

# The Rock Slab News

FEBRUARY 2009 VOLUME 46 ISSUE 2

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!

Wow! What a fantastic January General Meeting! It was well- attended by over 55 people. We had a great silent auction and a fantastic program on micro-mounts presented by our own Walter Mroch. Thank you, Walt, and all those that contributed to the Silent Auction.

Welcome new members! There were 7 new members turning in their applications at the meeting. I know that all of our meetings in the future will have the pizzazz that we had at this last meeting.

The Searchers are moving right along. The workshop under the direction of Herb and his assistants has been very busy. Field trips are already planned by Steve Duncan for February and a possible trip to Tick Canyon in March is being arranged. The Nuevo Dump field trip, January 18<sup>th</sup>, was well- attended. We had 46 rock hounds digging away like little gophers! Great weather and a variety of materials found. We hope to bring some of the material to the meeting. Maybe someone can bring a finished cabochon of star rose quartz to display at the next general meeting. That would be great!

Our Searchers summer picnic is tentatively set for July 19, 2009. Location not yet determined. Please save that date on your calendar.

Quite a few of our Searchers have gone to Quartzsite, AZ, for the annual QIA Pow Wow. Rock hound paradise for all! If you have never been there, ask a member and go next year! Lots of fun!

On a more serious note, please remember that dues are due by March 1, 2009. The sooner that you pay your dues the sooner we can have an updated roster for all. It is not fair that some members wait till late in the year to pay their dues while still participating in all club activities. As of the 18<sup>th</sup> of January, only 25% of the membership had paid their dues!

The board is reviewing having a secure roster via internet. This would give our members an up-to-date roster at anytime during the year. Name, phone number and E-mail would be listed. No addresses! Please send your dues to Bob Gilland our membership chairman or give him your membership dues at the February meeting.

In closing, please encourage your friends, neighbors and kids to participate in our activities, whether field trips, our show, our informative and fun general meetings or our workshop.  
See you soon!

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Check our website for unexpected changes in schedule!  
[www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**General Meetings:** 7 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.searchersrocks.org)

**Membership Dues:** Individual \$25  
 Couple \$35  
 Junior (17 & under) \$10  
 Valid Jan.1-Dec.31,not prorated

**Bulletin:** Submissions due 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month via e-mail to: [editor@searchersrocks.org](mailto:editor@searchersrocks.org).  
 Bulletin distributed 1<sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> V.P. (Programs)	Brian Kussman	714-527-1531
2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P. (Field Trips)	Steve Duncan	714-724-7102
Director	Keith Droste	714-563-5063
Secretary	Kathy Clark	714-639-9927
Treasurer	Pat Lynch	909-393-2186
Federation Delegate	Virgil Talbott	714-871-7900

### Committee Chairpersons

Anaheim Arts Council	Margaret Neeley	714-535-2030
Editor	Kathy Clark	714-639-9927
Historian	Beth Pelfrey	714-774-2754
Hospitality	Lorri Renck	714-397-3584
Librarian		
Membership	Bob Gilland	714-776-4958
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**

# MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

Individuals \$25  
Couples \$35  
Children (17 and under) \$10

## FROM THE WEBMASTER

By Walter Mroch

First off, congratulations to the new Board. Although I will not be on the Board for the first time in many, many years, I will still be active maintaining the club website and managing the dealers for the 2009 Show. All members are encouraged to start using the [www.searchersrocks.org](http://www.searchersrocks.org) mail addresses to contact the board and committee members. Please review the following list:

[president@searchersrocks.org](mailto:president@searchersrocks.org)  
[programs@searchersrocks.org](mailto:programs@searchersrocks.org)  
[fieldtrips@searchersrocks.org](mailto:fieldtrips@searchersrocks.org)  
[workshop@searchersrocks.org](mailto:workshop@searchersrocks.org)  
[editor@searchersrocks.org](mailto:editor@searchersrocks.org)  
[membership@searchersrocks.org](mailto:membership@searchersrocks.org)  
[showchair@searchersrocks.org](mailto:showchair@searchersrocks.org)  
[dealers@searchersrocks.org](mailto:dealers@searchersrocks.org)  
[veterans@searchersrocks.org](mailto:veterans@searchersrocks.org)  
[webmaster@searchersrocks.org](mailto:webmaster@searchersrocks.org)

Norbert Bernhardt  
Brian Kussman  
Steve Duncan  
Herb Beckman  
Kathy Clark  
Robert Gilland  
Jim Williamson, Larry Richey  
Walter Mroch  
Larry Richey  
Walter Mroch

All board and committee members should try and utilize our email accounts for correspondence.

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM

By Brian Kussman

The program for the February meeting will be the video "Ring of Fire." Originally an Imax film, it chronicles geologic activity along the Pacific Rim including volcanoes and earthquakes. The video has a running time of approximately 40 minutes.

# FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP

**Griffith Wash**  
**February 21 & 22, 2009**  
By Steve Duncan

The February field trip will be led by Jimmy Peterson, to Griffith Wash near Kingman, Arizona. This is a trip for quartz crystals, and it is a strenuous trip requiring an approximately 1 hour scramble up the side of a boulder strewn ridge. The incline could be as steep as 45 degrees. The top are 3 quartz-filled veins running across the top of the ridge. A pick and a small shovel are required for digging. You will also need a backpack to carry out your crystals, as well as newspaper to wrap them. This same pack can carry your water and a lunch on the way up.

This will be a dry camp: bring what you need. Don't forget lots of water and sunscreen and hats. On Saturday night we will have our traditional potluck, so bring something to share. The trip to the ridge will start at 0830 California time. The road is rough, but should be passable for most cars. For those that don't want to try the climb there are garnets in schist to be collected. The plan for Sunday has not yet been determined, but we will leave at the same time from camp, 0830 CA time.

Directions to the camp: Take I-40 to Needles and continue into Arizona. Take exit 37 off of I-40, about 13 miles south of Kingman. Turn east on Griffith Wash Road, and go approximately ¼ mile until Griffith Wash Road deadends into the railroad frontage road. Turn left, go ¼ mile, turn left again and you will see the Searcher signs. At this last turn there is a gate if you were to turn right instead of left. You can use this for a landmark. When we go to the site we will go through this gate and continue for approximately 7 miles.

The quartz crystals found here are normally very clear, and small clumps of crystals are not uncommon.

We hope to see you all there. If you have any questions feel free to contact me, Steve Duncan, 2nd VP Field Trips, at 714-724-7102 or [wsd@iteris.com](mailto:wsd@iteris.com).

## FUTURE FIELD TRIPS

March Field Trip (date & time TBD) Tick Canyon, led by Beth Pelfrey

April Field Trip is in the planning stages and will be led by Brian Kussman.

A joint field trip with the Indian Wells club is being planned for Rainbow Ridge. All details are TBD.

A joint field trip with the Indian Wells club is being planned for Siam Siding Chapenite and Cadiz trilobites led by Steve Duncan and Robert Burson. All details are TBD.

## ROCK 'N' KIDS NEWS

We are having a jewelry class on Tuesday, February 10, 2009, at 6:00 pm. This class is for Searchers' kids ONLY. If you have not paid for your membership, do it now so you can join us.

## FEBRUARY EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
5,12,19,29	6-10pm	Thursday Workshop (lapidary, wire wrapping)
7,14,21,28	3-7pm	Saturday Workshop (lapidary, silversmithing)
10	7-10pm	February General Meeting
11	7-9pm	Board Meeting @ Norbert Bernhardt's
12	7pm	Show Meeting @ Anaheim Downtown Center
21 & 22	8:30am	Griffith Wash near Kingman, Arizona
13	12-7pm	Gem Faire at Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
14	10am-6pm	for more information and address see
15	10am-5pm	<a href="http://www.gemfaire.com">www.gemfaire.com</a> or call 503-252-8300
27	12-7pm	Gem Faire at the Orange County Fair & Event
28	10am-6pm	in Costa Mesa. For more information see
3-1	10am-5pm	<a href="http://www.gemfaire.com">www.gemfaire.com</a> or call 503-252-8300

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Bob Gilland

Please welcome the newest members of the Searchers' family:

Adrian (Bart) & Loni Bartlow  
 Rachel Brophy  
 Nikki & Taylor Eddleman (Jr. Members)  
 Michael & Darlin Gammon  
 Matthew Gammon (Jr. Member)  
 Michele Gomez

Davis & Lia Halley  
 McKenna Harvey (Jr. Member)  
 Kyle Mason  
 Jason E. Palermo  
 Joseph & Lina Perez  
 Michael Phillips

## SHOW MEETING

There is a Show meeting on **Thursday, February 12, 2009**, at 7pm at the Anaheim Downtown Community Center. All Committee Chairmen and volunteers please attend this important meeting.

## SEARCHERS 50<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SHOW

### CHAIRMEN

1. Show Chairman: Jim Williamson 714-995-9080 [rockpick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rockpick@sbcglobal.net)
2. Co-Chairman: Larry Richey 714-846-3573 [sandbandit1@verizon.net](mailto:sandbandit1@verizon.net)
3. Publicity: Clarke Benich 714-639-9927 [clarkebenich@yahoo.com](mailto:clarkebenich@yahoo.com)
4. Security: Jesse Garza 714-523-2353 [sirjmgarza@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sirjmgarza@sbcglobal.net) & Larry Richey
5. Friday Night Dinner: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 [hanky1panky3@yahoo.com](mailto:hanky1panky3@yahoo.com)
6. Demonstrations: Keith Droste 714-563-4754 [kdroste@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kdroste@sbcglobal.net)
7. Kitchen: Beth Pelfrey 714-774-2754 [pelfrey@sbcglobal.com](mailto:pelfrey@sbcglobal.com)
8. Dealers: Walter Mroch 714-826-2132 [hwmroch@gmail.com](mailto:hwmroch@gmail.com)
9. Grab Bags: Chris Edmonds 714-758-7065 [christin-edmonds@sbcglobal.net](mailto:christin-edmonds@sbcglobal.net)
10. Hospitality: Steve Duncan 714-724-7102 [wsd@iteris.com](mailto:wsd@iteris.com)
11. Membership: Robert Gilland 714-776-4958
12. Decorations: Darshini Heendeniya 714-995-9080 [darshini\\_spirit@yahoo.com](mailto:darshini_spirit@yahoo.com)
13. Layout and electrical: Pete Konovalov ? Herb Beckman ?
14. Setup and Tear Down: Norbert Bernhardt 714-734-9665 [nbern@cox.net](mailto:nbern@cox.net)
15. Hourly Door Prizes:
16. Donation Awards:
17. Prom Queen: Burt Fortin 714-890-8083
18. Cases and Trophies: Margaret Neeley 714-535-2030
19. Silent Auction: Robert Burson 562-860-5938 [bursonrocks@aol.com](mailto:bursonrocks@aol.com)
20. Show Secretary: Kathy Clark 714-639-9927 [hanky1panky3@yahoo.com](mailto:hanky1panky3@yahoo.com)
21. Show Treasurer: Pat Lynch 909-393-2186 [pat.lynch@experian.com](mailto:pat.lynch@experian.com)
22. Wheel of Fortune: Jim Peterson & Ester Reynolds 714-633-7573  
[jimmypeterson@msn.com](mailto:jimmypeterson@msn.com)
23. Signs: Terri & Glenn Benedict 714-573-1424 [terri024@sbcglobal.net](mailto:terri024@sbcglobal.net)
24. Special Exhibits: Betty Nelson 714-530-1365 [betty@azteche.com](mailto:betty@azteche.com)
25. Children's Jewelry: John O'Connor 714-669-8149  
[joconnor@kfmengineering.com](mailto:joconnor@kfmengineering.com)
26. Anaheim Arts Council: Margaret Neeley 714-535-2030

## SHOW DISPLAY CASES

By Margaret Neeley

Our 50<sup>th</sup> Show is coming soon. Now is the time to get those rocks you brought home cut, polished and ready for your display case. This is an opportunity for the Searchers to share with the community what we do. It is also a big part of our Show. Please let me, Margaret Neeley, know if you will be entering a case in our 2009 Show. See me at a meeting or call 714-535-2030.

If you need a case, I also have one standard show display case (42"x32") with lights and lock for sale.

# SHOW SECURITY

## For Your Safety and Protection

### CASES

Please remember that we do not allow any display case or exhibit to be opened or removed during Show hours.

Sunday at the close of the Show everyone will leave the exhibit hall until Security has cleared the building. This should take 5 to 10 minutes with your help. Then you will be allowed back into the exhibit hall to remove your case, or open it to remove your things.

If you need help or have a problem, please let myself or Show Chairman know. This is for your safety and protection.

### NAME BADGES

Remember to wear your club name badge to the Show this year. Sunday at the close of the Show everyone will leave the exhibit hall until Security has cleared the building. This should take 5 to 10 minutes with your help. You will be allowed back in **if you are wearing your Searcher name badge**. This is to insure that all unauthorized people or leftover guests from the Show will be cleared from the exhibit hall and **ONLY** those people involved in the Show breakdown activities will be allowed back into the exhibit hall.

If anyone needs help with their display or they need help from someone other than a club member or they are non-club members picking up exhibits at the close of the Show on Sunday, they **will need a special badge**. Please see me Friday during setup, Saturday during the Show or early Sunday so I may see that they receive a badge or proper pass before the close of the Show.

Thank you,  
Jesus Garza, Show Security

### LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

By Kathy Clark

Our own Walter Mroch presented "The World of Micro Mount Minerals," a slide program he created of the photos of his fabulous, extensive mineral collection. He also brought some of his mounted specimens for our viewing.

A micro mount, also known as a thumbnail specimen, is a small but perfect mineral specimen which is placed in a small plastic container. The containers traditionally used by most micromounters are Perky boxes, named for Willard J. Perkins of Upland, California, who perfected them. A typical Perky box measures 1.25"x1.25"x1.25."

Micro mounts are created by collecting specimens and trimming them so that the most prominent part of the specimen can be displayed by color, shape, etc. These tiny specimens can then be mounted by glueing them on small pieces of cork or by using plastic pins which eliminate the glue and create an elevated mounting.

Micromounting is practiced to create a more perfect mounted specimen. These small specimens require less space, they are great for trading in the mail and building a reference and they can be studied under a microscope.

Great program, Walter!

## IN OUR MEMORIES

Long-time, past member Nancy Norland passed away in January after a long struggle against cancer. At our January meeting Betty Nelson spoke of her friendship with Nancy, about the different positions that Nancy had held during her long membership with the Searchers and of all the field trips Nancy participated in over the years. She never missed a meeting and was very enthusiastic. The Searcher club benefitted enormously from this wonderful woman. She will be missed and our thoughts and prayers go out to her family and friends.

[From this editor, Kathy Clark: Nancy Norland's memorial service was held on January 27 at the First Presbyterian Church in Huntington Beach at 11:00am. I was negligent in sending out an email to all Searchers notifying them of this information. For this I apologize.]

## REPORT FROM VETERANS COORDINATOR

By Larry Richey

### **New law allows veterans' salutes during anthem. Release No. 10-16-08 October 31, 2008.**

WASHINGTON (AFRNS) – Veterans and active-duty military not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect this month.

"The military salute is a unique gesture that marks those who have served in our nation's armed forces," said Dr. James B Peake, secretary of Veterans Affairs. "This provision allows the application of that honor in all events involving our nation's flag."

The provision improves upon a little known change in federal law last year that authorized veterans to render the military-style hand salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, but it did not address salutes during the national anthem. Last year's provision also applied to servicemembers while not in uniform.

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The most recent change, authorizing hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel, was sponsored by Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran. It was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed Oct. 14.

The earlier provision authorizing hand-salutes for veterans and out-of uniform servicemembers during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, was contained in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which took effect Jan. 28, 2008. (Courtesy of VA News).

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

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

# The Searchers Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 3492 Anaheim, California 92803

[www.searchersrocks.org](http://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: Robert Gilland  
Membership Chairman  
1158 W. South Street  
Anaheim, CA 92802**

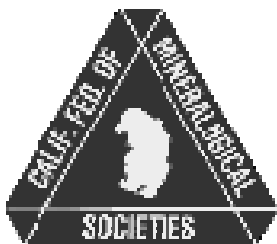
# The Rock Slab News

February 2009

Volume 46 ISSUE 2



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



## Vinegar – Not Just For Salads

One way to remove carbonates such as calcite from quartz and amethyst is to cover the specimen with fresh vinegar and allow to stand overnight. Repeat if necessary. Wash and then place crystals in washing-type ammonia for 8-12 hours. Remove, rinse thoroughly, wipe and air dry. (via Del Air Bulletin 9/07, via Rock Pile 9-85)

When using chrome oxide for polishing Jade, mix it with a solution of ½ water and ½ vinegar. (via Del Air Bulletin 9/07, via Crystal Gazer)

For the gloss finish on tigereye, polish once, dry the stone, then put a drop of vinegar on it. Let it stand for a few minutes, then give it a second polish. (via Del Air Bulletin 9/07, via Rock Lore)

If you have sore hands from hard rock mining, soak your hands in warm vinegar water and the swelling and soreness will disappear. (via Del Air Bulletin 9/07, via Chips & Facets 7/93)

Dark household vinegar will dissolve epoxy glue by soaking overnight. (via Del Air Bulletin 9/07, via Golden Spike)