

The Rock Slab News

FEBRUARY 2007 VOLUME 42 ISSUE 2

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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.

This organization is not formed for profit and none of its assets shall be used for the pecuniary gain or profit of any individual who is or may become a member thereof.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Clarke Benich

Hello Again Searchers!

What I'd like to know is, is if that darned groundhog saw his shadow or not? This winter stuff has got to go . . . having to shovel snow to get to where you thought you'd parked the car, digging it out, unhooking the electric oil heater and having to jump the battery to get that frozen beast running so it will warm up enough to run the heater on your way to work while you dig out a path down your driveway to the street. Already late for work by then, you rush inside to change into dry clothing, kiss the wife and run back to the car, just in time to see the snowplow pass your home, leaving a 4-foot wall of sludge for you to have to dig out again before you can leave.

Finally on your way, you realize you're in luck, the streetlights are out so you can make up some time not having to stop! Someone with the same idea crosses your path, a near miss as you swerve to avoid collision sends you spinning like a top on the icy roadway, plowing into the backside of a brand new cherry red Cadillac Seville with 4 occupants from the nearby rest home, sending it sliding over the curb, down the steep embankment and through the barbed wire fence coming to rest in a field next to a very angry bull who is not about to have anyone or anything invade its territory! You're again finally on your way to work after the airlift with the heart attack & stroke victims gets underway, and you've paid the vet for tranquilizing the bull, and the local sheriff has used up the last of his citations in his booklet.

Arriving at your destination, you are surprised to see a young man painting over your name in your parking space. Have you got that long overdue promotion you'd been promised? Wrong answer. Years of degrading brown-nosing, long hours, and all the blood, sweat & tears you could muster climbing that corporate ladder to the cushy job with company car, credit card, all the bells & whistles, the Vice President position in-pocket, replaced by a slip of pink paper with the words "Terminated Due to Poor Attendance" across the front.

[Continues on the next page]

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

[Continues from 1st page]

You find yourself heading home in utter disbelief, wondering how you're going to tell your beautiful 7-month pregnant wife she'll have to return the new Lexus you gave her last week on her birthday, and that the new nursery has to be put on hold. Your mind is reeling out of control with thoughts of bill paying, groceries, house payments, and on and on. The ringing of your cell phone snaps you back to reality. You hear your banker telling you how bad he feels that he just had to deny the home loan that was a sure thing just 2 days ago, due to your employment status. Without so much as a reply, you switch over to call waiting, your auto insurance has just been cancelled due to your negligent driving earlier in the day. You hear the words, but cannot speak as the phone slips from your hand, falling to the floorboard underneath your foot.

In a trancelike state you stare right through everything in your vision's path as your mind spins out of control. The snow had begun falling heavy, but as your mind races, your foot laying heavy on the gas, eyes now glazed and staring out to nowhere, you whiz by the "Danger Black Ice Ahead" signs. You notice them, but your body cannot respond, and seconds later you are again spinning out of control on the ice.

In slow motion you see every little detail as you fly over the very same embankment you had shoved another vehicle over earlier, breaking into a smile as you see the irony of the newly repaired section of fence making contact with your car's front grill. All goes black momentarily as you crash into the ground, the force propelling you forward sends you crashing through the windshield and out over the hood. Slightly regaining consciousness, you hear a long, angry, grunting sound and your eyes focus to see long thick pulses of steam puffing through the nostrils of one p.o.ed bull, who seems to be smiling, as if to say "AHHH, YOU AGAIN."

You awake to find yourself in a strange environment which you soon realize is a ward in a hospital. You try to move but soon find you are strapped tight to the bed, secured so as not to pull out any I.V. tubes or remove the breathing tube from your throat. Almost immediately you are greeted by a very large, over perky nurse whose excitement of your awakening seems extremely annoying to you. She then reaches down and with a quick wisp of her arm, unveils a horror that grips you in terror as you see the entire lower portion of your extremities is encased in a single body cast and you feel nothing from navel to toes.

Without hesitation or pause, she tells you of your brush with death, your future as a paraplegic, and the long wait of 7 years for you to finally come out of your coma. "Oh, and your wife left this yesterday and asked me to make sure you received it in the event you would awake while she's away," the nurse exclaimed, "would you like me to read it to you?" Not able to respond physically, you blink your eyes furiously. "I'll take that as a yes," she proclaims and reads the news to you. Now you find out that your lovely wife has been granted a divorce by the courts and has left on a honeymoon in the Bahamas with your banker.

Aren't you glad we live in sunny Southern California? But I'd still like to know if that varmint saw his shadow or not.

P.S. Next month I'll have something closer related to the lapidary field than a rodent's shadow.

Reminder!

Membership fees were due on January 1st, 2007

\$20 per individual,

\$25 per couple

\$2 for juniors under 17.

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:** 6 PM, 4th 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).
- No workshops:** Nov 23 & 25.
- 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 \$20
Couple \$25
Junior (17 & under) \$2
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 editors:
Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark
18661 Silver Maple Way
N. Tustin, CA 92705-2144
- Charter Date:** June 20, 1958
- Affiliations:**
- California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 - American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SEARCHERS BOARD

Officers

President	Clarke Benich	714/552-7336
1 st V.P. (Programs)	Walter Mroch	714/826-2132
2 nd V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Director	Robert Burson	562/860-5938
Secretary	Lorri Renck	714/397-3584
Treasurer	Pat Lynch	909/393-2186
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott	714/871-7900

Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	714/535-2030
Editor	Jenny Stavreva Kathy Clark	714/736-4345 714/639-9927
Historian	Beth Pelfrey	714/774-2754
Hospitality	Patricia Underwood	714/293-2940
Library	Maggie Vigil	714/288-2072
Membership	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Monthly Drawing	Anastacio O'Campo	714/490-0416
Phone Tree	Audrey Nichols	714/971-6789
Phone Tree Asst. 1	Sharon & Bob Burson	562/860-5938
Phone Tree Asst. 2		
2007 Show	Betty Nelson	714/530-1365
Show Co-Chair	Kathy Clark	714/639-9927
Sunshine	Carlene Blake	714/549-0099
Veteran's Coordinator	Larry Richey	714/846-3573
Website	Steve Duncan	714/532-4703
Workshop	Herb Beckman	714/778-1496
Rock 'n' Kids	OPEN	

FEBRUARY EVENTS

13 7-9 pm General Meeting
 17 & 18 February Field Trip
 21 7-9 pm Show Meeting
 28 6-8 pm Board Meeting

Monrovia Rockhounds 47th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
 March 3-4, 2007 9 AM to 4:30 PM both days
www.moroks.com

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society 45th Annual Show
 March 3-4, 2007 10 AM to 5 PM Sat. & 10 AM to 4 PM Sun.
www.vgms.org

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Date	Location	Leader	Details	Status
Feb 17,18	Ord Mountain	Beth Pelfrey	Rhyolite, color marble,	Planned

NAME BADGES ARE \$5 EACH

For a full list of CFMS Gem Shows, go to www.cfms.org.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

By Kathy Clark

Our February program will be a one-hour presentation by Helga and Werner Wagener on the "Introduction into the Basics of Identification of Petrified Wood." They will be explaining the wood structure and difference in conifers and dicots which are leaf-bearing trees by using a microscope. Discussion will continue with how petrification may occur, age of different formations, particularly in the western United States, plus some oddities of fossilized wood.

Helga Wagener says, "My husband and I joined the South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society in Torrance in the summer of '89. A presentation on petrified wood by Walton Wright the following spring hooked me on petrified wood. I have been collecting and trying to identify it ever since. At the present I have over 90 species of identified trees and over 1,400 pieces catalogued as to species and, if available, the locality and age. My husband has cut and/or polished most of our collection. Our "Museum" is open to people who are interested in this hobby. In the meantime, I have also collected unusual pieces or, as I call them, 'Character Pieces'."

If you love petrified wood, have a curiosity about it, or simply do not know anything about it, this program sounds like it should fill all those needs. Please join us Tuesday night, February 13, for a fascinating and informative evening.

Walter Mroch, 1st VP
 (Thanks to Virgil Talbott for setting this excellent program up. Thanks to our editor for the article writeup.)

PS – The program for March will be on Fluorescent and Phosphorescent Minerals presented by me. I will have along a wide variety of minerals and equipment to make the demonstrations.

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP

February 17 & 18, 2007

By Beth Pelfrey

Ready to Rock and Roll, Folks?

Is it really 2007! My internal clock has really slowed down, I guess, or sped up or stood still.....The middle years, ya gotta love 'em!

On the weekend of February 17-18, we will be going to Ord Mountain for Orbicular Rhyolite, also called "bugeyes". The best material will be hard and have orange-y hues. I have it on good authority that one rock hound of our acquaintance has made a sphere of this. He didn't say how big or small, but does it matter? It shines! I will also go for tri-color marble in the Lucerne Valley. It makes great spheres, bookends, and cabochons. Colors are greens, pinks, white and black, lovely material.

SATURDAY

- 9AM leave the campsite for the rhyolite area - bring lunch in case we are there a while
- In the afternoon, if the road is good for all vehicles in the group, I want to go for Newberry Nodules- a short 1/2 mile walk UP a box canyon to the site. They are smallish - maximum are baseball size, I hear, but lovely blue or pink on the inside.

Saturday Night - campfire (if you bring firewood) and potluck, if there are enough of us.

SUNDAY

- Meet at camp at 9AM. I would like to go to the tri-color marble site. The road is excellent, suitable for all vehicles. Except: the last two miles are rocky and somewhat steep, so clearance and good driving will be necessary, Milt Greene made it in a Dodge Colt once - the Colt may never have been the same after that!
- We should be able to leave from the marble site for parts South to purgatory and out daily lives.

Tools:

- Rock bags, buckets, small sledges, rock picks, gads, chisels for the marble maybe helpful, but digging with a pick ax is not too strenuous. You do not have to dig deep, just nudge out the rocks.
- For the nodule, rock picks, bag -it's easy digging and you do not want to be loaded down with heavy tools.
- Mostly, it will be walking, away from the beaten path, in the case of the "bugeye" some shallow digging, not heavy-duty hard rock stuff.

Continue on the next page

Other:

- Be sure to have water, even if it is winter. It is dry camping, no facilities, warm clothes, food for you and yours. Lucerne Valley is VERY small and V'ville is 15 curvy miles plus or minus for breakfast!

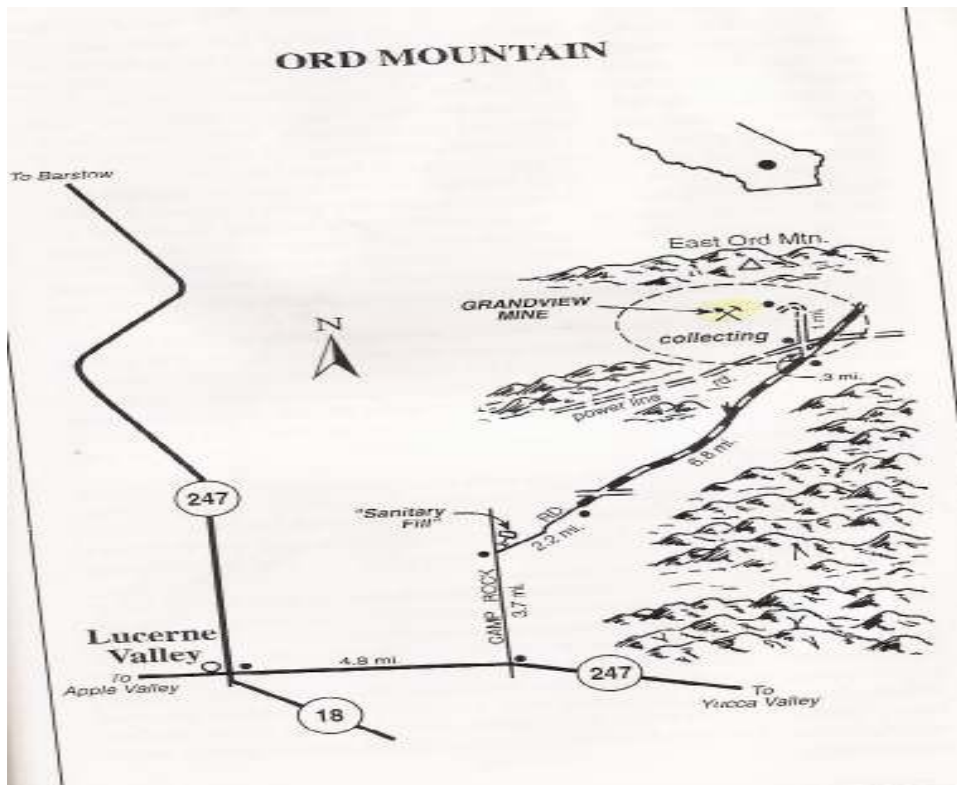
The weather should be beautiful on Saturday and cloudy on Sunday. Rain is not in the forecast for Saturday or Saturday night. We will NOT get rained out this trip - is anyone up there hearing my plea?

Directions:

I-15 North toward Victorville, then take State Road 18 right towards the East to Lucerne Valley. You will pass the Ace Motel, where I plan to be staying. Do not continue on 18, but go straight on 247E for 4.8 mi, past the black kitty's tail - oops, "Move, Caspar."., turn left on Camp Rock Road. Follow the map below:

The camping spot is level just past the power line. See the dot after the turn off across the power line? Camp there. I hope someone can go on Friday night to set up camp. Since I motel-it these days, and have to work Friday, I will be doin' well to get there by 8:30 Saturday morning. Kids, dogs, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, moms, dads, second cousins twice removed - all are welcome, in fact, encouraged. Let's make this a HUGE field trip success.

Well, this will be fun, folks. I want to see a lot of you there. The driving is good, just follow the leader. The weather will be great, maybe cool, but it IS the desert and we all know about that.



If you have questions: BETH PELFREY,
HOME (714) 774-2754, WORK (714) 422-1220. OR EMAIL ME: BETH714SC-OTHER@YAHOO.COM

SHOW REPORT

By Betty Nelson

OUR ANNUAL SHOW IS ON MAY 4, 5&6. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR.

The January Show Meeting was well attended. Things are on schedule. We still need two chairmen, for Children's Jewelry and for Club Cases. Please let Kathy or me know if you are interested. Since no one volunteered for ticket sales this year, we will not be selling award tickets. We will be having hourly door prizes so we will need donations from club members for these. One of the things that our club is famous for is food. We hope our members will provide as many homemade pies, cakes and cookies as possible for our kitchen for both Saturday and Sunday.

We will be passing around a signup sheet for the Show at our February, March and April meetings. Please sign up for a two-hour shift each day if possible, or 2 shifts on either day. We know that some of you put in a lot more time than that, but 4 hours each year for the benefits our club provides for us is a minimum to ask of each member. If you are not expecting to be at either meeting, call me at 714-530-1365 and let me know when you can volunteer for the Show.

Lots of help is needed on Friday to set up the show. Please contact Virgil to let him know when you can help. On Friday night Pat Underwood needs help with the Saturday night supper. All those participating in the show including our dealers are welcome.

We will also be passing around a signup sheet for club cases for the show. The cases are non-competitive. They can be items that you have made or that you have collected. Please be sure that your name is in the case. If any members have cases that they can loan to other members, please let Kathy or me know.

We still need more tumbled stones and interesting small rocks for our grab bags. Norbert needs Silent Auction material that is identified.

Please inform me if you plan on staying overnight in the parking lot at the Brookhurst Community Center during the Show.

The next Show Meeting is on Wednesday, February 21 at 7 PM at the Downtown Center in the Board Room. All Searchers are welcome. Please be there is at all possible if you are on the Show Committee.

KITCHEN & GRAB BAGS

By Beth Pelfrey

Everybody get in harness, saddle up, take a deep breath and get ready to put on the Show!

I have only two items to ask for this time around – so you are lucky!

Grab Bags – We may have enough bags, but only the chair, Chris Edmonds, really knows. I do know that what she really, really needs are tumbled stones to fill the bags! None of us has any idea how

many buckets of tumbled stone of all pretty colors, sizes and so on we will need, but my guess is a lot. Plus, she will want to put some really nice small pieces of rough like petrified wood, tourmaline, little geodes, maybe, into each bag. Please get busy and be generous both with your material and your time.

GRAB BAG STUFFING PARTY, SATURDAY, APRIL 14 @ 3 PM @ THE WORKSHOP

Kitchen – To no one's surprise, I will need a lot of help. I have had several folks volunteer, but a handful of vols is not enough. I need two or three cashiers a day, three people on the front line and three people in the back during the hours of 10 AM – 3 PM, basically. That way no one gets so tired they want to lie down and make a spectacle of themselves in the middle of an aisle.

I also want every member to think back to the things people like most about our kitchen – besides the great hotdogs! – homemade desserts, especially pies. We are known for pies, people, so please be generous and help out. Cakes are good, brownies are ace, lemon bars are scrumptious. Get to bakin' before the Show. Your donated time and desserts save us so much in goodwill and expense to the club.

I am happy to be doing the kitchen again, but I would like time to see the Show as well. Your time is also needed to help clean the kitchen on Friday to set up and unpack – about 1 PM to 5 PM and on Sunday to clean up, inventory soft goods and repack for storage – from 4:30 PM to 7 PM. It always seems as if we have plenty of time, but it just rushes by! This year we will have the main eating area outside on the patio, so it will mean even more to-ing and fro-ing picking up trash and trays.

I welcome ALL volunteers and all helpful suggestions. This is actually fun, people.

If you have questions: BETH PELFREY, HOME 714-774-2754, WORK 714-422-1220 OR EMAIL ME beth714sc-rocks@yahoo.com

SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS By Norbert Bernhardt

It is getting to be that time of year again! Show time!

We need some good materials for the Silent Auction for our 2007 Show. Suggested items for the Silent Auction are rocks, minerals, faceted stones, jewelry or lapidary tools, jewelry (not custom jewelry), slabs, lapidary-related books and beads. Please identify your item as to where it comes from or what it is.

Please call me, Norbert Bernhardt 714-734-9665, ASAP so we can coordinate picking up or having you drop off any items that you would like to donate. I want to have everything labeled and ready to go by the beginning of March. I am trying to have a variety of items that appeal to men, women, kids, and dealers.

SHOW SECURITY

By Larry Richy

CASES

For your Safety and Protection

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, Larry Richey, or Show Chairwoman, Betty Nelson, know. This is for your safety and protection.

NAME BADGES

Remember to wear your club name badge to the Show this year. Sunday when the Show closes everyone will be required to leave the show exhibit room to insure only those involved in the Show breakdown activities will be allowed back into the exhibit room, this should take 5 to 10 minutes with your help. After the room has been cleared of all unauthorized people or leftover guests from the Show, you will be allowed back in if you are wearing your Searcher name badge.

If anyone is in need of help with your display and you will need help from someone other than a club member or any non-club members picking up exhibits at the close the Show Sunday **will need a special badge**. Please see me Friday during set up, Saturday during the Show or early Sunday, so I may see that they have a badge or proper pass before the close of the Show.

Editors' Note:

Under "Standing Rules" and "Job Duties" for the Searchers Gem and Mineral Society, Inc., it is stated that the Bulletin Editor is "responsible for the monthly publication of the Searchers' Bulletin and delivery at the general meetings." It is also stated "pick up Bulletins and remaining mailing labels of members who did not attend at the end of each General Meeting. On the day after the General Meeting, mail Bulletins to members who did not attend."

We try desperately to get the newsletter to you before the general meeting. If you receive your newsletter by email then you will always get your newsletter on time. The Standing Rules and Job Duties state that the newsletter is to be made available at the general meeting and then mailed out to those who did not attend the meeting. The completion of the newsletter depends upon so many things coming together smoothly and upon the input from so many of our members that sometimes it is just not possible to finish timely. If the newsletter is not finished in time to get to you before the general meeting by the regular mail, it will be sent out the following day. Emails will be on time.



- VENTURA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 1573 VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93002

Jim Brace-Thompson
7319 Eisenhower Street Ventura
CA 93003
Phone: (805)659-3577
Email: jbraceth@adelphia.net

January 1, 2007

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
P.O. Box 3492
Anaheim, CA 92803

Dear Bulletin Editor:

I'm with the Ventura Gem & Mineral Society. Our annual show is March 3-4, 2007. I'd like to request space in your February Bulletin for our show announcement (see below). While show announcements are listed in the CFMS Bulletin calendar, they're very brief. I'd like to expand on that info so your club members within traveling distance of our show might better understand what we're offering this year. If it's not possible to include this announcement in your club bulletin, perhaps you could announce the show at your February membership meeting.

We would be happy to reciprocate with a full announcement of your club's show in our monthly bulletin. To place an article in our bulletin, please mail or email your announcement to me at the mailing address or email address I've listed above.

Sincerely,

Jim Brace-Thompson
VGMS Show Publicity Chair

Ventura Gem, Mineral, Lapidary, & Fossil Show, March 3-4

The Ventura Gem & Mineral Society is holding its 45th annual show March 3-4, 2007 (10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Sat; 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Sun.) at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in Ventura, California (10 W. Harbor Blvd). The show is free. Kids will enjoy a variety of activities, our spinning wheel, grab bags, & a new & special kids' raffle for mineral & fossil collections. There will also be demonstrations of lapidary arts & exhibits from wonderful private collections of rocks, minerals, fossils, lapidary work, & a dazzling fluorescent mineral display. Donation award prizes & a silent rock auction will be held continuously throughout the show. 15 dealers in fossils, minerals, lapidary equipment, slabs, etc., will be on hand, along with a country store featuring flea market items, used books & magazines, & plants. For further *info* (or to enter a display), contact Jim Brace-Thompson, publicity chair, (805) 659-3577, jbraceth@adelphia.net. See our web site at www.vgms.org.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Kathy Clark

Please welcome the newest members of the Searcher's family:

New Members:

James David
2721 W. St. Gertrude Place
Santa Ana, CA 92704
714-545-3296

Harry Trieu
13236 Delafield Ave
Hawthorne, CA 90250
626-315-4585

Uyen Truong
2381 W. Broadway
Anaheim, CA 92804
714-535-3875

jamesrdavid33@yahoo.com harrytrieu71@hotmail.com truongdinhuyen@yahoo.com

SUNSHINE REPORT

By Kathy Clark



John Robinson is recovering from knee replacement surgery. We wish him a complete and speedy recovery and hope to see him out and about very soon.



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

JANUARY PROGRAM

By Kathy Clark

Last month's program was a delightful "Rock Talk" by Janie Duncan who is a member of the Monrovia Rockhounds. She is an absolute wealth of knowledge about our local area rock resources and places to visit.

We learned that there are 3 types of rocks: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. The difference between rocks and minerals is that minerals are one kind only while rocks are made up of 2 or more minerals. Janie talked about crystal structure and Moh's hardness scale. She talked about meteorites and fossils and how they were formed. And during all this she passed around samples, explained what they were, where they were found and just let us have a ball touching and feeling. We also learned that Real Gold is the state mineral, Serpentine is the state rock, Benitoite is the state gemstone and Saber Tooth Tiger Tooth is the state fossil. We weren't allowed to touch it, but Janie did bring her dinosaur egg to share with us. What a treat!

All in all, Janie Duncan is a wonderful lady who was able to keep her train of thought and the program flowing while we were oohing and aahing and exclaiming over the samples she passed around. At first she was apprehensive that the “Rock Talk” might be too basic for the Searchers, but she soon realized how captivated we all were with her program. Thank you, Janie!

Local Museums with Rocks

Los Angeles Museum of Natural History (Adults \$9, Students \$6.50)
900 E. Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007 (213) 763-3466

Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology at Webb School
1175 W. Baseline Rd., Claremont, CA 91715 (909) 624-2798 \$3

Page Museum at the La Brea Tar Pits
5801 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036 (213) 934-7243

San Bernardino County Museum
2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands, CA 92374 (909) 307-2669 9am-5pm (A \$6, S \$5)

La Sierra University Museum of Natural History
4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, CA 92515 (951) 785-2307 free

Local Resources

Good Old Days Museum (Janie Duncan’s private collection by appointment)
328 E. Foothill Blvd., Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 358-8157

Burmincos
128 Encinitas Ave., Monrovia, CA (626) 358-4478 Wed.- Sat. 9:30am-5pm free

Borax Visitor Center

Twenty Mule Team Museum
26962 Twenty Mule Team Road, Boron, CA 93516 (760) 762-5810

Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center
7621 Granite Dr., Riverside, CA 92509 (951) 685-5818 Tu.-Sat. 8am-4pm free

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
4	5	6	7	8 6-10PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	9	10 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
11	12	13 7-9 pm General Meeting	14	15 6-10 PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	16	17 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing FIELD TRIP
18 FIELD TRIP	19	20	21 6-7 PM Show Meeting	22 6-10 PM lapidary, wire-wrap class	23	24 3-7 PM lapidary, silversmithing
25	26	27	28 6-8 pm Board Meeting			

SEARCHERS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Kathy Clark
18661 Silver Maple Way
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144
hanky1panky3@yahoo.com
714/639-9927

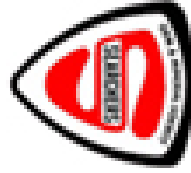
Please Print!

Date: _____
 Name 1: _____
 Name 2: _____
 Jr. Member 1: _____ 2: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
 Occupation: _____ Employer: _____
 Birthday: Month ___ Day ___ Birthday: Month ___ Day ___

2007 dues are valid January 1 through December 31.

Individual: \$20
 Couple: \$25
 Junior members (17 and under): \$2

Please indicate the club activities that interest you:
 Minerology () Geology () Lapidary () Fossils () Other _____
 Meet other Searchers and volunteer to help a committee(s):
 Anaheim Arts Council () Historian () Library ()
 Website () Membership () Monthly Drawing ()
 Phone Comm. () RSN Editor () Sunshine ()
 Veteran's Workshop () Hospitality () Workshop ()
 Rock'n'Kids () Annual Show () Silent Auction ()



Jenny Stavreva & Kathy Clark, *Editors*
18661 Silver Maple Way
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144



The Rock Slab News

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TRADITIONAL FEBRUARY BIRTHSTONE – AMETHYST

Amethyst is the purple variety of the mineral quartz and is a popular gemstone. If it were not for its widespread availability, amethyst would be very expensive. The name “amethyst” comes from the Greek and means “not drunken.” This was perhaps due to a belief that amethyst would ward off the effects of alcohol, but most likely the Greeks were referring to the almost wine-like color of some stones that they may have encountered. Its color is unparalleled, and even other, more expensive purple gemstones are often compared to its color and beauty. Although it must always be purple to be amethyst, it can and does have a wide range of purple shades. It can occur as long prismatic crystals that have a 6-sided pyramid at either end or can form as druzes that are crystalline crusts that only show the pointed terminations. As a mineral specimen, amethyst is popular for its color and nice crystal shapes that produce a handsome, purple, sparkling cluster. Different localities can produce a unique amethyst to that particular region or even to that particular mine. The key experts use to identify the source mine a particular amethyst came from is the specimen’s color, shape of crystal, inclusions, associations and character of formation. The color purple is traditionally the color of royalty and amethyst has been used since the dawn of history to adorn the rich and powerful monarchs and rulers.