

SEARCHERS BOARD OFFICERS

- President: Kim Strange
- 1st VP: Sharon Burson
- 2nd VP: Andrew Bloxom
- Director: Doug Flaugh
- Secretary: Jamie Cassidy -Curtis
- Treasurer: Charlotte Spalding
- Federation Delegate: Charles Walker
- Committee Chairpersons
- Editor: Linda Horn
- Historian:
- Hospitality: Lorri Renck
- Library: Inez Flaugh
- Monthly Drawing:
- Sunshine:
- Veteran Liaison :
- Charlees W.
- Website: Steve Duncan
- Workshop: Adrian Callard

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The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Anaheim CA

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 11



NOVEMBER 2020

The President's Message

Happy November Searchers,

I hope this message finds everyone staying healthy and doing well. As of this writing, the Anaheim Community Center has advised us that they will likely remain closed until after the first of the new year.

Thanks to Sharon Burson and Margaret Hogarth, we enjoyed a great general meeting via Zoom software on October 13. We had the pleasure of seeing and hearing Brad Smith who gave a great talk and demonstration on the various bits that can be used on flex shaft grinding tools like Foredom and Dremel for jewelry making and lapidary carving purposes. Brad shared his 24 years of experience as a studio jeweler and adult educator. He is a longtime member of the Culver City Rock Club. I learned a lot and I feel many of the 25 or so participants on the call learned a few things too. If you haven't had a chance to attend one of the club's general meetings via Zoom, give it a try. If you need help with accessing the meeting on a computer or smart phone, please let any board member know – we will do everything possible to assist you.

We would normally have a pie party at our November general meeting. Since Sharon will be in Texas on November 10, and instead of having a guest speaker, this year we'd like to invite members to submit a few photos of your recent collecting trip or lapidary creation to share and discuss during the meeting. Please submit your photos to me and I'll compile them in a PowerPoint document for the meeting.

The Board has continued to meet via Zoom. During our October board meeting, we reviewed the results of the voting on the proposed changes to Bylaws and Standing Rules. The proposed changes were approved by the vast majority of those members who voted – new signed documents will be available on the club website soon. We discussed the election of officers for 2021. All members should have already received the ballot for officer elections. Please take a few minutes and vote. Paid members have until 5pm on November 9 to vote. We will hold installation of officers at the November 10 general meeting via Zoom. Due to COVID, the board decided to defer the club's earth science scholarship for 2020; we will reinstate our scholarship next year. Due to expected COVID restrictions on group meetings in restaurants, we also decided to cancel the 2020 holiday dinner. We also discussed plans for the upcoming field trip on October 31 – see the October slab for more details. We look forward to more field trips being scheduled in the months ahead. Please remember to use good judgement and follow public health advisories on field trips.

While everyone is ready for things to return to some form of normal, please remember to be considerate of others by observing public health advisories; maintain physical distance, wear a face covering when in public and avoid large group events. We do this not only to protect our own health but the health and life of our loved ones and people we come in contact with.

That's all for now Searchers. Stay healthy!

***Please remember to save slab donations for the vets.**



Searchers Club Meetings and Presenters

Board Meeting- November 3rd

Member Meeting– November 10th ZOOM meeting

NOTE: The latest is that the Community Center will be closed through August.

Searchers Board Meeting – October

The Searchers board met via Zoom on October 6 at 6:30 pm. Items discussed included:

We're updating the Field Trip Waiver form to, among other things, take Covid safety requirements into account. Andrew plans to lead a one-day field trip at the end of October.

We now have a full slate of officers running for the 2021 Searchers board. Ballots will be ready soon to send to eligible members.

The Anaheim Downtown Center won't reopen this year due to pandemic restrictions, so we'll continue using Zoom meetings.

The board decided to defer our 2020 scholarship award(s) to 2021, due to many uncertainties this year such as which schools will remain open, whether any of the usual school organizations would be available to help coordinate, and the effects of the pandemic on our own finances. When the pandemic restrictions are lifted, we'll start planning scholarships again.

The board decided to cancel the December holiday party this year.

Searchers General Meeting – October

The Searchers general meeting was held on Zoom on October 13. At least 23 households attended.

Searchers business items included:

The proposed Bylaws and Standing Rules/Job Duties were approved by a vast majority of the members who voted. This means that next year's board will include two new members: Show Chair and Shop Chair.

Since we can't have our usual November elections in person this year, due to the pandemic, we'll send the ballots to Searchers members the same way we sent the ballots for the Bylaws changes. Members who paid their 2020 dues are eligible to vote by one of the following methods: email, phone, or mail. The deadline is November 9, the day before our November Zoom meeting.

There will be a one-day field trip to the South Cadys on Halloween. Contact Andrew Bloxom for more information.

The speaker was Brad Smith, who gave a presentation on "Choosing the Right Tool Bits" for Dremel and Freedom tools. Highlights included:

Types include bits for drilling, burring, sanding, polishing, texturing, and miscellaneous work.

Serious jewelers often invest in bits whose base is a standard shaft size, so they can use a collet chuck. Adjustable Jacobs chucks don't clamp well on small bits.

Diamond tool bits must be used with oil or water. A protective mask (N95) is recommended when using these bits or other types that produce debris.

It's useful to have some sanding discs with sandpaper facing toward you and others with sandpaper facing away from you. Sandpaper facing toward you is useful for small pieces worked close to your face.

For field trip
information
contact:
Andrew
Bloxom Field
Trips,
Searchers
Gem and
Mineral
Society,
andrew.bloxom@gmail.com

November Meeting Topic: Share and Tell Rocks

Our famous sharing of pies is out, so this time we will share rock stories and creations.

This year we'd like to invite members to submit a few photos of your recent collecting trip or lapidary creation to share and discuss during the meeting. Please submit your photos to me and I'll compile them in a PowerPoint document for the meeting. kimstrange01@gmail.com

Kim Strange

Searchers will have the November **general meeting by Zoom, November 10th 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

Zoom is dependent on a computer/tablet/phone with a microphone and camera, and Zoom loaded on it.

If you need to download Zoom, do so at <https://zoom.us/>

We would set an appointed day and time (have Zoom downloaded) and then click on the meeting link below. Then you would click the "join meeting" button, then enable your microphone and enable your video. If you are using an iPad you might have to touch the screen to see the speaker and video options at the bottom.

NOTE: for those who can't use Zoom, call us, we would love to have you!

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

Topic: Searcher's Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tcc-services.zoom.us/j/2202768016>

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,2202768016# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,2202768016# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 220 276 8016

Find your local number: <https://tcc-services.zoom.us/u/>



Saw Oil Available

The club supplies saw oil at a good price. It is located at Jim Peterson's home. Bring your own 5 gallon container. The cost is \$60 for 5 gallons. Call 714 904-8573 and make a check payable to "Searchers"

Searcher Field Trips

"Hi Searchers, by the time you read this we will have just completed our first field trip since the beginning of COVID-19 and we'll be planning another trip for November and December if everything goes well. Please keep an eye out for Searcher's e-mails with announcement of a November and December field trip!

-Andrew"

Searcher Slab Needs

The Searchers are creating an archive of Slab issues on the Searcher web site. Thanks to Jay Valle, we have most issues from 2006-present. The archive is located at <https://www.searchersrocks.org/2019-slab-archive> . Below is a list of issues that we are missing. If you have paper archives, they can be scanned and returned to you unharmed. Please let me know, hogarth.m@gmail.com.

Missing issues:

2004 and before: Any issues.

2005: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, November, December

2006: December

2007: December

2008: January, February

2009: December

2011: February

2013: July

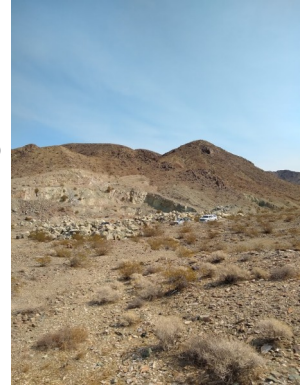
Thank you,
Margaret



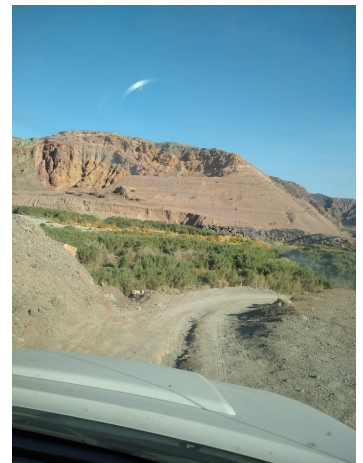
Afton Canyon Field Trip Report: October 17th

Surprise Afton Canyon Trip

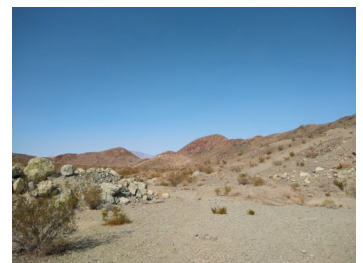
On Saturday, October 17th, a small group of Searchers went on an impromptu trip to Afton canyon. John O'Connor and Jimmy Peterson led the trip; in attendance were John's daughter, Jimmy and Esther, and Bill and Margaret Hogarth. Surprise, surprise, the railroad company was redoing the trestle bridge at the Afton canyon campground and had a continuous row of trucks delivering gravel and ties with a large crew working all day in the sun. Undeterred, we left Afton canyon for Plan B, crossing the freeway to the green rocks' site. Jimmy hauled out big pieces for sphere making and everybody else found some for their own projects. Nearby was a dry lake bed where people were enacting their own mini Burning Man with a 15-foot skeleton set up at their camp. Out on the dry lake bed they had pylons and easy-ups where they seemed to be working on motor vehicles, but we passed that by.



We headed back to Afton canyon where the crew had finished adding a gravel bridge across the Mojave River, which surfaces just past the campground. John explored a canyon on foot, and Jimmy and his Jeep led an exploration of the Mojave Trail on the other side of the river. The gravel bridge across the stream was helpful at first, with the water only to the top of the bottom part of the tire, but mid-stream the gravel gave out and we dumped into deeper water that we forded without incident. We heard our tail pipe was blowing bubbles! The reward for crossing the river was a miniature Grand Canyon with magnificent colored rock formations and cliffs much enhanced by the afternoon sun, showing many shade gradations and dramatic shadows. The road is very sandy through the canyon, four-wheel drive only. We continued on the Mojave Trail until we met up with the Basin Road exit on Highway 15, which we took back to the Afton road and the campground. We headed home while the rest of the party stayed another night; everybody had a great time. We are looking forward to the next field trip.



Regards,
Bill



More Field Trip pictures



Are You A New Rockhound?

What to do? -- Have you decided yet? If you're a new rockhound you may be confused by the many phases of our hobby. Do you wonder just, which Earth Science suits you best? Perhaps a little vocational guidance will help you make up your mind...

THE HOARDER:

Are you a hoarder at heart? Are your closet,, attic and basement bulging at the seams with things you just can't bear to part with? If the answer is yes, I suggest you become a MINERAL COLLECTOR. (WARNING—be sure you have at least one empty room he fore you start, because you won't be able to part with any of your collection and it will grow at an alarming speed.) if you are an apartment dweller, try collecting miniatures, and if your hacienda has only one room to hang your hat, micromounts are the thing for you. If you have a pack-rat personality, you can enjoy collecting beautiful minerals and crystals no matter how limited your space.



THE PERFECTIONIST:

Are you a perfectionist? Do you admire the perfect shape and beautiful color? If so, you're a born LAPIDARY. No lop-sided cabochons for you! They will all come out with perfect contours and you can be sure your cab, will have a mirror-like polish every time.

LIKE NUMBERS?

Are you good at mathematics? Do you have the touch of a gentle breeze? May I suggest you try FACETING? This is one hobby where, a mind with a mathematical flair can whiz through a set of angles that would baffle a lesser genius. Th. results are probably more spectacular than of any other 'facets' of our hobby.

HOW ABOUT VARIETY?

Do you find it hard to stick to one thing for very long? May I suggest NOVELTIES? You can try polishing flats and then use them for pen bases Try cab, and if you tire of them, make a picture out of them. Try a sphere and if you never get beyond the

pre-form stage, make it into a paperweight.

Do you think leftovers taste better than the original dish? Thee I suggest TUMBLING for you. Just pick up all the leftover rocks around the house and put them into the tumbler. You'll be surprised what comes out!

OR, are you like a child on Christmas morning? For you, I suggest FLUORESCENTS. Each time you look over your collection, you will recapture the beauty of a lighted Christmas tree.

Do you keep a diary? Are you fascinated by history and the records of past life on this planet? You are the one to collect FOSSILS. You will find a wonderful pastime and sermons in hones, collecting the remains of these past earthlings.

Seriously, there are so many avenues to explore in the earth sciences. In addition, there's CARVING, JEWELRY MAKING and WEEKEND FIELD TRIPS, all worth a try! You would be wise to investigate them all until you find one (or several) that suits you best.

HAVE FUN AND GOOD LUCK!

From ESCOMO, 11/87, via BEEHIVE BUZZER 10/01



Upcoming 2020-2021 CFMS Gem Shows

For a more complete listing of shows go to web-site: www.cfmsinc.org

Due to the ongoing virus check to see if any shows are still on. Most all have been canceled

November 14 – 15: YUBA CITY
 Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
 Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
 442 Franklin Hall, Yuba City, CA 95991
 Hours: Sat. 10 am – 5 pm, Sun. 10 am – 4 pm
 Contact: (916) 677-6696, horita@comcast.net
 Show web site: <http://sutterbuttesgemmin.org>

Shows that are a go

The Hesperia show at the Mining Supply and Rock shop (parking lot) show is a go, Nov. 21-22. This is the last year for this show, as the shop is being sold.

2021 Shows

February 20-21, Antioch
 Antioch Lapidary Club
 Jewelry, Gem & Rock Show
 Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10th St., Antioch
 Hours: 10 am – 5 pm daily
 Admission \$6, Children 12 and under/ Scouts in uniform – Free
 Active Military with ID – Free
 Contact: (925) 301-6957, brenda.miguel@yahoo.com

February 27-28, Vallejo
 Valejo Gem & Mineral Society
 56th Annual Gem & Mineral Show
 Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Dr.
 Hours 10 am-5pm
 Contact: (415) 254-1506, ddu-honvgms@gmail.com

March 6 – Ventura, CA CANCELLED!!!
 Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
 Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd, Ventura 93001
 Saturday 10 am-5 pm, Sunday 10 am-4 pm
 A So-Cal tradition for 59 years! (Note: this listing is tentative and is conditioned upon conditions of the moment at the Ventura County Fairgrounds due to the COVID-19 pandemic.)
 50+ exhibits of gems, fossils & lapidary arts; demos; raffle silent auctions; flea market & plant sale; 15 dealers; kids booth & free resources for teachers.
 Contact: (805) 312-8467, info@vgms.org

March 13-14, Arcadia CA
 Pasadena Lapidary Society
 "Inspiration Uneath", 62nd Annual Tournament of Gems
 Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W. Duarte Rd.
 Hours: 10-5 Daily
 Contact: Ellen Ferrell 1-727-512-0381
 Email: ellenbf207@aol.com
 Website: pasadenalapidary.org



November: Birthstone: Topaz Citrine



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 10:00 PM and Saturday 2:30 to 7:00 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

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American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



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