

SEARCHERS BOARD AND CHAIRPERSONS

- Slab Editor: Linda Horn
anaheimsearchers@gmail.com
- President: Robin Larzelere
anaheimsearchers@gmail.com
- 1st VP:
- 2nd VP: Rick Webber
- Secretary: Regina Tula
- Treasurer: Jamie Cassidy-Curtis
- Workshop Chair: Caleb Guyer
- Show Chair: Margaret Hogarth
- Webmaster:
- Federation Delegate: Nancy Bird
- Director: Sue Gevedon
- Director: open



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POINTS OF INTEREST

FIELD TRIPS

GENERAL MEETING

SPEAKERS

The Rock Slab News

VOLUME 60, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2023



The Searchers next meeting:
Dec. 12, 2023 7 p.m. Christmas Party
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The President's Message

Hello Searchers,

Workshop news – Stan McCall, American Opal Society, recently demonstrated polishing techniques for Rhodochrosite, Turquoise, and Tigers' Eye. Forty years of experience showed in his tips and tricks. I did record the highlights, and will ask if I can post to the Searchers' website. Thank you, Stan.

General Meeting News – The club needs a 1st Vice President, responsible for selecting speakers, and organizing the Holiday Potluck, and Summer Picnic. If you missed throwing Quarters for Cabs, you will have another chance to play at workshop. The Rowley Mine material was displayed from the last field trip.



Bob Tanner and Rick Webber



Searchers who help in the back ground: If you enjoy reading the Slab every month, try to say a "thank you" to **Linda Horn**, editor. She comes to every meeting. She does high-quality polishing of geodes, if you have some to shine up. The Slab is one of the first items people research when they look at the Searchers club online, and Linda does a consistent high-quality job both as editor, and graphic designer. **Nancy Bird** is the general meeting raffle helper, as well as the CFMS board position. She greets new and prospective members, as well as bringing tasty baked treats. Thank you, Nancy. **Debbie and Bob Tanner**, are ever-present with membership help, membership name tags, and club finance help. Fun helpers! Thank you.

Rocks In-Person: Our Annual Rock Show is better than any photo of rocks. After working two Shows, my goal is 10 "new" Searchers to work "behind the tables". If you are a new Searcher, would you consider helping in this way? It is an interesting experience, social, and creative.

Welcome to new member, Samir Masri

Sincerely, Robin Larzelere, President



Searchers Club Meetings

Board Meeting- **December 5th at 6:30 P.M.**

Member Meeting- **December 12th** in the Anaheim Community Center

Minutes - Board Meeting, Tuesday November 7, 2023

Meeting in person at the Anaheim Downtown Community Center

Attendees: Robin Larzelere, Jamie Cassidy-Curtis, Jenny Rohl, Margaret Hogarth, Bill Hogarth, Caleb Guyer, Rick Weber, Gwen Sharp, Nancy Bird, Sue Gevedon; Visitor: Steve Duncan

Oct. 3, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes, Oct. 10, 2023 General Membership Meeting minutes, approved as written

Emails from club to members: Wix is charging 12 per month for emailing. Some problems receiving emails to be evaluated before board approval.

Jenny report on Nominating Committee. Same slate as last year with the exception of Jenny Rohl being replaced by Regina Tula and Gen Sharp not continuing on as 1st VP. No replacement has been found for Gwen. Needs to be someone local so that they can attend the meeting and set up the AV equipment. It was decided to no require the oath of office this year.

Scholarship for Cal State Fullerton – \$1,200 approved by board.

Silent Auction for November 14. Rick Weber will organize and run it.

Treasurer's reports, 2023 Income and Expense report updated Insurance paid and the income statement will be brought up-to-date soon.

2nd VP – Field Trips: Bill Hogarth and Rick Webber Rowley Mine trip November 11 and 12(Caleb) December 16 and 17, Afton Canyon area, Top Notch Claim with Jeremy Berg visiting guide and Doug Flaugh's digital Google Map with GPS coordinates of jasper, geodes and fluorite.

Schedule published in Slab – need January and February tentative trip locations. Ideas presented by Bill and Margaret Hogarth include: Clear Creek, May 18-19; Quartzsite Pow Wow in January; Copper World, June 1-2. Sperry Wash appears to be ok now.

CFMS Representative: Nancy Bird Ventura will be the location of the AFMS/CFMS show, May 24-26.

Show Chair: Veronica is taking the Show Vendor contract job.

Shop Chair: Caleb Guyer - Rowley Mine trip November 11 and 12

Minutes – General Meeting, Tuesday, October 10, 2023

1. Call to Order: The meeting began at 7:05 PM by Robin Larzelere
2. Display case is available for free, you just have to pick it up, contact Steve Duncan.
3. Ira Wheeler is in hospice. Hi wife Teri want Searchers to record messages for him as a Christmas present.
4. Rowley Mine Field Trip: It was a great field trip, samples of what was found were brought to the meeting for everyone to see.
5. Thank you to outgoing board members and presentation of pins by Robin.
6. Elections: The nominating committee presented the slate of nominees for the 2024 board: President. Robin Larzelere; Treasurer, Jamie Cassidy-Curtis; Secretary, Regina Tula; Show Chair, Margaret Hogarth; Workshop Coordinator, Caleb Guyer; 2nd VP of field trips, Rick Weber; CFMS Representative, Nancy Bird; Director, Sue Gevedon. The position for 1st VP in charge of programs is open. The members unanimously voted for the slate of officers for 2024.
7. Pie and Silent auction: Pie and silent auction were enjoyed by the attendees.
8. Meeting adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Searcher Presenters and News

December Speaker: None - PARTY Time

Searchers 2023 Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 12 at 7 p.m. Anaheim Downtown Community Center



This will be a potluck Xmas party at the Anaheim Community Center with the club providing ham as well as plates, silverware and cups.

Each family is asked to bring a dish to serve 6. Sign up by contacting Gwen Sharp at socalgeogal@yahoo.com (preferred) or (714) 672-9525 (leave a message) to let us know you will be attending, how many of your party there will be, and what you will bring to the potluck (main dish, side dish, or dessert). Your response is necessary so that we can have the room set up with enough tables and chairs for the party.



We will have a gift exchange! For those who would like to participate in the gift exchange, bring a rock related gift with a value of approximately \$20.



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 \$65 for 5 gallons to members. \$75 for non-members.

Call 714 904-8573 and make a check payable to "Searchers"

Searchers Field Trips

Preliminary Searchers 2023-2024 Field Trip Schedule			
Date	Location	Leader	Notes
10/18 to 10/23/2023	Arizona	Yucaipa Gem and Mineral Society	fee to dig tailings 6 mines lizbrackensmith@gmail.com
11/10-11/12 2023	Arizona	Caleb Guyer	Rowley Mine and nearby amethyst
12/16-12/17 2023	Mojave	Rick Webber	Top Notch area near Afton Canyon
January 17-22,2024	Quartzite, AZ		tentative
February 8-10,2024	Barstow area	Stoddard Wells Tailgate Show	tentative
March			
April			
May 18-19,2024	Coalinga, CA	Bill and Margaret Hogarth	Clear Creek Plasma Agate
May 24-26,2024	Ventura, CA		CFMS/AFMS Show
June 1-2,2024	Copper World, Mojave Wilderness	Rick Webber	Chrysocolla

Top Notch area and No. Cady's



Upcoming Fields Trips

Searchers Field Trip to: Top Notch area and No. Cady's December 16th, & 17th 2023

Directions: North on Hwy 15, past Barstow to Basin Road exit, go south and follow (Searchers') signs to our selected dry camping site.

Approximately 3 hours and 160 miles one way, from OC.

Starting Saturday morning @ 9am we will caravan in 4wd vehicles to the 'Top Notch' claim area, approximately one hour away.

You can find various materials, such as : seam agates, jaspers, nodules, sagenite, travertine, flourite and various crystals.

Saturday night pot luck for those who are interested.

Sunday morning, we will depart again to some alternative sites, yet to be determined.

Fire permit must be approved by BLM, which is still in question.

Be sure to bring plenty of water, sunscreen & hat, etc. Lunch matls for daily trips.

Be sure to dress appropriately as we can expect dry, sunny weather to chilly nights.

Bring your rockhounding equipment and a bucket or pack to carry your finds.

Areas to explore may necessitate 4wd, higher clearance for access.

Please notify me of your interest in attending as we will attempt to carpool some groups of people from our established campsite.

A scouting trip during the week of December 4-8th is scheduled to preview our planned field trip.

We will report our findings at our December meeting on December 12th.

I have nine different areas with coordinates that are begging to be explored, certainly exciting fun for us rockhounds !!

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Rick Webber cell: 714 585 5606 Email: Rich webb3245@att.net



For field trip
information

contact: Bill

Hogarth or Rick

Webber

Field Trip Report—Rowley Mine 11/20/23

The trip to the Rowley and Prism/Blue Cube mines on 11-11 and 11-12 was a big success for the 20 people that attended from at least 5 different clubs. This was a bit different from our usually weekend trips in that the majority of the folks decided to stay in Gila Bend, the closest town in Arizona to the mines. Some stayed at the Painted Rock Campground closer to the mine, putting them right in the middle of the Painted Rock Mining District. Now mostly played out, the district produced barite, copper, fluorite, gold, lead, molybdenum, silver, and vanadium up to the 1920's.

The Trip Leader, Caleb Guyer, corralled us all on Saturday morning and even had a raffle for some pretty rock slabs and specimens. Then we drove to the short distance in established roads to the Rowley mine. This is an active mine (although not at the same level or the same materials as in its prime) that the owners allowed us to pick primarily siliconized chrysocolla (and other mineral specimens) for a small fee. Chrysocolla is fairly friable in most cases, but this particular mine had a section of a vein that had been infused with silicon millennia ago creating a much harder specimen that was a prime candidate for lapidarists. The owners had samples of cabs and slabs showcasing this beautiful material.

The remnants of the older producing mine were still there for mining history buffs, but most came for the rock-hounding. The pictures don't do justice to the fine weather, the beauty of the Sonoran Desert or the sense of camaradery we all felt digging through the reddish dirt together for choice pieces of material.

The next day we headed northwest and stopped at the Prism and Blue Cube mining area for fluorite and amethyst. This was much less established and more difficult to reach, requiring serious lift or 4x4 vehicles. There was an adit exposed in a hillside that showed a small vein of material that petered out within 50 ft. Daring folks went inside and looked around, but not much was found. There were some tailing piles and a recently dug trench that exposed a vein of travertine with the amethyst lining, but it was work with a pick to dig some out. The desert landscape was extensive and relatively untouched here and the weather was just perfect for us.



For field trip
information
contact: Rick
Webber



Show News

One of the highlights of our show are the children's activities that we offer. Low cost activities include Wheel of Fortune, grab bags, silent auction, opportunity drawing, and geode cracking. Free activities are ring-making, goodie bags, treasure hunt, door prizes, and the dinosaur stamp activity. Each of these activities requires at least one Searcher to run. This means the whole show, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Some activities require two people (or more!) at a time, particularly when we have an interested family and need to distribute tickets, information, etc. We need Square operators. We also need people to come and give bio and lunch breaks to Searcher volunteers at their various stations.

There are other low-cost activities we could do that might add to our club coffers and provide more fun to our show attendees. Ideas include, Minor Miner, bracelet making, or make and take activities. However, we need at least one Searcher for each activity. Please consider supporting the club and helping at the show. Pace yourself and schedule sit-down activities if you need a break from being on your feet. You can make a real difference in our club and show. Interested? Contact Margaret, hogarth.m@gmail.com, 909-815-3045.

Show Committee News

The Searchers 2024 show will be on April 27-28, 2024. Set up will be on Friday morning, April 26, 2024 at 8 a.m.

We have a fantastic team of talented, creative, hard-working Searchers who make it possible to run our show every year. We are a non-profit organization, and this team makes it all happen in an amazing way. The show is our biggest fundraiser and supports the workshop and other club activities. Join the team, you'll make friends for life!

All Show Committee meetings will be in the Anaheim center from 1-2:30 p.m. so that people can also participate in the workshop. These are all Saturdays. I bring cookies, you bring a beverage.

January 6, 2024

February 3, 2024

March 2, 2024

March 30, 2024

April 20, 2024

Please try to schedule field trips around these meeting dates.

Ideas? Comments? Suggestions? Contact Margaret at 909-815-3045, hogarth.m@gmail.com



Reminder: Start Saving for Camp Paradise Now!

Camp Paradise is run by the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) at the end of every summer. It is so rewarding to learn and spend time with like-minded rockhounds creating for a week or two. It is held in a forest church camp near Clipper Mills, CA, north of Sacramento. There are accommodations for singles' and couples' dormitories, a few cabins, and RVs. Fees include room, board and classes. Some classes charge a modest fee for supplies. For full details, see <https://cfmsinc.org/camp-paradise/>. Registration will begin in the spring, so set aside a little each month to go.

Upcoming 2023 CFMS Gem Shows

2023

December 2-3, 2023 – Barstow, CA
 Mojave Desert Gem and Mineral Society
 Cora Harper Community/Fitness Center
 841 Barstow Road, Barstow, CA 92311
 Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10 am – 5 pm
 Contact: John Printz (760) 979-6138,
 MDGMSsecretary@gmail.com
 Website: <http://www.mdgms.net>

2024

January 20-21, 2024 – Exeter, CA
 Tule Gem and Mineral Society
 Exeter Veterans Memorial Building, 324
 North Kaweah Ave., Exeter, CA 93221
 Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday
 10 AM – 4 PM
 2024 Gemboree
 Contact: Gayle Bingaman, Show Chair-
 person, (559) 802-6029, bandg-
 bing@aol.com
 Website: <http://www.tulegem.com>

February 17-18, 2024 – Antioch, CA
 Antioch Lapidary Club
 Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201
 West 10th Street, Antioch, CA
 Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM,
 Sunday 10 AM-5PM
 Jewelry, Gems, Findings, Supplies, Auc-
 tions, Grab Bags, Exhibits and hands on
 projects for kids. Admission \$6.00, Chil-
 dren 12 & under, scouts in uniform and
 Active Military Free. \$1.00 off admission
 with show flyer.
 Contact: (510) 693-9075, kelly-
 plumb900@yahoo.com
 Website: <http://antiochlapidaryclub.com>

February 24-25, 2024 – Vallejo, CA
 Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society
 Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack
 Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo, CA
 94589
 Hours: Saturday and Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM
 Vallejo Gem and Mineral Show: We host
 vendors offering gems, geodes, fossils, raw
 rocks and minerals, carved stone animals,
 beads, findings and minerals from around the
 globe. The Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society
 invites you to discover lapidary and related
 crafts through our educational displays and
 live demonstrations. There is something for
 everyone, for crafters, jewelry lovers and
 science enthusiasts. We have a silent auction,
 geode cuttings, drawings for beautiful hand-
 crafted pieces and games of chance and dis-
 covery for kids!
 Contact: (415) 254-1506, ddu-
 honvgms@gmail.com
 Website: <https://vjgems.com>

April 13-14, 2024 – Mariposa, CA
 Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club
 Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007 Fair-
 grounds Rd., Mariposa, CA 95338
 Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10
 AM – 4 PM
 We'll have a great selection of vendors with
 all sorts of gems, minerals, fossils, rough
 lapidary material and many other rock-
 related items, a fabulous raffle, silent auction,
 geode cutting, and, of course, food...
 Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

April 13-14, 2024 – Placerville, CA
 El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society
 El Dorado County Fairgrounds, Placerville,
 CA
 Hours: Saturday 10 AM -5 PM, Sunday 10 AM
 – 4 PM
 Contact: (530) 676-2472, office@edcmgs.org
 Website: <http://edcmgs.org>

March 2-3, 2024 – Ventura, CA
 Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
 Ventura Co. Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor
 Blvd., Ventura CA
 Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun-
 day 10 AM-4PM
 Dealers and exhibits, demos, gold pan-
 ning, kids activities, raffle & silent auc-
 tions, Country Store an plant sale, free
 resources for teachers. A SoCal tradi-
 tion for 60+ years.
 Contact: (805) 312-8467,
 info@vgms.org
 Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

March 23-24, 2024 – Angeles Camp, CA
 Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society
 2465 Gun Club Rd., Angeles Camp CA
 95222
 Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10
 AM – 4 PM
 Annual Calaveras Gem and Mineral Show:
 Adults \$5.00, Children under 12 FREE
 with paying adult. Amazing displays, ven-
 dors and demonstrations, silent auction,
 Fun and interesting activities for children.
 Treasure Hunt, Door Prizes! Food on sit.
 FREE PARKING. Great Fun.
 Contact: (209) 736-4892,
 dbrooks49@att.net
 Website: [http://](http://CalaverasGemandMineral.net)
CalaverasGemandMineral.net

May 4-5, 2024 – Lancaster
 Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
 2551 W Ave. H, Lancaster, CA 93536
 Hours: Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun-
 day 10 AM – 4 PM
 AVGM Rock, Jewelry and Gem Show.
 Parking and Admission are free. Plenty
 of vendors, displays and activities for
 the whole family.
 Contact: marylandoriele@gmail.com

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

December Birthstone—Turquoise



STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

This Searchers Gem and Mineral 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.

All other means which are appropriate to the accomplishment of the primary objectives above set forth.

To help achieve our purpose, The Searchers Gem and Mineral Society is committed to providing a social environment in which all members and guests are treated with respect and dignity. Each member has the right to attend meetings, club functions, club programs, and to interact with other club members in a non-threatening professional atmosphere that promotes equality and prohibits discriminatory practices, including harassment. We expect that all relationships among members and non-members who interact with our club will be business-like and free of bias and harassment. The activities listed below are not supportive of the Searchers purpose and are therefore strictly prohibited. Any member or guest who exhibits any of the behaviors listed below may be subject to consequences, including termination or denial of club membership.

1. Abusive or threatening language towards a member or guest.
2. Rude or offensive actions or language directed to a member or guest.
3. Verbal or physical harassment of a member or guest.
4. Actual or threatened violence toward any individual or group.
5. Conduct endangering the life, safety, health or well-being of others.
6. Hate speech, bullying or taking unfair advantage of any member or guest.
7. Bringing into a Searchers event dangerous or unauthorized materials such as explosives, firearms, weapons or other similar items.
8. Verbal or physical disruption of Searchers meetings or events.
9. Theft of Searchers property.

Failure to follow the Searchers Bylaws or Standing Rules.

All Searchers members should report prohibited behaviors as outlined above to the Searchers Board of Directors. Upon receiving any such report, the Board will promptly investigate and take appropriate action.

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: 6:30 PM, 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 \$35
 Each additional household member is \$10

Valid Jan.1-Dec.31 The dues are prorated for new members. If new members sign up from October to December, their dues are good for those months, plus the entire next year.

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

Click here for a link to the CFMS newsletter <https://cfmsinc.org/newsletters/>

Check out our "new" Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/searchersrocks/>

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<http://minbooks.net/>

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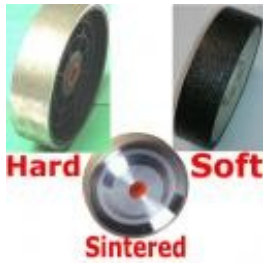
Ph. 714-633-1549



Hours may vary, please call before coming.



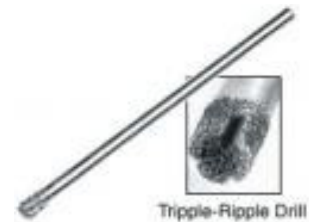
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