

SEARCHERS BOARD OFFICERS

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- Monthly Drawing:
- Sunshine:
- Veteran Liaison : Heather Jackel
- Website: Steve Duncan
- Workshop: Adrian Callard

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The Rock Slab News

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 4



APRIL 2019

The President's Message

Dear SEARCHERS;

Spring is upon us and with that many opportunities to get out there and find those rocks! Whether you attend one of our Searchers Field Trips, or go out on your own, I hope you will share your findings with the members at our meetings and events. We grow as a group when we share what we find.

I have received a lot of great feedback on our meetings and presentations we've had so far. I want to thank our First Vice President Heather Jackels for bringing us such fun and educational presentations so far. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for future member meetings and presentations, please get in touch with Heather.

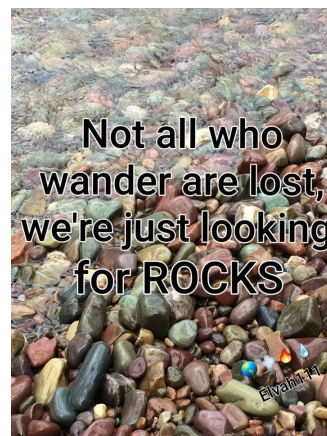
Our show preparations are coming along nicely, thanks to the dedication and hard work of Margaret and the show committee. This past weekend members gathered to stuff grab bags for the show. Thanks go out to Karen Kremer for hosting the event. Remember, we still need donations for our raffle, prize wheel, and silent auction room. Anyone wishing to donate or help with the event please contact Margaret Hogarth.

We continue to have growing attendance at our weekly workshops. If you're available Thursdays from 5:30pm-9:30pm or Saturdays from 2:30pm-6:30pm please come by and check it out. It's a great chance to work on projects, and don't forget to cut some slabs for the veterans! I look forward to seeing you all at next months meeting. Keep on Rockin'!

Sincerely,

Monica Dekany-Beeker

President, SEARCHERS, 2019



NOTE:

It is that time again. Also rough rocks from your collection, please pick a few nice pieces you can donate to the silent auction. One point: We do not want the piece you brought home from the field trip and when you got home you said to yourself "man, why did I pick this up?". If it is something you would not consider bidding on yourself in an auction we don't need it. We need nice material, that causes a bidding frenzy in the auction. So better 2 or 3 nice pieces than a bucket of yard rocks. The auction is one of the main fundraisers for the club that has enriched your life, please find a way to support the auction.

Donations can be brought to the show, or given to Jimmy at the meetings or the workshop, or you can contact me and I will find a way to pick them up.

Thanks, Steve Duncan

Searchers Club Meetings and Presenters

Board Meeting- Tues. April 2nd at 6pm, Anaheim Community Center

Member Meeting- Mon **April 15th** at 7pm, Anaheim Community Center **NOTE: Date change**

Searchers APRIL Meeting...

*April Showers bring May flowers, but what do May flowers bring?
Pilgrims?.... At The Searchers they bring Iris Agates!*

We're honored to have Jason Badgley join us as the speaker for our April meeting featuring Iris Agates. Be sure to note that our April meeting will be held on **Monday April 15th at 7p.m.** due to the Downtown Anaheim Community Center maintenance schedule.

Jason will be presenting a program on Iris Agates. Iris agate is a finely-banded agate that produces a spectral display of color, or rainbow, when it is cut properly and illuminated so that light passes through its very thin bands. It can form in nodules, seams, amygdules, and wood casts. Iris Agate is found in Southern California as well as various locations around the world including: Brazil, Australia, and Indonesia.

Jason Badgley is a specialist in California agates. Locally, Iris Agate can be found in Acton, Malibu, Nipomo, the Owls Head Mountains, and the Little Chuckwallas.

Jason's presentation will cover:

- ✿ What are they & how they are formed
- ✿ Where they are found & how to look for them
- ✿ Cutting and polishing for maximum color
- ✿ Best ways to view and photograph the iris phenomena
- ✿ Wonderful examples to view & buy

About Jason Badgley

Jason belongs to several lapidary societies. He has won numerous awards for his workmanship including CFMS shows, and a "Best in Show" ribbon at the L.A. County Fair. Through research he has located some of the best potential collecting sites and leads club and personal collecting trips. He sells and trades specimens worldwide. Jason also volunteers as a docent for the Malibu Creek State Park. Learn more at his website: californiaagategallery.com.

Jason's bio information is courtesy of Ken Rogers. Thank you Ken!

Remember to bring a rock or slab for the Vets!



Field Trips

May Field Trip 5/18/19 & 5/19/19

Place: Clear Creek – Plasma Agate

Details: This area is in central California between Coalinga and Salinas. You will need 2 permits, vehicle entry for CCMA and serpentine area special permits. You can get these permits at www.recreation.gov/vehiclepermits. Camping tentatively at Oak Flat just inside the entrance. More details and further directions to follow in the next slab.

Leader: Andrew Bloxom (571) 217-9536

June Field Trip 6/15/19 (Tentative)

Place: Himalayan Tourmaline mine.

Details: This is a pay site. We will, however, get a discount depending on the number of people who attend.

Leader: Lydia Pattison (714) 453-8186

For field trip
information
contact:
**Lydia
Pattison Field
Trips,
Searchers
Gem and
Mineral
Society,
lpattison@so
cal.rr.com**

Suggested items to go rock hounding

Basic Desert Gear (be safe don't underestimate)

WATER: Dehydration can really ruin your rock hounding experience and send you to the hospital.

First Aid kit: basic kit is fine.

Medication: prescription and over-the-counter (aspirin, Tylenol, etc)

Trail Food: nuts, snacks, fruit

Long Sleeves, Sun hat, Sunscreen

Sturdy walking shoes/hiking boots: Collecting areas generally have rough footing. Ankle support is best.

Basic Rockhounding Gear

Gloves: Leather is the best.

Eye protection: Protect against flying rock chips when hammering.

Collecting Bags and/or Buckets

Spray bottle with water. Additional water to refill bottles and/or drink in needed.

Rock pick , Hoe pick , Trowel

Additional/Advanced Tools

Gads, Sledge hammer, Shovel

Snake guards: you can find these at hunting supply stores

Crowbar or pry bar: A basic tool every rock hound should have. 22" pry bars are good basic tools, although 30" and larger are needed for really heavy work.

You can't be too careful

More water, Cell phone, GPS, Flashlight & batteries, Food, Extra clothes, Day pack



Field Trip Report

AFTON CANYON FIELD TRIP RECAP (3-16, 3-17-2019)

With beautiful weather over a dozen people showed up for a great rockhounding and camping experience. Led by John O'Connor (with help from Robert Burson) we were introduced to a great campsite and wonderful trip up Afton Canyon. The canyon was formed with the draining of prehistoric Lake Manix about 14,000 years ago and now provides drainage to the northern Cady mountains and brings down a lot of float with red and yellow agate, jasper (plume & sagenite), opalite, calcite rhombs, chalcedony roses, amygdules, green fluorite, onyx and much more.



On Saturday, after a cold night for tent campers, the group crossed one of the few areas the Mojave River surfaces and walked up the canyon with the "real" explorers climbing the crest trails and some seeking The Slot and Spooky canyons off the main canyon. The various geological strata were easily seen in the canyon walls, and those explorers wanted to get up close to the "good" stuff.

The campground was well-maintained with new shade structures, water and clean pit toilets. We hoped for some of the super bloom desert flowers, but we were a week or so early for that there. There was some birdlife, and lots of small critter trails – as befits a rare water source in the desert. We looked for big horn sheep, but didn't see any. Saturday afternoon saw us north of the freeway at an old pit mining site with green rock and white opal. Jimmie P. finally found some rock for spheres! Andrew B. brought a great big kite in the shape of a green Trilobyte. Then further out we searched for petrified and mineral specimens from a prehistoric bog. This area was all under an inland sea in prehistoric times and there are lots of areas to find specimens still.

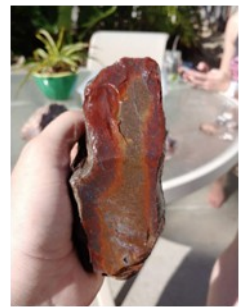
That night we said goodbye to the day-trippers, shared a potluck meal with those folks overnighing, sat and told stories around a firepit and turned in early. It was not nearly as cold that night!

Sunday was a short trip north along the Bradshaw trail and Mojave River looking to reach the bluffs along the north side of the river, but the brush cover was too dense. We broke up the last of the "official" trip and all headed home – some with stops along the way or fording part of the river in their Jeep.

You can see pictures (and a video of fording the Mojave River) here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/a8VVAF-we5XQFKXNY8>.

[a8VVAF-we5XQFKXNY8](https://photos.app.goo.gl/a8VVAF-we5XQFKXNY8).

Bill Hogarth





The Searchers

Gem and Mineral Society

Logo Contest Submission

- Submission Deadline: **June 1st**
 - Submit by e-mail only: LPATTISON@SOCAL.RR.COM
 - Subject Line: Searcher's Contest
 - Attach document to e-mail
 - You may submit 2 logos
-
- Each person will receive a prize for their submission.
 - The board will choose the top 5 submissions.
 - Each person in the top 5 will receive a prize
 - The top 5 plus the current logo will be presented at the June general meeting for a membership vote.
 - The winner will receive the grand prize. (Unless, of course) the current logo is the winner.)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Searcher Show News

This is the time to sign up to help with the show. Here are some areas you could participate in: Set-up, security, kitchen, hospitality, Searcher's sale table, grab bags, silent auction, membership, or selling raffle tickets. We have sign up sheets with two hour time slots. We need volunteers to help

children make rings and play Minor Miner. It is a lot of fun to help our club with its annual fundraiser, and make new friends. We also need prizes of all levels, for adults and children, materials for the silent auction, or help with take down on Sunday evening. I force my sons to come and help with take down the show. If you have strong friends or relatives, invite them also. Distributing fliers for the show helps, also. We have a truck but still need a trailer to haul our equipment to the show. We have several opportunities for showcases; there are two showcases to feature workshop artists, you can put in your own case, and we are loaning examples of our work to the Searcher's Club case. This year, we want our showcases to be spectacular! If you can't come to the general meeting and would like to sign up, please contact me, Margaret at hogarth.m@gmail.com, 909-815-3045. This is our 60th show! Let's make our Searcher predecessors proud!

The next Searchers Show Committee meeting will be **Saturday, April 6, 2019, 1-2:30 p.m.**, at the Anaheim Community Center. We meet in the Senior Center, at the end of the hallway, through the large wooden gates, past the workshop. Join us! We have such a talented and hard-working committee this year!

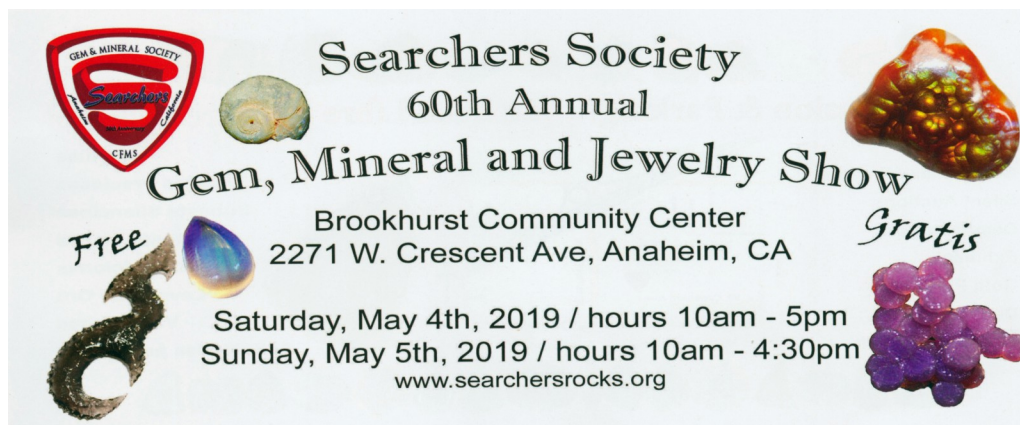
We need good quality materials for the silent auction.

Thank you for your support, Margaret Hogarth
hogarth.m@gmail.com, 909-815-3045

Grab Bag Stuffing Party

On Saturday, 3/23, Karen K. Shared her house with about 10 volunteers for the annual SEARCHERS GRAB BAG STUFFING EVENT. Rocks collected and donated all year long are brought together, sorted, sized and put into bags that we sell at the Show for \$1.00. And because the Searchers do not deal in Leaverites, these are quality rocks. The group stuffed about 300 bags and we hope to sell about 500 at this year's show. A potluck lunch insured everyone had plenty of energy. Thanks All!

Regards, Bill



Upcoming 2019 CFMS Gem Shows

For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site:

www.cfmsinc.org

APRIL 2019

April 13 - 14: MARIPOSA, CA

Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5007 Fairgrounds Road (South of Mariposa off Hwy 49)

Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4

Contact: Meredith Meehan

Email: mgmc@sti.net

Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

[Show Page](#)

April 13 - 14: PASO ROBLES, CA

Santa Lucia Rockhounds
Paso Robles Event Center
2198 Riverside Avenue

Hours: 10 - 5 Daily

Contact: Kim Noyes, (805) 610-0603

Email: kimnoyes@gmail.com

Website: srockhounds.org

[Show Page](#)

April 27 & 28: LANCASTER

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Avenue H (Hwy. 14 & Ave. H)
Hours: 10 - 5 daily Contact: Susan Chaisson

-Walblom, (661) 406-0143

Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com

Website: www.avgem.weebly.com

April 27 - 28: RENO, NV

Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Reno Sparks Livestock Event Center
1350 North Wells Avenue

Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4

Contact: Daniel Ellis, (775) 229-4420

Email: sailondan55@aol.com

Website: renorockhounds.com

April 27 - 28: SANTA CRUZ, CA

Santa Cruz Mineral & Gem Society
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
307 Church Street

Hours: 10 - 5 daily

Contact: Sarah Hawklyn

Email: shawklyn@yahoo.com

Website: scrockngem.org

[Show Page](#)

MAY

May 3, 4, 5 & 6: YUCAIPA, CA

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Yucaipa Music & Arts Festival
Yucaipa Blvd and Adams Street

Hours: Fri 6 pm-10 pm; Sat 12 noon-10 pm; Sun 12 noon-6 pm

Contact: Chuck Barlick, (813) 767-6718

Email: res09ayd@verizon.net

Website: yvgms.org

May 4 - 5: JACKSON, CA

Amador County Gem & Mineral Society
Kennedy Mine
12594 Kennedy Mine Rd (off Hwys 49/88)
Hours: 10 - 4 daily

Contact: Gaylene Lichty, (916) 698-9853

Email: mountaingirl@volcano.net

Website: amadorgemandmineral.org

May 4 - 5: ANAHEIM, CA

Searchers Gem & Mineral Society
Brookhurst Community Center
2271 W. Crescent Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4:30

Contact: Margaret Hogarth, (909) 815-3045

Email: hogarth.m@gmail.com

Website: searchersrocks.org

JUNE

June 7, 8 & 9: LA HABRA, CA

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society
La Habra Community Center
101 W. La Habra Blvd.

Hours: Fri 5 - 8; Sat 10 - 8 & Sun 10 - 4

Contact: Armando Perdoza, (909) 598-2456

Email: forestandsun@yahoo.com

Website: www.nocgms.com

June 8 - 9: GLENDORA, CA

Glendora Gems
Goddard Middle School
859 E. Sierra Madre Avenue
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Bonnie Bidwell, (626) 963-4638
Email: ybidwell2@aol.com

June 29 - 30: CULVER CITY, CA

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Veterans Memorial Auditorium
4117 Overland Blvd
Hours: Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 5
Contact: Janice Metz, (310) 850-4398
Email: culvercityrocks35@gmail.com
Website: culvercityrocks.org

[Show Page](#)

June 29 - 30: ESCONDIDO, CA

Palomar Gem & Mineral Club
California Center for the Arts
340 N. Escondido Blvd.
Hours: 10 - 5 daily
Contact: Michele Shephard
Email: pgmcshow@palomargem.org
Website: palomargem.org

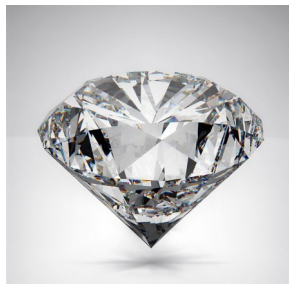
[Show Page](#)

AUGUST

August 2, 3 & 4: NIPOMO, CA

Orcutt Mineral Society
Nipomo High School
525 Thompson Avenue
Hours: Fri-Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Wayne Mills, (805) 481-3495
Email: wwmills50@hotmail.com
Website: omsinc.org

April Birthstone: Diamond



Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

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: 6PM, 1st Tuesday of each month, Jan - Nov

Workshop: Thursday 5:30 to 9:30 PM and Saturday 2:30 to 6:30 PM

Location: Anaheim Downtown Community Center
250 East Center St.
Anaheim, CA 92805

Mailing Address: Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
P.O Box 3492
Anaheim, CA 92803

Website: www.searchersrocks.org

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

Valid Jan.1-Dec.31, not prorated

Bulletin: Submissions due 3rd Friday of the month via e-mail to: editor@searchersrocks.org.

Bulletin distributed 1st week of each month. Mail exchange bulletins to the editor:

Searchers —Linda Horn Editor

P.O. Pox 3492

Anaheim, Ca. 92803

Charter Date: April 20, 1958

Affiliations: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Clear Creek Plasma

Good quality plasma agate is very hard to find. It is a uniquely beautiful fibrous material – a mixture of many things, making it a conglomerate rock. Specimens include crypto-crystalline chalcedony, agate and jasper swirled together. The best of the material is green – with perhaps a bit of brown or tan. It is noted for its colored streamers and flowing lines running throughout. The material has an assortment of minerals with different structures and hardness, and usually has some surface hairline cracks, and vugs (or small cavities, sometimes with crystals). Plasma agate is mostly found in the fault-rich zone of California – in the rock-hunter's paradise of Clear Creek area near the New Idria Mercury Mine. The amount and variety of gems and rocks in this area is huge. Access for collectors has been sporadic in recent times. For public safety, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) closed this public land in 2008, and then reopened it in 2014 to limited access – under protective conditions. Reportedly, the EPA raised concerns about an asbestos health risk from chrysotile within a serpentine belt in the area. The Clear Creek mineral area is huge, 75,000 acre area in San Benito and Fresno Counties. It's about 200 miles north of Los Angeles, near Coalinga. Within the boundaries of the lands administered by BLM, rockhounds can gain access with permits and parking fees obtained through www.recreation.gov.

Mary Kirmil, Pasadena Lapidary Society

ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PASADENA LAPIDARY SOCIETY 2016



Lapidary Backyard Sale April 13-14

8 AM to 3PM No Early Birds

CASH ONLY

Kendall Despain at 12271 Choisser RD. Garden Grove

I have lots of misc. hand tools, scales, a little Ironwood, slabs, cabs/tumbled, wire wrapped pendants, some specimens and many more misc. lapidary items. **VERY LITTLR ROUGH**

If you want any Amaryllis or Bella Donna Lilly plants, bring your own containers.

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