board Meetings: 7PM, 1st Monday 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

March Birthstones... *continued from previous page*

The two birthstones for March are aquamarine and bloodstone.

The name *aquamarine* is derived from the Latin word *aqua*, meaning water, and *marina*, meaning *the sea*. This gemstone was believed to protect sailors, as well as to guarantee a safe voyage. The serene color of aquamarine is said to cool the temper, allowing the wearer to remain calm and levelheaded. Its pale, cool color beautifully complements spring and summer wardrobes. Aquamarine is most often light in tone and ranges from greenish blue to blue-green; the color usually is more intense in larger stones. This gemstone is mined mainly in Brazil, but also is found in

Nigeria, Madagascar, Zambia, Pakistan, and Mozambique.

The second birthstone for March is *bloodstone*, a dark-green jasper flecked with vivid red spots of iron oxide. This ancient stone was used by the Babylonians to make seals and amulets and was believed to have healing powers — especially for blood disorders. It is sometimes called the *martyr's stone* as legend tells that it was created when drops of Christ's blood stained some jasper at the foot of the cross. Generally found embedded in rocks or in riverbeds as pebbles, primary sources for this stone are India, Brazil, and Australia.

FIELD TRIPS

FIELD TRIPS SPRING 2011			
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	Planned
APR 9&10 2011	Jimmy Peterson	Siam Siding-Chapenite Cadiz-trilobite fossils	Planned
May 2011 Dates TBD	Jim McGeough	Buffington Pockets Nevada (about an hour outside of Vegas)- Blue agate	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

FIELD TRIP CANCELLATIONS AND POSTPONEMENTS

Sometimes the forces of nature and Murphy's law make us change field trips. These changes can take many forms, from simple time changes to location changes to complete cancellations or postponements. When this happens we do two things:

- We send an email blast to everyone who receives an electronic copy of the Slab
- We post something prominently on the website

We do want to keep you informed. We do not want you to head out somewhere and not find us. And this electronic notification is the best we can do today, it is just not possible to call everyone.

So.....the wise Searcher makes a quick check of the website before heading off on a field trip. The wise Searcher also makes sure they are receiving electronic versions of the slab. If you are not receiving an electronic version of the slab there can be a few reasons. Your correct email address may not be in the membership database. Your spam mail catcher may be catching the Slab. Or we may have made a mistake. I know that's a shocking idea, but it could happen.

If you are not receiving an electronic copy of the Slab let me know (by email from your correct address) and I will try to get it fixed.

Steve Duncan

CLUB MEETING ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2011

Date	Presenter	Subject
Tuesday, March 8 th	Walt Lombardo	"Minerals in Colored Glass"
Tuesday, April 12 th	Janie Duncan	"Beads around the World"
Tuesday, May 10 th	Walter Johnson	"Gem Identification for Beginners"
Tuesday, June 14 th	Conrad Grundke	"A History of Intarsia/Comesso in some Native American Families"
Tuesday, July 12 th	Lothar Vallot	"Simulates, Synthetics, and Treatments"
Tuesday, Aug 9 th	NONE	Rock swap
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

March 5-6, 2011 - Arcadia, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.
 Los Angeles Co. Arboretum & Botanic Gardens
 301 Baldwin Ave.
 Hours: Sat. & Sun. 9-4:30
 Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624
 Email: vgms_editor@roadrunner.com
 Website: www.moroks.com

Hours: 8-5 daily
 Brett Ward (760) 954-4323
 Email: Bretts88@verizon.net
 Club (760) 243-2330
 Website: www.vvgmc.org

March 5-6, 2011 - Ventura, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
 Seaside Park, Ventura Co. Fairgrounds
 10 W. harbor Blvd.
 Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
 Andy Anderson (805) 987-0043 /
lilliananderson@juno.com
 Email: vgms_editor@roadrunner.com
 Website: www.vgms.org

March 12-13, 2011 - Turlock, CA

Mother Lode Mineral Society
 Turlock Fairgrounds
 900 N. Broadway
 Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
 Bud & Terry McMillin (209) 524-3494
 Email: Bud.mcmillin.b7y@statefarm.com
 Website: www.turlockgemshow.com

March 11-13, 2011 - Stoddard Wells, CA

Victorville Valley Gem & Mineral Society
 Stoddard Well Tailgate (Stodard Wells)
 Bell Mountain/Stoddard Well exit from I-15

March 12-13, 2011 - San Marino, CA

Pasadena Lapidary Society
 San Marino Masonic Center
 3130 Huntington Drive
 Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-4
 Joe & Marcia Goetz (626) 260-7239
 Email: joenmar1@verizon.net

March 12-13, 2011 - Salinas (Spreckels), CA

Salinas Valley Rock & Gem Club
 Veteran's Hall, Spreckels, CA
 5th & Llano Streets
 Hours: Sat. 10-5 daily
 Karen Jones (831) 678-0337 /
KenKaren0337@att.net

March 19-20, 2011 - Bakersfield, CA

San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society
 Kern County Shrine Club
 700 south P. Street (P & Bell Terrace)
 Hours: 9-5 daily
 Lewis Helfrich - Home (661) 323-2663
 Cell: (661) 378-4450
 Email: lewsrocks@bak.it.com

March 26-27, 2011 - Angels Camp, CA

Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society
 Calaveras Co. Fairgrounds (Frog Town USA)
 Hwy 49 in Angels Camp
 Hours: Sat. 9-5 - Sun. 9-4
 Tak Iwata (209) 928-5579
 Email: Tak2me@msn.com
 Website: www.calaverasgemandmineral.org

March 26-27, 2011 - Roseville, CA

Roseville Rock Rollers
 Roseville (Placer Co.) Fairgrounds
 800 All American City Blvd.
 Hours: Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-4
 Glori Marie (530) 367-2262
 Email: gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com
 Website: www.rockrollers.com

April 8-10, 2011 - Vista, CA

San Diego County Council
 Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
 2040 N. Santa Fe Avenue
 Hours: 9-5 daily
 Ray Pearce (769) 726-7570
 Cathy Davis (858) 278-9987
 Simon King (619) 991-2226
 Email: raysrocks@cox.net

April 9-10, 2011 - Mariposa, CA

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Club
 Mariposa Co. Fairgrounds
 Hwy #49, 1.8 miles South of Mariposa
 Hours: Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5
 Diane (209) 742-7625

Email: mineralmuseum@sti.net

Website:

www.thematrixmariposagemmineralclub.info

April 9-10, 2011 - Paradise, CA

Paradise Gem & Mineral Society
 Elks Lodge
 6309 Clark Road
 Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
 Manuel Garcia (530) 877-7324
 Email: mmpg@earthlink.net
 Website: <http://paradisegem.org>

April 15-17, 2011 - San Jose, CA

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
 Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
 334 Tully Road
 Hours: Fri 9-5, Sat & Sun 10-5
 Frank Mullaney (408) 265-1422
 Email: info@scvgms.org
 Website: www.scvgms.org

April 23-24, 2011 - Santa Cruz, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
 Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
 Corner of Church and Center St
 Hours: 10-5 both days
 Dean Welder (408) 353-2675
 Email: wdeanwelder@yahoo.com
 Website: www.scmgs.org

April 30 - May 1, 2011 - Anaheim, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
 Brookhurst Community Center
 2271 W. Crescent Avenue
 Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun 10-4:30
 Beth Pelfrey (714) 774-2754
 Email: martin.swiderski@jacobs.com
 Website: www.searchersrocks.org

May 13-15, 2011 - Anderson CA

Northern California Treasures
 Sponsored by:
 Superior California Gem & Mineral Society
 Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
 Paradise Gem & Mineral Club
 Shasta District Fairgrounds - Anderson, CA
 Near Redding, CA - Off Highway 273
 Hours: Fri. & Sat. 9 - 5, Sun. 10-4
 Show Chairman: Steve Puderbough -
steve@applyaline.com
 Website: www.superiorcal.com

MARCH FIELD TRIP

March 19&20, 2011

Chuckwalla Springs

There will be a field trip on Mar 19&20 to Chuckwalla Springs (between Desert Center/Blythe). This will be a multi-club trip, combining the Searchers with members of the Whittier Club and the North Orange County Club. The trip will be led by Searchers Robert Burson and Jay Valle. We will be collecting agates (plume, moss, fortification, and banded), and Jaspers of many colors. Sagenite is found here too. There are also agate filed geodes and amygdules.

The camp will be accessible by RVs and cars, although the last stretch of the road may need to be driven carefully. This will be a dry camp, bring what you need. Don't forget sunscreen and hats, lots of water. It could be hot during the day and cold at night. Gas and simple supplies are available at Chiriaco Summit, Blythe has anything you could need, including motels. We will be having our traditional potluck on Sat night, so bring something good to share. Telling tall tales around the campfire is also on the agenda.

We will leave the camp every day at 0830, a high clearance vehicle will be necessary to reach the collecting sites. We will carpool as required. You will want to take lunch. Standard rock tools should suffice, rock pick and spray bottle. You may want a small sledge and gad.

Directions:

Take I10 east to the Chuckwalla Road off ramp, 9.3 miles east of Desert Center. Take the old highway east 13.2 miles to Graham Pass Road. Turn right and go south for 5.9 miles to the Chuckwalla Springs Rd, there should be a sign here. We will put out some Searchers signs to help you find your way. Without traffic it is about 3 hours and 20 minutes from Anaheim to the freeway turn off.

If you have any questions about the trip you can contact the leaders; Robert at 562 860 5938, or Jay at 626 934 9764. Or you can contact me (Steve Duncan) directly at 714 724 7102, or wsd@iteris.com.

HOW TO CONVOY

by Steve Duncan

On field trips we often travel as a group to collecting spots. There are some rules and responsibilities in convoying properly, so we don't lose anyone. In a convoy it is your responsibility to ensure that the person behind you stays in touch with the group. Normally this means keeping the person behind you in sight. However in real life this often proves difficult, as the person behind you disappears behind rises and curves etc. So here is the Golden Rule:

Never make a turn onto a new road or trail without the person behind you seeing that you are making the turn. If the person behind you has gotten separated from the group wait until they are in sight before you make the turn. This doesn't mean that as soon as they appear on the horizon you can turn. Wait until they are close enough that you are sure they will see you make the turn. This simple rule will help to ensure that the whole group arrives at the sight.

2011 SHOW – 53RD ANNUAL

by Beth Pelfrey

We had our most recent committee meeting last night Feb 17, 2011 and I have written some notes so you have a better handle on what volunteering means at the show. We ask that every Searcher volunteer in a 2 – hour shift, at least one if not 2, Maybe you can even work both days a little and enjoy the show around the edges.

Here is a brief description of each “job” we have. Bear in mind it is ALL fun and many hands may little work:

1. Chair Person – Bob Burson
 - a. Heads the committee, keeping it all together, appointing and accepting volunteers
 - b. Calls and chairs the meetings and keeps us all in good order and moving forward
2. Co-Chair – Beth Pelfrey
 - a. Maintains the schedule for the chairman

- b. Gets business licenses
 - c. Keeps track of deadlines from the city, the fire dept and so on
 - d. Sees that the insurance and BCC fees are paid on time
 - e. Does anything needed by the chairman for the good of the show
3. Treasurer – Pat Lynch
- a. Pays the bills for the show – Insurance, BCC and other fees
 - b. Collects all money from the show and deposits into a secure bank account
 - c. Prepares the change required for each booth at the show
 - d. Reports to the committee on how much we made
 - e. Finalizes paper work in a format for financial responsibility
4. Cases – Norbert Bernhardt
- a. Keeps the list of members and others who are putting in a case at the show
 - b. Keeps track of longevity and awards for exhibitors
 - c. Assigns the cases on the tables on Friday, set-up day to make sure everything is smooth
5. Decorations – NEED A PERSON
- a. Decorates the room on set-up day with photos, flowers, whatever, to make the show look pulled together generally with a show theme.
 - b. The club has a case of small vases for flowers and mineral photos
6. Set-Up and Tear Down – Lots of Folks
- a. Norbert: Trailer and getting stuff from storage to the center on Friday morning so that
 - b. The signs can be put up that announce the show
 - c. The volunteers can put the room together with the tables, coverings etc.
 - d. Herb's crew can put together the electrical cabling that powers the entire show
 - e. Find out the number of tables the center provides. Check with lay-out person, to the total needed. Order tables needed
 - f. Dealers and case exhibitors can begin putting in their stuff at noon or 1 0'clock pm Friday
 - g. Finally, at the end of the show everything goes in reverse. The trailer is packed for storage and we hustle to get out of the center by our deadline, 7 PM. It really is fun, by the way
7. Friday Night Dinner and raffle – Adrian and Cynthia Callard
- a. All of us who are there on Friday, including dealers and helpers, can share a meal and win a prize. Tickets are sold to help offset the dinner cost.
 - b. Volunteers are asked to help serve and clean up
8. Grab Bags – NEED A COORDINATOR
- a. The small bags we have always made (5 1/2 X 7 inches with a tie) are filled at a grab bag party to be determined later, with rough rocks, perhaps crystals, some tumbled stones and so on and sold at the front table next to membership for a small price
 - b. We usually need about 450-500 bags and the material for them!
 - c. This is a call for bags and materials!
9. Hospitality – Jim Bickner and Susan Broadway
- a. This is the first impression folks get when they come in the door, so everyone who works here is happy and cordial
 - b. It is a seated job, for the most part, and where people pick up the show program, door prize tickets and flyers for other shows
 - c. Keep approximate
10. Hourly Door Prizes – Suzanne Alsky
- a. We get donations from individual Searchers and our dealers of pieces of jewelry among other items to give out each hour to a person holding the "colored ticket of the hour."
 - b. Suzanne and her volunteer helpers organize the prizes and make announcements

11. Kid's Jewelry – NEED A COORDINATOR
 - a. Each child who comes to the show gets to make a piece of jewelry and take it home. This is so much fun to do in shifts
 - b. The booth is on the patio and stocked with findings – sometime ring, sometimes necklaces – and small tumbles stones
 - c. The Searcher then helps the kid choose a stone and make a piece – WE NEED SMALL TUMBLED STONES to work with
12. Membership – Glenn Benedict
 - a. This “booth” is a table right as you go into the main hall of the show. People can learn more about the club, see photos of field trips, the workshop, buy Searcher goods, join the club and meet more friendly folks
13. Security – Virgil Talbot
 - a. First, we hire a Security firm and have a guard to be the liaison with our chairman and the Anaheim Police, if needed. The guard is on premises all night and sees that the show rooms are securely locked until 8 AM Saturday morning
 - b. The Searcher volunteers wear red vests and walk the aisles of the show, the patio and so on, making sure nothing happens
 - c. If anyone sees something suspicious, alert Virgil, the Show Chair and or the professional guard (not necessarily in that order) and they will take care of it.
 - d. The great benefit is that you get to see the entire show and meet heaps of friendly folks
14. Wheel of Fortune – John O'Connor (Sat) and the Benedict Family (Sun) are coordinators
 - a. This table is at the very front of the show entrance, next to membership and they have the great fun of spinning the prize wheel for a very small sum. Everyone wins a prize, hobby related and spreads the word. Like the kids' jewelry booth and grab bags, the kids (all ages and sizes) love it.
15. Silent Auction – Steve Duncan/Jimmy Peterson (Sun) and John O'Connor (Sat)
 - a. Members must donate material – see the article in the Rock Slab News by Steve Duncan on this)
 - b. There are several auctions per day so many volunteer opportunities
 - c. It is, fun and educational- think how much you will learn about rock and mineral identification!
16. Kitchen – Teri and Ira Wheeler, Coordinators
 - a. Basically there are three parts to the kitchen
 - i. Clean up and unpack and set up, then at the end of the show on Sunday clean and pack up for storage the next year
 - ii. Prepare/heat/plate food put out desserts, whatever they are serving.
 - iii. Serve food at the front tables
 - b. Please volunteer for a 2 hour shift at a time, check in with whoever is there.
 - c. We have nifty white and red Searcher aprons and food serve gloves for you to wear.
 - d. The shifts begin at 8 AM Saturday. The show opens at 10 AM and Saturday is the busiest day. The kitchen will shut down about an hour before the show closes each day so the current crew can clean it up and go have fun

This covers most of the particular opportunities for volunteering at the show. Remember, yes, you will get tired, but this is our only annual fundraiser and pays for all other outreach we do as a club. This is the reason we can have a workshop, participate in community efforts such as Anaheim Children's Festivals twice a year and anything else Searchers do to spread the word of our hobby.

Please call or talk to me, Beth Pelfrey, Bob Burson, one of the coordinators listed above and get your time set up early for the show.

Thanks so much for jumping right up.

SHOW SILENT AUCTION

by Steve Duncan

The show is coming up in a few months, and it is time to start collecting material for the Silent Auction. We have a tradition of putting on an excellent silent auction, last years was the best in recent history. We hope to do just as well this year. We have already collected some material, but need more. Here is where you, as a member of the Searchers, comes in. Please help us by donating some material for the auction. Most rockhounds who have been collecting for a few years realize pretty quickly that they probably have more rock than they can cut in a lifetime. Here is your chance to get rid of a bit of the rock pile for a good cause. We need GOOD material, something you yourself would want to buy. We can take rough or slabs or cabs or just display pieces and good yard rocks. Also cabs and finished jewelry. Actually almost anything rock related. Rough is OK as rough, but if you slab off an end to show the buyer what is inside this often makes it more appealing. Also if you window (coarsely polish) a small section of the rough that also makes it more appealing. The same is true of slabs, if you polish a small section this will make it more appealing. You can give your donations to Jimmy Peterson, John O'Connor, or myself (Steve Duncan). You can bring it to the meetings to give it to us, or to the shop. If you are having trouble getting your donation to us give me a call at (714) 724 7102 and I'll figure out a way to pick it up.

ANAHEIM ARTS COUNCIL MEETING

February 3, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by the President, Carol Latham.

Carol's inspiration was a quote from Confucius on music and wisdom. This is the Chinese New Year of the Rabbit: If you do not change direction, you will end up where you are headed. [Very loosely paraphrased!]

Guests tonight are members of the Anaheim Garden Club.

A discussion of Tom Tait's State of the City address Tuesday, Feb 1: The Anaheim Ballet performed at the grove for the event and Mr. Tait expressed an interest in supporting the arts in Anaheim.

Announcements

1. Saturday Feb 12 will be an "Art Crawl Experience", 5-11 PM, to all the galleries in downtown Anaheim. There will be a Food Truck Alley, Live Music, Free parking and shuttle service.
2. The play, NERVE opens Saturday Feb 5 at the Chance Theater. This is an edgy dark comedy by the Chance Playwright in Residence Adam Symkowitz. After the performance will be a bar with wine and nibbles and stories of good and bad dates.
3. The Who's Tommy opens Feb 10 at OC Performing Arts for only 2 weeks. This Chance production garnered 5 theater Ovation award!
4. Sunday Feb 13, the Los Angeles Pierce Symphonic Winds and the Orange County Wind Symphony will perform a program of contemporary composers at Servite High School Theater Auditorium at 7 PM.
5. April 18. Anaheim Union High School District art and photo exhibit will be at Muzeo in downtown Anaheim.
6. April 10-16 is National Volunteer week.
7. Feb 7-14 The Anaheim Historical Society will hold their annual fundraiser at Ruby's Diner.
8. Mar 30 will be the launch of Creative Revolution, Ken Robinson's workshop for non-profits.
9. Calling all senior artists, 55 and older to apply for the Victor Nelson grant opportunity for \$1,000 a month. See the Art Council website for information. The deadline is March 3.
10. May 21 is the Anaheim Children's Festival of the Arts on the Center Street Promenade. Each member organization of the AAC is encouraged to participate by having a booth of hands-on crafts for children to do.
11. Feb 24 is the Centennial - 100 years - of the YMCA. The fundraiser will be at Anaheim Garden Walk in the re-vamped theater.

Program

Ron Hoshi, VP Programs, introduced the complementary pair of programs.

1. Betty Comstock from the Anaheim Art Association, this year's President pointed out the wonderful paintings along the rim of the room. Each artist will go stand by his/her work and answer questions from the viewers. It will be a mini art crawl. Very successful, and a treat to see the creativity in art in the community. Every Tuesday, 12-3, downtown, there is an independent art studio for interested artists. See the website for further information.
2. The Anaheim High School APAC (Anaheim Performing Arts Conservatory) group, with their drama teacher/sponsor, Ms Veronica Kalii, gave us a preview from their up-coming performance of "Bye Bye Birdie"

which premiered in 1963 and has been performed all over America in many different places. The group showcased the musical numbers: "Kids!" "I've got a Lot of Living to Do" and "My Life is Rosy since I found my Rosie". Wonderful creative talent and energy, the folks. The two performances are at historic Cook Auditorium Feb 11 and 12. Since their funding is very limited, they welcome any donations.

Next month the meeting will be an EXPO for all the member clubs to display their area of interests on tables. ALL organization should be there at 5 PM or so to set up. Be sure to let either Carol Latham or Ron Hoshi know you are coming so enough tables can be set out.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Pelfrey,
Club Representative

2011 NATIONAL VETERANS ARTS CONTEST WINNERS

The Veterans Creative Arts Contest is an annual contest open to all patients from the Veterans Hospitals worldwide.

Each hospital has its own contest and the 1st place winners from that contest, move up to the Regional Level, than the

1st place winners move up to the National level. Their are thousands of entries from alloverthe world. Just to go to the National level is a huge achievement, but to win one of the top three places is an unbelievable achievement one can be quite proud of.

The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF) is the celebration and grand finale stage and art show which are the culmination of talent competitions in art, creative writing, dance ,drama and music for the veterans treated in the Department of Veterans affairs (VA) national health care system., Approximately 130 veterans will exhibit their artwork or perform in a gala show. All 1st place winners are selected to participate at the end of this year long contest. This years Gala Performance and Art Exhibit will be at Veterans Health Care System of the Oz arks in Fayetteville, Arkansas during the week of October 17-24, 2011.

VA medical facilities incorporate creative arts into their recreation therapy programs. This annual competition recognizes the progress and recovery made through that therapy, and raises the the visibility of the creative achievements of our nation's veterans after disease, disability or life crisis. This year we want to Congratulate the winners of the first step of this competition at Long Beach.

Categories:

- Fine Arts, 1st Place, George Murzynowski for his Serenity project.
- Military Combat Experience, 1st Place, Jesus Garza Help me with my PTSD project.
- Jewelry, 1st Place, Charles Paxton I Do project.
- Jewelry, 2d Place, Jesus Garza Reflections project.
- Jewelry, 3rd Place, Joseph Rodrigues.
- Metal Work, 1st Place, John Velzques Mariah project.
- Metal work, 2d Place, Sgt. Jerry Ramires Soaring Sky project.
- Beadwork, 1st Place, Sgt. Jerry Ramires.
- Beadwork, 3rd Place, Terry Burton Doves Laugh project.
- Special recognition went to Ernest Camerion for Southwest and his Summer projects.

All the projects this year really stepped up in Quality and it is too bad we are not allowed to send more than one per category. This is a tuff competition and all that entered should be VERY PROUD of your projects.

The Long Beach (VRT) Rock Shop has 5 different 1st place category winners moving up to second round. We wish them all the best in the next level and hopefully on to the Nationals.

Our Judges for this years competition were Dr. Walter Johnson and his wife Donna. Donna has a Degree in Art, and Dr. Johnson is a gemologist, jeweler and teacher and was Inducted into National Rock Hound Hall of Fame for his Jewelry in 2005. We also had a judge from Burtons Gems & Lapidary International. Robert Gullage a Certified Gemologist and Appraiser. Two V. A. Employee judge from the Long Beach V.A. Hospital. We want to thank all of our judges for taking the time to help us out this year. We know you had a VERY, VERY difficult decision in the Jewelry Competition. We also know that you all have a very busy schedule, it does cost you both time and money to do this for us. We THANK YOU AND SALUTE YOU ALL!

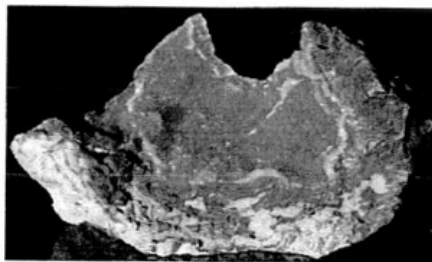
For all of our Supporters: VA medical Center (VRT) this has been a life changing experience. We want to Thank you for you support. Your support for our Long Beach program is the only reason this program is still available to these veterans today. Without your support this program would not exist to day as it is the only one of the two Lapidary class in the VA System. with your support Long Beach has won 14 Of the top three places at the nationals over the last ten years. We thank you for all that you do to support this program at Long Beach.

Larry Richey

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society

presents

THE VENTURA GEM SHOW



49th Annual Gem, Mineral, Lapidary & Fossil Show

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Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM * Sunday, 10 AM – 4 PM

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Contact: Show Chair Andy Anderson, (805) 987-0043 Society Web Site: www.vgms.org



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