

The Rock Slab News

JULY 2009 VOLUME 46 ISSUE 7

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Norbert Bernhardt

Hello Searchers!

It's summer! **Picnic time!** Come one and all to the Searchers Picnic on **July 19th, 2009** at **Ralph B. Clark Regional Park** from **10:30am to 4:00pm**, 8800 Rosecrans Ave., Buena Park, CA. Searchers will barbecue hot dogs and provide hot dog buns, paper goods, water and soft drinks. Please bring a side dish. The Searchers group area will be at the Los Coyote Grove **Shelter B**. I suggest that you bring an extra chair as there may not be enough picnic tables. (There are 10 picnic tables). We will have some games and some rock and gem identification events for adults and youth members. Brush up on your gems and mineral identification!

To reach the park, take the 5 or 91 frwy. to Beach Blvd exiting to the north, proceed 4 miles and turn right on Rosecrans, drive one-half mile east and the park entrance is on your right. I believe the park entrance fee is \$5.00 per vehicle. No alcohol beverages allowed in the park.

See you all at the Searchers General Meeting on July the 14th and then again at the July 19th Picnic.

P.S. My goal for the August Meeting is for all members to bring a guest to the meeting and introduce them to our wonderful hobby and club activities!

JULY PROGRAM

by Norbert Bernhardt

Our July program will be on gem cutting in China. Our speaker, Jack Liu from Land C Corp., provides gem cutting services in China. He will be doing a power-point presentation and will have a short DVD showing gem cutting in China. Mr. Liu will be bringing samples of many faceted stones and possibly polished cabochons. All gems can be cut to calibrated or non-calibrated sizes. Bring some of your gem rough and speak with Mr. Liu in regards to your future faceted stone!!

*A silent auction will also be held during our meeting on July 14, 2009.

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: 7PM, Wed. after general meeting,
 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: January 1, 2009

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:
 Kathy Clark
 18661 Silver Maple Way
 N. Tustin, CA 92705-2144

Charter Date: April 20, 1958

Affiliations:

- California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SEARCHERS BOARD

Officers

President	Norbert Bernhardt	714-734-9665
1 st V.P. (Programs)	Jim Peterson	714-633-7573
2 nd V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714-724-7102
Director	Keith Droste	714-563-5063
Secretary	Kathy Clark	714-639-9927
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Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	714-535-2030
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Librarian		
Membership	Glenn Benedict	714-573-1424
Monthly Drawing	Skip & Connie Cone	714-827-8675
Phone Tree	Audrey Nichols	714-971-6789
Phone Tree Asst. 1	Sharon & Robert Burson	562-860-5938
Phone Tree Asst. 2	Karen Martinez	562-423-2832
2009 Show Chairman	Jim Williamson	714-995-9080
Show Co-Chair	Larry Richey	714-846-3573
Sunshine		
Veterans' Coordinator	Larry Richey	714-846-3573
Webmaster	Walter Mroch	714-826-2132
Workshop	Herb Beckman	714-778-1496
Rock'n Kids	Ana Lorenzo	714-734-9665

Sponsored by:
Anaheim Arts Council

ROCK'N KIDS NEWS

by Ana Lorenzo

Thank you to all Rock 'N Kids that participated in our June class. You guys did really good! Also wanted to thank Mr. Jimmy Peterson and Mr. Norbert Bernhardt for teaching the class.

Our July get-together will be at the Searchers' picnic. Check newsletter for more information. Hope to see all of you there. We will have a rock swap. Don't forget to bring your rock! Also we will play lots of games. Come and join us for a Rock'N Kids fun day.

Please RSVP by July 10. Ana Lorenzo (714) 734-9665.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Please welcome the newest members of the Searchers family:

- Julie Nagode
- Michael Prior

There are no field trips scheduled for July.

JULY EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
The Center will be closed Saturday, July 4		
2,9,16,23,30 11,18,25,	6-10pm 3-7pm	Thursday Workshop (lapidary, wire wrapping) Saturday Workshop (lapidary, silversmithing)
11	5pm	Route 66 Gold Miners have 1st meeting at their new home, Brea Lions Scout Center at 401 S. Brea Blvd., Brea, CA
14 15	7pm 7pm	July General Meeting Board Meeting @ Norbert's
19		Searchers Picnic @ Ralph B. Clark Regional Park from 10:30am to 4:00pm . (To reach the park take the 5 or 91 frwy. to Beach Blvd, exiting to the north, proceed 4 miles and turn right on Rosecrans, drive 1/2 mile east and the park entrance will be on your right).

AUGUST EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
6,13,20,27 1,8,15,22,29	6-10pm 3-7pm	Thursday Workshop (lapidary, wire wrapping) Saturday Workshop (lapidary, silversmithing)
11 12	7pm 7pm	August General Meeting Board Meeting @ Norbert's

For a complete listing of Gem & Mineral Shows go to www.cfmsinc.org, www.rockngem.com and www.gemfaire.com. And don't forget the Route 66 Gold Miners at www.route66goldminers.org and the GPAA at www.goldprospectors.com.

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

SUNSHINE REPORT

by Kathy Clark

It is with sadness I report that Patricia Underwood lost her father on June 30, 2009. May we extend our deepest heartfelt condolence to Patricia, her family and close friends. Let us keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

On a brighter note I hope that all you Searchers out there are well and enjoying the summer. Take some time out and join in the fun at the Searchers Picnic on July 19 and don't forget to attend our general meeting on Tuesday, July 14.

Stay safe and well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADVERTISEMENTS

From Brian Kussman (former 1st Vice President—Programs)

Our picnic site on July 19 at the Ralph B. Clark Regional Park is next to a large building housing the Interpretive Center. It is a small museum dedicated to the paleontology of this park. Fossils found within the park are preserved, stored, and studied here. Lisa Babilonia is the director of the museum, but unfortunately she will not be in the museum during the picnic. The museum will be open however, so please be sure to drop in and view the beautiful displays.

As a geology student on a budget, I have found it too difficult to dedicate as much time as I wanted to being Vice President of Programs. Unfortunately, I am resigning as such, but I still look forward to seeing many of you at the workshop.—Brian Kussman

From Walter Mroch (Webmaster)

Please send me a few of your photos taken at the Show with your digital cameras. I want to update the website with fresh photos. hwmroch@gmail.com.

EXTRA DISCOUNT FOR SEARCHERS J S GEMS

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COLLECTING ROCKS

Submitted by Dian Hare
Mojave Desert GMS, Sept. 2008

I think that there shall never be
An ignoramus just like me,
Who roams the hills throughout the day,
To pick up rocks that do not pay.

For there's one thing I've been told
I take the rocks and leave the gold.

O'er deserts wild and mountains blue
I search for rocks of varied hue.

A hundred pounds or more I pack,
With blistered feet and aching back,
And after this is said and done
I cannot name a single one.

I pick up rocks where e'er I go
The reason why I do not know.

For rocks are found by fools like me
There God intended them to be.

Author unknown

ROCKHOUNDING

by Michael J. Papay

Why is rockhounding so consuming, so captivating, so addictive? Just ask a rockhound! It's because it's a quest. When you are out there in the field you are doing what all great adventurers have done through the ages. You are transformed from an ordinary person into an explorer. You acquire knowledge and experience and become familiar with the world around you. You stand apart and it feels good.

And when you discover a specimen or mineral that you have searched for, it's like holding a treasure in your hand. You clinch it, your heart beats excitedly, and your spirit soars. In that moment you are no longer a drab little person with a drab little life; you're transformed and it sticks with you. You are a little richer in character and you learn to experience it again. It doesn't matter whether you search for quartz or pyrite, beryl or gold. When you find it, the world's a different place. It's exciting and you are a part of it. Happy rockhounding.

via Del Air Bulletin 10/2008; Chips 'N Splinters 9/2008; The Tumble Rumble 8/2008; Rockhound Roundup

Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

Qualifications for Being a Good Rockhound

Cheerful – smile, even if every muscle and bone in your body aches.

One leg shorter than the other – it helps on the side of hills.

Adventurous – daring to take a road, even if it looks like it goes straight up.

Determination – a willingness to go again after you swore you never would.

Imagination – visualizing a beautiful gem cut out of a plain rock.

via Del Air Bulletin 10/2008, Chips 10/2006, Rock Rollers 7/06

YOU'RE A ROCKHOUND IF . . .

. You've spent more than ten dollars for a book about rocks.

. You have mineralogical database software on your computer (or words like "bornite" and "batholith" in Spellchecker.

. You send your family on ahead into McDonalds so you can check the gravel in the flowerbeds.

via Rock Chips 1/2007; Rockhound Ramblings 12/2006

ROCKHOUNDS LIVE FOREVER

by Hugh Sheffield

(8th Place 2003 AFMS Adult Poetry)

Though our bodies may age and die

On this one truth you can rely,

Rockhounds live forever more

In all the beauty we still adore.

For teaching, science and trade

Will soon from our memories fade,

But a Rockhound's beautiful stones and ware

Are preserved forever here.

We see a gem or specimen bright

And know a Rockhound valued this sight.

From nature's lure of minerals great

These lowly Rockhounds did create.

So mourn not their passing by

For in their hobby Rockhounds never die.

via MOROKS newsletter 2/2006

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 3492 Anaheim, California 92803

www.searchersrocks.org

Membership Application

PLEASE PRINT

Date _____

Name (1): _____

Name (2) _____

Jr. Member (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Phone # _____ Occupation _____

Please indicate your field of interest by checking any/all of the following:

Mineralogy () Geology () Paleontology () Lapidary/Workshops () Field Trips ()

Other () _____

How did you become aware of the Searchers? Friend/Relative () Member () Internet ()

Other () _____

The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization and we rely upon volunteers within our club to serve on our committees as well as our board members. This field is optional and only serves as future information. Making a checkmark in any area in no way obligates you to volunteer or serve in any of the positions or on any of its committees.

Please mark any/all fields you may be interested in, or have a special expertise in:

Anaheim Arts Council () Club Historian () Librarian () Webmaster ()

Phone Comm. () Membership Chairman () Monthly Drawings ()

Newsletter Editor () Sunshine () Hospitality () Annual Show ()

Veteran's Workshop () Silent Auction () Rock'N'Kids () Workshop ()

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

Valid Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, not prorated. *Subject to change.*

Please make Check payable to: "The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc."

**mail to: Glenn Benedict
Membership Chairman
1202 Skyline Drive
North Tustin, CA 92705**

The Rock Slab News

February 2009

Volume 46 ISSUE 2



JULY BIRTHSTONE – RUBY

Ruby is the modern, traditional, mystical, Ayurveda (traditional medicine of India), ancient Polish and ancient Russian July birthstone. The height of summer is the month of the red-hot ruby, symbol of zeal and passion. It gives people born in July undying vigor and brings them fortune and love. It is also a powerful protector for those surrounded by unfriendly forces.

Ruby is the red variety of the mineral corundum, and is the second hardest natural mineral known to mankind. All colors of corundum other than red or white are called sapphire. The red color in ruby is caused by trace amounts of the element chromium. The best shade of red for ruby is often given the name “pigeon blood red,” but ruby can be any shade of red up to almost pink. Rubies come from all over the world but good gemstones are found in Thailand, India, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, North Carolina in the U.S., Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania, Kampuchea and Burma. Like most gemstones from the antiquities, ruby is one of the Minerals of the Bible. In Exodus, the breastplate of Aaron is described as containing a “sardius,” the ancient name for ruby. The first lasers were made from artificial ruby crystals. They still are used for this purpose although other materials offer improved efficiency. Some natural ruby crystals show a very short phosphorescence which still makes a laser possible.



Kathy Clark, *Editor*
 18661 Silver Maple Way
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