

The Rock Slab News

November/December 2009 VOLUME 46 ISSUE 11

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!

Well, we are getting to the end of another exciting year! The holidays are coming up and I hope all of you have a great holiday season! Remember to join us at the Christmas Party on December 5th. Please send your payment to Jimmy Peterson or bring it to the November general meeting.

We have a great program in store for the evening and we will have our annual Searchers Pie Night. Please bring a pie!

Our elections will be at the November meeting. Please attend and participate.

I want to thank the Board and all Committee Chairpersons for working with me this past year. Next year looks to be another great year for the Searchers, with many field trips, our annual gem show and exciting general meetings.

I look forward to seeing you all during the holiday season!

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, 3rd Tuesday 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: 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

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| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 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 |
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| | | |
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| Workshop | Herb Beckman | 714-778-1496 |
| Rock'n Kids | Ana Lorenzo | 714-734-9665 |

Sponsored by:
Anaheim Arts Council

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Our November guest speaker is Walter Lombardo and the topic will be "Precious Opal from Virgin Valley, Nevada." Some of the most beautiful opal in the world comes from Virgin Valley area in Humboldt County, Nevada. Black precious opal, exhibiting every color of the rainbow, is found as replacements of limb casts (petrified wood) in layers of volcanic ash. The Roebing Opal, a 2,585 carat Virgin Valley black opal, resides in the Smithsonian. Common opal (fluorescent), agatized wood and agates and jaspers are also found in the area.

The two principal collecting locations are "fee dig" areas, the Royal Peacock Mine and the Rainbow Ridge Mine. Both are open pit mines. At the Royal Peacock, you can collect pretty much wherever you want. At the Rainbow Ridge, you buy a "yard" of rock scooped from the mine, and sift through the material. Collecting can be quite good at both places.

Precious opal from Nevada is not as stable as Australian precious opal because it is much younger geologically (10-12 million years old versus 100 millions years). Therefore it tends to craze unless preserved in water. Some Virgin Valley opal found on the dumps may be stable (and can be cut) if it has survived several seasons of exposure to the elements.

Walter Lombardo is a geologist with over 30 years of mining experience. For 16 years he managed the Southern Nevada Office of the Nevada Division of Minerals, a state agency which oversees the mining, oil, gas, and geothermal industries. He also worked as geologist for American Borate Company (Death Valley), Cyprus Gold (California Mother Lode), and Desert Research Institute in Las Vegas. More recently he was Director of North American Exploration for War Eagle Mining Company, where he was involved in projects in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and the Czech Republic. In August, Walt and his wife, Sandy, opened Nevada Mineral & Book Company (an earth science bookstore and natural history gallery) in Orange.



ELECTION!

The Nominating Committee has selected the following people for official duties:

PRESIDENT: NORBERT BERNHARDT
1st V.P. PROGRAMS: KEITH DROSTE
2nd V.P. FIELD TRIPS: STEVE DUNCAN
SECRETARY: KATHY CLARK
TREASURER: PAT LYNCH
FEDERATION DELEGATE: VIRGIL TALBOTT

Nominations from the floor will also be accepted.

DON'T FORGET!! RESERVE YOUR SEAT FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

SEARCHER'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The December meeting is the Installation of New Officers and Holiday Season Gathering to be held on:

**Saturday, December 5, 2009, at Marie Callendar's
in the Garden Room, 540 N. Euclid Avenue,
Anaheim, California, (just North of the Frwy.)
from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. max.**

The cost will be \$25 per person which includes tax and gratuity.
Dinner will be served at 6:30pm and includes:

Caesar salad

Cornbread

**Fountain drinks, iced tea or coffee (any other drinks such as wine or beer
must be purchased by member)**

Meal Selections: (includes mixed vegetables)

1. Pepper Crusted Hand Carved Tri-Tip Steak

2. Fresh Lemon Pepper Crusted Salmon

3. Artichoke Mushroom Chicken

Apple, Chocolate Cream or Lemon Meringue Pie

The Garden Room holds 60 people maximum, so make your reservation soon. To make your reservation, please mail a check to Jimmy Peterson (18611 Silver Maple Way, North Tustin, CA 92705) or bring a check and sign up at the General Meeting in October or November.

Please designate your meal selection for yourself and your party.
Cash or checks are made out to Searchers Gem & Mineral Society

There will also be a Holiday Gift Exchange. Please bring a gift valued at approx. \$10.00.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Event</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| 5,12,19 | 6-10pm | Thursday Workshop (lapidary, wire wrapping) |
| 7,14,21,28 | 3-7pm | Saturday Workshop (lapidary, silversmithing) |
| 7 | 10am | Afton Canyon Wedding & Field Trip (see page 8) |
| 7 & 8 | 9:30am-5p 10am-4pm | San Diego Mineral & Gem Society Show @ Al Bahr Shrine, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., San Diego, CA 92111 Free admission & parking, very large show |
| 7 & 8 | 10am-6pm 10am-5pm | American Opal Society 42nd Annual Opal & Gem Show (new location) White House (Hobby City), 1238 S. Beach Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92804 http://opalsociety.org or http://whitehouseeventcenter.com |
| 10 | 7pm | November General Meeting |
| 17 | 7pm | Board Meeting at Norbert's house |
| 12-15 | 10a-9p | Open House @ Nevada Mineral & Book Company at 342 S. Tustin Street, Orange, CA 92866 (714-633-1549) extended hours during West Coast Gem & Mineral Show |
| 13 & 14 | 10am-6pm | West Coast Gem & Mineral Show @ Holiday Inn, 3131 South Bristol |
| 15 | 10am-5pm | Street. Costa Mesa, CA 92628 go to www.mzexpos.com for Dealer List. Free admission. |

ANAHEIM DOWNTOWN CENTER CLOSED—THURSDAY, 26TH

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

28 & 29 **Field Trip to Burro Creek, Arizona** (see writeup on page 9)
Any questions contact Steve Duncan 714-724-7102, wsd@iteris.com

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.



DECEMBER EVENTS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Event</u> |
|-------------|-------------|---|
| 3,10,17,31 | 6-10pm | Thursday Workshop (lapidary,wirewrapping) |
| 5,12,19,26 | 3-7pm | Saturday Workshop (lapidary,silversmithing) |



Saturday, December 5, 2009, at Marie Callendar's
 in the Garden Room, 540 N. Euclid Avenue,
 Anaheim, California, (just North of the Frwy.)
 from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. max.

**ANAHEIM DOWNTOWN CENTER CLOSED -
 THURSDAY, 24TH & FRIDAY, 25TH**

M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S

Dec.27 9am December Field Trip—Lavic Siding
 See page 10, any questions contact Steve Duncan
 714-724-7102 or wsd@iteris.com



**Happy Birthday to all those Searchers' members who celebrate their birthdays in
 November and December!!!**

ROCK'N KIDS NEWS

WE HAD A GREAT TIME AT THE POOL PARTY. ENCLOSED ARE SOME PICTURES.

NOVEMBER 21 WILL BE OUR FIELD TRIP TO NEVADA MINERAL AND BOOK COMPANY. IT IS GOING TO BE FUN! THE ADDRESS IS:
342 S. TUSTIN STREET, ORANGE CA 92866.

PLEASE RSVP

ANA LORENZO



2009 FIELD TRIP STATUS

by Steve Duncan

| DATE 2009 | LOCATION | MATERIAL | LEADER | STATUS/COMMENTS |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Oct 10 & Oct 11 | Chuckwalla Springs | Flame agate, plume agate, amygdules | Robert Burson & Jay Valle | Confirmed Joint trip with North Orange County club and Whittier club |
| Oct 10 & Oct 11 | Trona | Hanksite, halite etc | Non Searcher trip | Confirmed Non Searcher trip, very unique. If you can't make it to Chuckwalla Springs you should try this. Info at http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/FLYER.htm |
| Nov 7 | Afton Canyon | Agates and Jaspers. Plume agate | Adam Dean | Confirmed Rockhound wedding, Adam is getting married and then leading a field trip. All CFMS members welcome. Adam is one of the current CFMS field trip leaders. More info to follow. |
| Nov 28 & Nov 29 | Burro Creek AZ | Pastelite, opalite, purple agate | Steve Duncan | Confirmed Long distance trip the weekend after thanksgiving |
| One day during the last week of December | Lavic Siding | Jasper and jasp-agates | Steve Duncan | Confirmed One day trip to Lavic Siding |

IT'S A ROCKHOUND WEDDING!

On November 7, Adam Dean (the current CFMS Field Trip leader) and Teresa Felix are getting married at Afton Canyon Campground. A ceremony at 10 am will be followed by a potluck lunch. At noon sharp we will line up for a field trip to rockhound at one of Adam and Teresa's favorite sites near the campground. This is a little-known area with many kinds of rocks in float. There will be agates, jaspers, and even a wonderful plume agate. Easy walking and beautiful rocks! This will be a come-as-you-are event. We would like to welcome all CFMS Members. Members will need all the typical collecting equipment as well as cameras, a chair and a dish for the potluck lunch after the wedding. Please come and celebrate with us at our favorite place. We do not have a registry. If you feel inclined, we will have a money tree at the luncheon.

Directions: to Afton Canyon Campground if coming from the south (Barstow) go North on Interstate 15. Exit on Afton Road and make a right. Follow the dirt road 3 miles until you come to a rise in the road. The campground is on the right side just over the rise.

Program GPS: Dunn, California, will get you to Afton Road exit.

November Field Trip

Burro Creek AZ

Nov 28 & 29

by Steve Duncan

The Searchers will be having a field trip to Burro Creek AZ on November 28&29th. We will be meeting at the Burro Creek Campground, a BLM campground just off of AZ 93. The camp is about 17 miles south of Wikieup, and about 10 miles north of the AZ 93-AZ 96 junction. The campground is in a very scenic location, and has drinking water, and restrooms with flush toilets and sinks. The campground fee is \$10/night, I am looking into a group site. The campground is about 250 miles from Anaheim. Motels are available in Wikieup

We will collect in the Burro Creek area, our favorite purple agate place has been seriously fenced off, but we know some others locations with purple. There is also a pastelite location; the material I took from there last time is actually very nice. I have asked a couple of friendly (local to Burro Creek) clubs for information also, there is a possibility some of their members may decide to join us. I also have a stash of old hand drawn maps that we can investigate. The whole area has lots of potential. In addition it is a very beautiful area.

If the creek is not high we will go in the long way, which is a nice drive and has several collecting sites on the way. This traditionally means fording the creek, so a high clearance vehicle is probably a good idea. I will know the creek conditions before we go. If the creek is high there is another way into Burro Creek. This involves a dirt road from Nothing, AZ down to Burro Creek, and the road is called Suicide. This road can be pretty easy, or quite challenging depending on its current condition. A high clearance vehicle is a must for this road, and 4x4 is recommended. We can carpool in available 4x4s as usual

It can be hot or cold in the daytime, and will be cool to cold at night. So plan accordingly. Sunscreen, hats, water, etc. For tools most material will be in float, so a spray bottle and rock pick are all you should need. There may be some places where digging in clay will yield the purple agate, so you may want some digging tools (geopick, hammer, gad, etc).

We will leave each day at 0845 for the collecting areas. We will not be returning to camp for lunch, so you will need to pack a lunch.

Saturday evening we will have our traditional potluck, so bring something delicious to share.

I hope to see a lot of you there; Burro Creek is really a special place. Contact me if you have any questions. Steve Duncan 714 724 7102, wsd@iteris.com.

DECEMBER FIELD TRIP

Lavic Siding

December 27, 2009

by Steve Duncan

The Searchers will be having a one-day field trip to Lavic Siding on Sunday the 27th of December. Steve Duncan will lead this trip. Lavic Siding is justifiably famous for its multi-colored jasper. Although it has been collected hard for years there is still good material for the discerning rockhound. This is also an opportunity to walk off some of that Christmas turkey.

We will meet at 0900 at the railroad crossing on Route 66 between Hector Rd. and Ludlow. To get there from Anaheim take the 15N to the 40 West. Exit at Hector Rd. (about 40 miles from Barstow). Go right at the bottom of the exit, and then left (east) on National Trails Highway (old Route 66). Go a few miles east to the railroad crossing, this is our meeting spot, the collecting is only a few miles away. The roads are normally passable for a passenger car if you take your time. A high clearance vehicle will make it easily.

Bring a rock pick and a spray bottle, most material is found in float. If you want to dig I am sure there is more material just a little ways under the surface. Bring a hat and sunscreen; even though it will probably be pleasantly cool, we are still out in the desert. Bring lots of water. We will stay at this location all day, so you may want to bring a lunch. About 10 miles east on National Trails Highway is the town of Ludlow, where there is a Dairy Queen and gas.

A short distance to the west of the meeting spot is the turn off to the Pisgah Crater, a volcanic crater. If you haven't visited the crater it makes a nice side trip. There is the crater itself and some small lava tubes. This area can be reached in a car.

This trip should be a pleasant interlude in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. I hope to see you all there. Questions? Contact me at 714-724-7102 or wsd@iteris.com.

FIELD TRIP NOTES FROM BETH
September Field Trip Report
Jalama Beach
by Beth Pelfrey

Since I missed the RSN deadline for my report on the Lompoc field trip September 19-20, my report is a month late. But then, that's me, late for life.

It's the morning of Friday the 18th. I am still packing the car – natch, at the last minute – oops! Almost forgot the firewood and the geo pick. Let's see, rock collecting tools, buckets, backpack, gloves, hat –where is my blue hat!!!!. Finally loaded the cooler, food and some odds and ends.

I am off like a herd of turtles, I-5, plod through Buena Park (I never remember the dang construction and it's only been going on since 1955!) and make my way through LA to Highway 101. Now I feel like I am actually on the road. 101 is a beautiful drive after dropping down over the pass to the coastal region; the air is fresh and smells pollutant-free. Ah the ocean, coffee and a break at Ventura and the view of the great Pacific Ocean! Wow, I love the deserts and the ocean and the mountains. California is a knock-out! Exit 132 at Ventura takes me to California 1 and on into Lompoc.

Lompoc is a lovely little town, rife with murals, friendly folks and even good traffic patterns. Top off the gas tank and ice for the cooler, hear a discussion of triple-X movies at the liquor store, then off to the camp site at River Park.

Margaret Hogarth followed me in, Jimmy and Ester were already there and settled. Herb Beckman arrived shortly along with Cary and Hui Chang and Jay Erb These guys homestead Searcher Tent Town. The Gammon family, including son Matthew, a top-notch rock hound himself parked their RV in the group area as well. I have a room at a motel in town.

We plan our logistics on Friday night for the rest of the weekend and meet up with Suzanne Alsky and her dear friend Jennifer W (sorry, I can't read her name spelling) who lives in Lompoc that night.

Saturday morning I woke up to a tarantula in each boot; tell the teenager at the desk I was able to repatriate only one and head for the camp. We carpool to Jalama Beach, pay \$8 per carload to use the park and while I hobble and wallow in self-pity because of a sore foot, the others range far and wide in search of treasures. Lunch break means a famous Jalama Burger – juicy, huge and very filling with lots of fries!

Now, at camp this morning, Jim who runs the Paintball place across from the River Park, told us about a place near Vandenberg to dig in the road cuts for sand dollars. We leave Jalama about 1:30 for the Sand Dollar location. I am so stoked that I am able to follow someone's directions and arrive with no problems at a really good collecting site! Many many sand dollars are dug out of the ancient sea bed/road cut. We all decide we really need to go back another time!

Our Saturday potluck is fabuloso as always! Hanging out with my friends around great food and a campfire is always a highlight of the trip. Jennifer's husband and his friend have come back with Suzanne and have brought the entertainment – a lovely 2 year old. Matthew's younger sibs and Mom contribute to the all around gaiety of the evening.

Sunday morning we re-group to head for Soapstone Mountain. I make one wrong turn (par for my course) at a road marked 'This is NOT Neverland', get back on the right road for our goal, stopping along the way to check out likely looking locations for serpentine or other material. I am so thankful for the Mitchell and Strong books: without that help, I would not be able to lead a trip. So all of you pay attention – anyone can do it; it's fun! We score lots of soapstone and happen on a large parasailing group up high. Boy, are those guys soaring! Makes you want to do it –now!

On the way back to camp we meet up with Matthew's family at Pea Soup Andersons in Buell-ton; I of course, pig out on – what else? – Pea Soup. We go back to camp and wish everyone a safe trip home.

The drive home is another great one – I get through Santa Barbara and Ventura as if it is a normal trip and arrive home about 9. My cats are happy to see me at first then remember they are the cats and say, "Oh, were you gone? We didn't notice." What a great trip. Next time will be even better.



Some of Larry Richey's pictures taken at Jade Cove

IN OUR MEMORIES

by Beth Pelfrey

Audrey Nichols passed away Thursday, October 22, 2009, at Walnut Manor Care Center in Anaheim.

Audrey was an active and energetic Searcher for many years, serving on many show committees, making crafts, participating in all club activities, especially the annual show. She moved to a Walnut Manor cottage with a yard a few years back with Satch, her 39 year old desert tortoise and then Quaker Gardens in Westminster when Walnut Manor was torn down to be rebuilt. That move meant she had to give up her adored Satch, which she did to a registered tortoise facility. Audrey had expected to be able to move back to her retirement home in Walnut Manor, but sadly, passed away before that could happen. A couple of years ago, she had to give up Searcher membership as she was unable to get to meetings or the show. But for many years, Audrey was a mainstay in our club.

She was a close friend to my family for so many years, I do not even remember when I didn't know Audrey after my folks joined the Searchers in the 1960's. She popped in and out of our house and Mom and Dad's lives for over 30 years. I got to know her better after I returned to Anaheim in 1990 and I did enjoy admiring the jewelry she wore that was made by her husband, Smokey.

Audrey's loss is heartfelt as I am sure many of you will know.

SUNSHINE REPORT

by Kathy Clark

Recently Clare Gagnon had surgery and was home for a while, but he had complications and had to go back to the hospital for more surgery. His daughter has reported that he is not doing well. Let's keep Clare in our hearts with good thoughts and lots of prayers to send him on the way to recovery.

Grant Miller reported that his brother Bud had a fall and is not able to walk. He is at Anaheim Health Care, 501 S. Beach, Room 51, Building B, and the phone number where he can be reached is 714-243-0037 ext. 2251. Let's send Bud our best wishes that he will be feeling better soon and will be able to join us at monthly meetings.

Grant also said his sister Leviona who had been a Searcher member way back in the 60's has passed away.

NOTES FROM SEPTEMBER'S PROGRAM

by Chris Edmonds

The September program was a Basic Course in Rock Tumbling 101 presented by our Larry Richey.

There are two sizes of rotary tumblers that Larry recommends depending on how much material you are working with: the small size usually found in hobby stores and the larger 12 lb. container. Noise is a factor to consider so don't set up around A/C vents.

Separate material by hardness; remove obsidian and Apache tears to tumble separately. Never tumble jade as it contains asbestos. Break up large pieces; an anvil is useful, also gloves, long sleeves and a full face shield. Safety to always be a consideration.

There are three sizes of grit used in the various stages of tumbling: 80 grit, 220 grit and 600 grit (pre-polish). Nylon, teflon pellets, and ground corn husks are also used.

Larry suggests keeping a journal to track your stages and progress. Fill the chamber three-fourths full of rock and add three heaping tablespoons of 80 grit and cover with water. Keep the grit off of the chamber seal and lid. Secure the lid, place into tumbler and rotate continually ten days.

Have a collection of buckets on hand; also a wide-holed funnel and screening or strainer. Pour off residue through a strainer, **NOT THE DRAIN**, and save.

2nd Rotation: Replace rock back into cylinder, reuse the saved residue water. Add three teaspoons of 80 grit and additional water to cover if needed. Seal and begin second tumble. Record date and time. Rotate ten more days.

3rd Rotation: use 220 grit.

4th Rotation: use 600 grit, add teflon, nylon pellets or ground corn cobs, one half pound for large or one third bag for small.

Pour off through screen into bucket using wide-mouth funnel.

600 polish: 10 ought polish three tablespoons Meyers tumbling polish large and three teaspoons for small.

Always rinse well.

For obsidian and Apache tears use two drops Dawn dish detergent and corn cobs.

Store grit in marked coffee cans: 80 grit on bottom, 220 grit, 600 grit and polish on top. This will prevent cross contamination of mediums.

Nevada Mineral & Book Company located at 342 S. Tustin Street in Orange, CA 92866 (714-633-1549) will have two well-known gem & jewelry authors in the store in October for "Meet the Author/Book Signing" events.

Saturday, October 10, 1-3pm Renee Newman

Author of a number of gem & jewelry books, including: **Emerald & Tanzanite Buying Guide; Diamond Handbook: A Practical Guide to Diamond Evaluation; Ruby, Sapphire & Emerald Buying Guide: How to Evaluate, Identify, Select & Care for These Gemstones; Gold & Platinum Jewelry Buying Guide: How to Judge, Buy, Test & Care For It; The Pearl Buying Guide; Gemstone Buying Guide: How to Evaluate, Identify, Select & Care For Colored Gems.**

Saturday, October 24, 1-3pm Fred Ward

Author of "The Fred Ward Gem Books" series: **Emerald, Opal, Diamond, Pearl, Ruby & Sapphire, Phenomenal Gems, & Gem Care.**

Renee and Fred will be in the store for several hours each, giving people plenty of time to meet and talk to the authors, as well as purchase signed copies of some great gem books. If people cannot attend, they can call in to the store to order signed copies, which they can pick up after the event.

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sandbandit1@verizon.net

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WANTED

Steve Duncan is looking for lost wax casting equipment. If you have some equipment gathering dust that you would be interested in selling please contact Steve at 714 724 7102, or email him at wsd@iteris.com

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Cell (909) 519-1545

**Ken Nelson has an 18" Great Western Slab Saw and a
Richardson Ranch Dry Polisher for sale.**

Members can contact him at 562-431-7382

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**

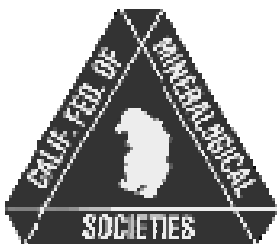
The Rock Slab News

Volume 46 ISSUE 11

Nov/Dec 2009



Kathy Clark, *Editor*
18661 Silver Maple Way
North Tustin, CA 92705-2144



NOVEMBER BIRTHSTONE—CITRINE DECEMBER BIRTHSTONE -

Citrine is the official birthstone for the month of November as adopted by the American National Association of Jewelers in 1912. Citrine is a variety of quartz ranging in colors of yellow, yellow-brown, orange, dark orange-brown, reddish-brown. Citrine crystals can form together with amethyst of smoky quartz to form a bi-colored quartz called ametrine. Almost all citrine that is available on the market today is heat-treated amethyst. In folklore citrine is believed to help the heart, kidney, digestive tract, liver and muscles. It promotes creativity, helps personal clarity and eliminates self-destructive tendencies. In October 2002 tanzanite was added to the official birthstone list by the American Gem Trade Association as an additional birthstone for December. As one of the newest and most exotically colored gemstones, tanzanite is part of the Zoisite mineral species and is only found in East Africa. Tanzanite is very rarely a pure blue and usually exhibits rich purple overtones. While tanzanite is often a blue color when first mined, it can also be brown and is routinely heat treated to permanently draw out its exotic bluish-purple color. Tanzanite is a brittle stone and although it can be worn daily, care should be taken to protect it from knocks, pressure and extreme temperature changes. Do not use a home ultrasonic to clean jewelry with tanzanite. Legend says that it was Masai cattle herders that first noticed this stone some 30 years ago after a fire caused by lightening burned areas in Tanzania. The herders noticed that brown zoisite crystals had turned a deep blue-purple due to the heat from the fire. Because this is such a new gemstone, there is little folklore or healing properties surrounding this stone.